



# FACULTY AWARDS

SPRING MEETING OF THE FACULTY AND ASSOCIATES

April 25, 2017

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

### Outstanding Research Achievement or Creative Accomplishment

This award recognizes faculty members for particularly noteworthy research or creative accomplishment during the past three years.

This year's award recipients are:

**Yue Deng**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Physics

**Kytai Nguyen**  
Professor  
Department of Bioengineering

### UTA Presidential Research Fellows

This new award recognizes faculty that promote collaborative and cross-disciplinary research as a means of enhancing the goals of the UTA Strategic Plan. A cohort of five faculty is selected every two years through a competitive process, and receive \$10,000 per year to support research endeavors that enhance collaboration.

This year's award recipients are:

**Kathryn Daniel**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Nursing

**Noelle Fields**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Social Work

**Shima Hamidi**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture

**Heng Huang**  
Professor  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

**Samir Iqbal**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Electrical Engineering

### Distinguished Record of Research or Creative Activity

This award recognizes faculty members for achieving a distinguished record of research and scholarship or creative activity over an extended period of time. The winner receives a Research Enhancement Program grant.

This year's award recipient is:

**Andrew Brandt**  
Professor  
Department of Physics

### Academy of Distinguished Scholars

The Academy of Distinguished Scholars fosters and advocates for the importance of research and creative activity, promotes a sense of community among scholars, and advises on research practices and policies. Each inductee receives a permanent salary increase.

This year's inductees are:

**Zeynep Celik-Butler**  
Professor  
Department of Electrical Engineering

**Heng Huang**  
Professor  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

**Christopher Kribs**  
Professor  
Department of Mathematics  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

### Academy of Distinguished Teachers

This award recognizes tenured faculty for a sustained record of outstanding teaching, personal commitment to students and the learning process, and the ability to motivate and inspire students. Academy members receive a permanent salary increase.

This year's inductees are:

**Jaya Davis**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

**Penelope Ingram**  
Associate Professor  
Department of English

**Christopher Kribs**  
Professor  
Department of Mathematics

**Stephanie Rasmussen**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Accounting

**Jeffrey Witzel**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Linguistics & TESOL

### Piper Professor Nominee

Each year, the Minnie G. Stevens Piper Foundation awards 10 Texas Piper Professorships for outstanding scholarly and academic achievement, and exemplary service to the University and the community. UTA's nominee will be recognized today with a plaque and an honorarium, and will represent the University in the statewide competition this fall.

This year's UTA nominee is:

**David Hullender**  
Professor  
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

### President's Award for Excellence in Teaching

The President's Award for Excellence in Teaching recognizes teaching that is inspiring, effective, and innovative.

This year's recipients are:

**Tenured**  
**Frank Foss**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Christopher Kribs**  
Professor  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

**Untenured**  
**Gail Adorno**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Social Work

**Junha Jeon**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

### Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching

The Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching honors non-tenure track instructors who have demonstrated a record of excellence in teaching, strong personal commitment to students, and the ability to motivate, challenge, and inspire.

This year's award recipients are:

**Raúl Fernández**  
Professor in Practice  
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

**Regina Urban**  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Department of Nursing

### William S. Ward Endowment Award

This prize was established to honor the life and contributions of UTA faculty member Bill Ward. It recognizes a non-tenure track faculty member who has an exemplary work ethic, loves working with students, and makes a significant impact on enhancing the goals of the University.

This year's recipient is:

**Pauline Hudel-Smith**

Senior Lecturer  
Department of Art + Art History

### Doctoral Student Mentoring Award

This award, sponsored by the Office of Graduate Studies, is given to tenured or tenure-track faculty for outstanding mentoring of doctoral students.

This year's award recipient is:

**Ramon Lopez**

Professor  
Department of Physics

### President's Award for Transformative Online Education

This award recognizes an individual who is an outstanding instructor in the area of web-based distance education. This teacher has demonstrated excellence in distance education teaching, creating quality interaction with and showing exemplary responsiveness to UTA's digital learners.

This year's award recipient is:

**Karabi Bezboruah**

Associate Professor  
Department of Public Affairs

### Outstanding Academic Advisor

#### PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR AWARD

**Lauren Jones**

Professional Advisor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

#### ACADEMIC FACULTY ADVISOR AWARD

**Bahram Khalili**

Senior Lecturer and Faculty Advisor  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

#### HONORABLE MENTIONS

**Kathy Gutierrez**

Professional Advisor  
Department of Accounting

**Cherie Henderson**

Clinical Assistant Professor and Faculty Advisor  
Department of Accounting

**Megan Juel**

Professional Advisor  
Department of Psychology

**Betsy Parchem**

Professional Advisor  
Department of Nursing

**Megan Vargas**

Professional Advisor  
Department of Kinesiology

### McNair Scholars Program Faculty Mentors

The following faculty served as mentors for undergraduate students in the McNair Scholars Program during summer 2016.

**Jeffrey Gagne**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Psychology

**Graham Hunt**

Associate Professor  
Department of Music

**Junha Jeon**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Ashanti Johnson**

Associate Professor  
Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

**Kayunta Johnson-Winters**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

**Sonia Kania**

Associate Professor  
Department of Modern Languages

**Andrew Makeev**

Professor  
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

**Jeffrey McGee**

Associate Professor  
Department of Management

**Kytai Nguyen**

Professor  
Department of Bioengineering

**Michael Roner**

Associate Professor  
Department of Biology

**Panos Shiakolas**

Associate Professor  
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

**Herschel Thomas**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science

**Kenneth Williford**

Associate Professor  
Department of Philosophy and Humanities

**John Zastoupil**

Assistant Professor  
Department of Music

## Faculty Development Leaves for 2017-18

**Patryk Babiracki**  
Associate Professor  
Department of History

**Naomi Cleghorn**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

**John Garrigus**  
Professor  
Department of History

**Desiree Henderson**  
Associate Professor  
Department of English

**Junzhou Huang**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

**Jared Kenworthy**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Psychology

**Yu Lei**  
Professor  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

**Sangwook Park**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Physics

**Shan Sun-Mitchell**  
Professor  
Department of Mathematics

**Michael Ward**  
Professor  
Department of Economics

## Research Enhancement Program Grants for 2017-18

**Yaowu Hao**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Material Science | “Synthesis of Radioactive Isotope Labeled Renal Clearable Nanoparticles for Internal Radiation Therapy of Glioblastoma”

**Jason Kubinak**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Biology | “Germfree Daphnia as a System to Identify Therapeutically Relevant Environmental Microbes”

**David LaFevor**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of History | “The Slave Ship Cicerón: Lincoln, Cuba, the United States and the Final Days of the Slave Trade”

**Radha Mahapatra**  
Professor  
Department of Information Systems | “Reducing Health Disparities Among Minority Patients - Using Mobile Technologies to Improve Diabetes Care Management”

**Katherine Sanchez**  
Assistant Professor  
School of Social Work

**Mohsen Shahandashti**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Civil Engineering | “An Integrated Seismic Vulnerability Assessment and Risk-Based Decision-Making Framework for Water Distribution Networks”

**Shelley Smith**  
Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology | “Museum Displays of Human Evolution”

**David Sparks**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Science Education  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction | “Where the Pipeline Ends: Analyzing the Post-Graduation Outcomes of Two Urban STEM Teacher Preparation Programs”

**Yi (Leaf) Zhang**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies | “Why Transfer Students Fail to Graduate with a STEM Degree: A Latent Class Analysis of STEM Dropouts”

**Yuan Zhou**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Industrial Engineering | “Developing Effective Policies to Prevent and Control Infectious Diseases on UTA's Campus”

