Faculty Awards

Spring Meeting of the Faculty and Associates

September 29, 2020

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:

Todd Castoe
Associate Professor
Department of Biology

Yan Wan
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 recipients are:

Wei Chen
Professor
Department of Physics

Benito Huerta
Professor
Department of Art and Art History

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:

Manfred Cuntz
Professor
Department of Physics

Graham Hunt
Professor
Department of Music

Mahmut Yasar
Associate Professor
Department of Economics

Andrew Milson
Professor
Department of History

Melanie Sattler
Syed Qasim Endowed Professor
Department of Civil 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
Diane Mitschke
Associate Professor
School of Social Work

Alicia Rueda-Acedo
Associate Professor
Department of Modern Languages

Untenured
Ashley Lemke
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Mohsen Shahandashti
Assistant Professor
Department of Civil Engineering

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:

Chris McMurrough
Distinguished Senior Lecturer
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Julian Rodriguez
Specialist
Department of Communication

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:

James A. Mendoza Alvarez
Professor
Department of Mathematics

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:

Cornelia Winguth
Assistant Professor of Instruction
Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Excellence in 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:

Wendy Casper
Professor
Department of Management
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:

Shanna Banda
Associate Professor/Director, Resource Center
Department of Mathematics

Outstanding Academic Advisor
ACADEMIC FACULTY ADVISOR AWARD
Bijan Shapoorian
Assistant Professor
Department of Civil Engineering

Runner Up
Graham Hunt
Professor
Department of Music

PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR AWARD
Thelma Cabrera
Academic Advisor II
Department of Modern Languages

Runners Up
Ryan Davis
Academic Advisor II
University Advising Center

Elizabeth Webb
Academic Advisor II
College of Nursing and Health Innovation

Honorable Mentions
Mark Frazier
Academic Advisor III
School of Social Work

Nancy Michael
Senior Lecturer/Advisor
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

McNair Scholars Program Faculty Mentors
The following faculty served as mentors for undergraduate students in the McNair Scholars Program during summer 2019

Erin Carlson
Clinical Associate Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Jandel Crutchfield
Assistant Professor
School of Social Work

Brian Dennis
Professor
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

John Garrigus
Professor
Department of History

Benjamin Jones
Assistant Professor
Department of Physics

Jared Kenworthy
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology

Peter Kroll
Professor
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Subhrangsu “Subhra” Mandal
Professor
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Linda Perrotti
Professor
Department of Psychology

Corey Rocci
Assistant Professor
Department of Biology

Sarah Rose
Associate Professor
Department of History

Nancy Scott
Field Advisor
Dallas Zoo

Amber Schroeder
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology

Shelley Smith
Professor
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Title V, IDEAS Fellows
The following faculty served as Title V, IDEAS (Innovation, Diversity, Excellence, Access, and Success) Fellows for the 2019-20 academic year.

Dennis Chiessa
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture

Christopher Conway
Professor
Department of Modern Languages

Mary Curtis
Assistant Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Jaya Davis
Associate Professor
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Erica Robinson-Freeman
Associate Professor in Practice
School of Social Work

Matthew Fujita
Associate Professor
Department of Biology

Robin Macaluso
Associate Professor
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Nilakshi “Nila” Veerabathina
Associate Professor
Department of Physics

Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence
The following faculty served as mentors for junior faculty during the 2019-20 academic year.

FACULTY FELLOWS 2020
Amy M. Austin
Assistant Professor
Department of Modern Languages

Thomas Dombrowsky
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Undergraduate Nursing

Subhrangsu “Subhra” Mandal
Professor
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Melanie Sattler
Syed Qasim Endowed Professor
Department of Civil Engineering

FACULTY MENTORS, NON-TENURED-TENURED TRACK
Amy M. Austin
Assistant Professor
Department of Modern Languages

Donna Bacchus
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Graduate Nursing

Shanna Banda
Lecturer, Learning Resource Director
Department of Mathematics

Elizabeth Diaz
Senior Lecturer
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Thomas Dombrowsky
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Undergraduate Nursing

Beverly George
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Management
Stephen Gibbs  
Senior Lecturer/Director, Engineering Online  
Department of Electrical Engineering

Kiva Harper  
Assistant Professor in Practice  
School of Social Work

Jerry Hubbard  
Academic Director, Goosby Leadership Academy  
College of Business

Mohammad Najafi  
Associate Professor  
Department of Civil Engineering

Nilakshi “Nila” Veerabathina  
Associate Professor  
Department of Physics

FAculty mentors,  
tenured/tenured trAk

Carla Amaro-Jimenez  
Associate Professor  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Ann Cavallo  
Professor  
Director, Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Dan Cavanagh  
Chair and Professor  
Department of Music

Andrew Clark  
Associate Professor  
Department of Communication

Christoph Csallner  
Professor  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Jaya Davis  
Associate Professor  
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Mathew Fujita  
Associate Professor  
Department of Biology

James P. Grover  
Professor  
Interim Vice President, Research  
Department of Biology

Grace Qing Hao  
Associate Professor  
Department of Finance and Real Estate

Holly Hungerford-Kresser  
Associate Professor  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Heather Jacobson  
Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Bob Kurovich  
Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Robin Macaluso  
Associate Professor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Subhrangsu “Subhra” Mandal  
Professor  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Maria Martinez-Cosio  
Associate Professor  
Associate Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs  
Department of Public Affairs and Planning

Liliana Perez Nordtvedt  
Associate Professor  
Department of Management

David Rakowski  
Associate Professor  
Department of Finance and Real Estate

Dan Robinson  
Chair and Professor  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Melanie Sattler  
Sped Qasim Endowed Professor  
Department of Civil Engineering

Peggy Semingson  
Associate Professor  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

George Siemens  
Professor  
Department of Psychology

Jeffrey Witzel  
Associate Professor  
Department of Linguistics and TESOL

Jaehoon Yu  
Professor  
Department of Physics

Weidong Zhou  
Professor  
Department of Engineering Electrical

Professional Learning Community  
Faculty Fellow

LaDonna Aiken  
Specialist  
Department of Communication

LaShaunn Bold  
Associate Professor in Practice  
School of Social Work

Grace Brannon  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication

Kim Breuer  
Assistant Professor in Practice  
Department of History

Kenya Davison  
Acting Director  
Office of Undergraduate Research

Justin Dillinger  
Associate Director  
Professional Learning Community

Roger Gans  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication

Becky Garner  
Clinical Assistant Professor  
Department of Kinesiology

Brian Horton  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication

Fajer Jaafari  
Adjunct Professor  
Department of Physics

Kim Jones  
Senior Lecturer  
Department of Communication

Ritu Khanduri  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Gerard Koffi  
Lecturer  
Department of Mathematics

Melanie Mason  
Adjunct Assistant Professor  
Department of Communication

John Rodriguez  
Associate Professor  
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice

Cynthia St. John  
Professor of Practice  
Department of Management

Soyla Santos  
Associate Director  
Division of Student Success

Peggy Semingson  
Associate Professor  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Christy Spivey  
Clinical Associate Professor  
Department of Economics
Nilakshi "Nila" Veerabathina
Associate Professor
Department of Physics

Martin Wallace
Librarian
UTA Libraries

Kendra Walls
Assistant Professor
Department of Material Science and Engineering

Cynthia Woody
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies

Mengqi "Monica" Zhan
Assistant Professor
Department of Communication

Liwei Zhang
Assistant Professor
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Maverick Advantage Faculty Engagement Faculty Fellows

LaDonna Aiken
Specialist
Department of Communication

Kyrah Brown
Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Jaime Cantu
Assistant Professor
Department of Industrial, Manufacturing and Systems Engineering

Karishma Chatterjee
Assistant Professor
Department of Communication

Jerry Hubbard
Director, Goolsby Leadership Academy College of Business

Pam Johnson
Associate Professor in Practice
School of Social Work

Cindy Kilpatrick
Assistant Professor
Department of Linguistics and TESOL

Joyce Myers
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Josh Nason
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture

Center for Service Learning Faculty Fellows

Shanna Banda
Lecturer/Director, Learning Resource
Department of Mathematics

Grace Brannon
Assistant Professor
Department of Communication

LeeAnn Burke
Assistant Professor in Practice
Department of Science/UTeach Arlington

Dennis Chieusa
Assistant Professor
School of Architecture

Saltanat Childress
Assistant Professor
School of Social Work

Steven Gellman
Associate Professor of Practice
College of Science

Shawn Gieser
Senior Lecturer
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Brandie Green
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Na-li Kim
Adjunct Professor
Department of Linguistics and TESOL

Tiffany Kindratt
Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Laura Phipps
Adjunct Assistant Professor
Department of Kinesiology

Kathleen Smits
Assistant Professor
Department of Civil Engineering

Jiwon Suh
Assistant Professor
Department of Public Affairs and Planning

Faculty Development Leave 2020-21

Gaik Ambartsumian
Associate Professor
Department of Mathematics

Patryk Babiracki
Associate Professor
Department of Mathematics

Jinny Choi
Associate Professor
Department of Modern Languages

Rasika Dias
Professor
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Grace Qing Hao
Associate Professor
Department of Finance and Real Estate

Song Jiang
Professor
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Ali R. Koymen
Professor
Department of Physics

Christopher Kribs
Professor
Department of Mathematics

Thomas R. Marshall
Professor
Department of Political Science

David Rakowski
Associate Professor
Department of Finance and Real Estate

Eusebius Small
Associate Professor
School of Social Work

Matthew Walsh
Associate Professor
Department of Biology

Jaehoon Yu
Professor
Department of Physics

Yi Zhang
Associate Professor
Department of Education Leadership and Policy Studies

Jennifer Jie Zhang
Professor
Department of Information Systems and Operations Management
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Department/Program</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Beksi (PI)</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Computer Science and Engineering</td>
<td>“Vision-Based Collision Avoidance for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animesh Chakravarthy (Co-PI)</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godfred Boateng</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Kinesiology</td>
<td>“Household Energy Insecurity, Health, and Sustainable Livelihood in Colombia”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Chiessa</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>School of Architecture</td>
<td>“Housing the Working Class, Catalog of Existing Housing Typologies within the North Side of Fort Worth &amp; Informed Speculations on Future Housing”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genevieve Graaf</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>School of Social Work</td>
<td>“Assessing the Texas YES Waiver for Youth with SED: Variation in Behavioral Health Costs and Utilization across Texas”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyesun Jeong (PI)</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>School of Architecture</td>
<td>“Sustainable Main Streets as Catalysts for Urban Development in the Context of Urban Sprawl: Comparative Analysis of Food, Retail, &amp; Transit Model on DFW Area”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn “Kate” Holiday (Co-PI)</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>School of Architecture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candace Joswick</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Curriculum and Instruction</td>
<td>“Using the Project ECHO Model to Disseminate Research-Based Early Childhood Mathematics Education Professional Development to Rural Texas Educators”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany Kindratt (PI)</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Kinesiology</td>
<td>“The prevalence of patient and family-centered care among children with health conditions in the United States”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Yiran Yang (PI)</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Industrial Engineering, Manufacturing Systems</td>
<td>“Recycling Multicolor &amp; Multimaterial Thermoplastic Wastes from 3D Printing”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Mydlarz</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Department of Biology</td>
<td>“Upside-down but moving in the right direction: Developing the upside-down jellyfish as a model for coral disease”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li Wang</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Mathematics</td>
<td>“Robust Large-Scale Graph Structure Learning”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shuo “Linda” Wang</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering</td>
<td>“Optimal Cancer Therapeutic Treatment on the Dynamic Structure of Tumor Tissue under Tumor Heterogeneity”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yi Hong (Co-PI)</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
<td>Department of Bioengineering</td>
<td></td>
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