RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY

Wednesday, March 16, 2022
Harvey Hall at the Murphy Center
Lifetime Achievement

Angela Lamson
Department of Human Development and Family Science
Five-Year Research & Creative Activity

Elizabeth Ables
Department of Biology
Randall Etheridge
Department of Engineering
Jason Hack
Department of Emergency Medicine

US Patent # 8,641,731
Emergency Snake Bite Treatment Devices, Medical Kits and Related Methods
Inventor

Mark Mannie
Department of Microbiology
and Immunology

US Patent # 10,940,200
Aluminum Based Adjuvants for Tolerogenic Vaccination
Sunghan Kim
Department of Engineering

US Patent # 10,948,350
Systems for Detecting Vascular and Arterial Disease in Asymptomatic Patients and Related Methods
Rukiyah Van Dross
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

US Patent # 10,960,013
J-Series Prostaglandin-Ethanolamides as Novel Therapeutics for Skin and/or Oral Disorders
Robert Todd Watkins Jr
School of Dental Medicine

US Patent # 11,010,849
Apparatus for Improving Applicant Selection Based on Performance Indices

US Patent # 11,170,658
Methods, Systems, and Computer Program Products for Normalization and Cumulative Analysis of Cognitive Post Content
Inventor

Anthony Kennedy
Department of Chemistry

US Patent # 11,185,069
Cryopreservation of Cells Using Sucralose
Jean-Luc Scemama
Department of Biology

US Patent # 11,185,069
Cryopreservation of Cells Using Sucralose
Inventor

Jitka Virag
Department of Physiology

US Patent # 11,185,069
Cryopreservation of Cells Using Sucralose
Inventor

Kori Brewer
Department of Emergency Medicine

US Patent # 11,202,777
Methods and Compositions for Maintaining Opioid Efficacy in the Treatment of Pain
Inventor

Stephan Clemens
Department of Physiology

US Patent # 11,202,777
Methods and Compositions for Maintaining Opioid Efficacy in the Treatment of Pain
Inventor

Daniel Dickerson
College of Education

US Patent # D939,913
Safety Door Indicator Device
In Memoriam

Andrew Stuart, Professor of Audiology
Department of Communication Sciences & Disorders
Mentor - Inventor - Friend
1957 - 2021
EOSA Cohort
2021-2022

Natasha Bell
College of Engineering and Technology

Rachel Gittman
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Jarvis Hargrove
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences
EOSA Cohort 2021-2022

Jennifer Hodgson
College of Health & Human Performance

Ericka Lawrence
College of Business

Laura Levi Altstaedter
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences
EOSA Cohort
2021-2022

Amy McMillan
College of Business

Angela Novak
College of Education

Rita Soulen
College of Education
EOSA Cohort 2021-2022

Scott Walfield
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Emily Yeager
College of Health & Human Performance
Qun Lu
Brody School of Medicine

Dr. Lu is a recipient of a prestigious five-year NIH Director’s Transformative Research Award to investigate a family of compounds to restore imbalanced small GTPase cell signaling associated with Alzheimer’s Disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Lisandra de Castro Bras
Brody School of Medicine

Dr. deCastro Bras secured her first NIH R01 to study the effectiveness of a collagen-derived peptide inhibitor of metalloprotease-9 to reduce cardiac inflammation following myocardial infarction.
Darla Liles
Brody School of Medicine

Dr. Liles is the PI of more than 30 active sponsored clinical trials of novel treatments for a variety of hematologic diseases such as sickle-cell disease and blood cancers that are highly represented in minority populations in ENC.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Stacey Meardon
College of Allied Health Sciences

Dr. Meardon is the lead investigator on a DoD project to quantify the impacts of fitness level and fatigue on the tibial and metatarsal biomechanics to determine the stress-fracture risk of these bones and to inform guidance in reducing the musculoskeletal injury risk and promote soldier performance and military readiness.
Lauren Sastre
College of Allied Health Sciences

Through Duke Endowment funding, Dr. Sastre is establishing a mobile telehealth nutrition therapy and culinary medicine program to improve diabetes management for uninsured individuals served by eastern North Carolina’s free clinics.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Paul Toriello
College of Allied Health Sciences

Dr. Toriello seeks to educate the community on substance misuse and prevention and works with individuals with substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders to provide community-engaged and recovery-oriented interventions that assist these individuals in finding, getting, and keeping a job, and sustaining a recovery lifestyle.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Erik Taylor
College of Business

Dr. Taylor’s exemplary work involves diverse and multidisciplinary collaborations. It enhances scholarly understanding and offers broad practical impact in the important areas of women in entrepreneurship, work climate context, star performers’ insular effect in the presence of turnover, and applications related to brand equity.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Shirley Mai
College of Business

In the past year, Mai has had 10 accepted or published papers, five of which are classified as A publications. Dr. Mai is truly doing interdisciplinary work. She has worked with multiple colleagues from other business areas such as Supply Chain Management, the Department of Finance and Insurance, and the Department of Management.
Lucky Xue
College of Business

Dr. Xue is a widely recognized and respected MIS scholar whose work has had a major impact in the business field. Xue is the most cited author among all current social science and business school faculty at ECU.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Anne Ticknor
College of Education

Dr. Ticknor has continued to build a collaborative research agenda centered around equity, diversity, and inclusion through her work with community members and educators on the island of Saipan and in eastern North Carolina.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Charity Cayton
College of Education

Dr. Cayton focuses on preparing teachers to teach with technology; teachers’ design and implementation of high-level tasks with a focus on technology and discourse; and, co-planning and co-teaching to enhance clinical experiences.

Examining Students Practices in Algebra and Function

These modules are designed as a companion to the Teaching Algebra Module. The modules focus on supporting preservice secondary mathematics teachers' development of pedagogical skills related to professional noticing of student thinking and utilizing the Practices to Orchestrates Productive Mathematics Discussions in technology-mediated learning environments. Each module has activities for teachers to engage in technology-mediated tasks in algebra and functions.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Africa Hands
College of Education

Dr. Hands’ current research agenda examines public libraries as an information resource to college-bound patrons based on her experiences working in both higher education (admissions and academic advising) and public libraries. In 2021, she received an early career development grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Promoting College Literacy & Supporting Academic Success at Your Library

Michelle Green (Northeastern State University)
Africa S. Hands (East Carolina University)
Cynthia Hughes (University of Wyoming)
Bailee Hutchinson (Southern Prairie Library System)
Teresa Ryan
College of Engineering & Technology

Dr. Ryan’s leadership, enthusiasm and ability to engage, mentor and build cohesive research teams of undergraduate and graduate students is her research legacy in the department. She has a passion for excellence in teaching, scholarship and service that positively impacts faculty and student success.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Brian Sylcott
College of Engineering & Technology

Dr. Sylcott routinely demonstrates his commitment to scholarly activity and student success by integrating research and creative activity in the undergraduate and graduate engineering curricula. His commitment and support for scholarly activities creates opportunities for student participation and directly impacts classroom teaching and student success.
Rui Wu
College of Engineering & Technology
Dr. Wu collaborates with ECU faculty and students on machine learning and AR/VR research projects. His research is supported by six funded grants.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Cynthia Bickley-Green
College of Fine Arts & Communication

Dr. Bickley-Green is well known for her work as an art educator, with recent shows at the North Carolina Museum of Art, Edward Tyner Nahem Gallery, and Corcoran Gallery. She is currently working with School faculty and staff to recreate one of her sculptures from the Washington Color School era.
Aysel Morin
College of Fine Arts & Communication

Dr. Morin’s research has been informed by the fields of Cultural and Critical Studies and Rhetorical Studies. She studies political and mediated discourses. The discourses of marginalized people who speak from in-between spaces—such as ethnic women, racial minorities, and/or non-western (co)cultures – as well as the discourses about these populations have been central to her work. She strives to capture the voices and perspectives of marginalized groups in them.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Adrienne Steiner
College of Fine Arts & Communication

Dr. Steiner has engaged and partnered with scholars in the school of music and across campus. Her research work is impacting her students and changing the face of music therapy research at ECU. Her research covers areas of music therapy with the integration of mindfulness, aging, and aging caregiver wellness.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Jessica Teague
College of Fine Arts & Communication

Teague is an accomplished dancer, choreographer, and teaching/scholar, whose research goals focus on the development of artistic work and programs that promote a diversity of aesthetics in the dance field, specifically ballet. She consistently creates opportunities for students, within her research, to connect with the professional dance world through cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural collaborations in the arts.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Sheresa Blanchard
College of Health & Human Performance

Dr. Blanchard’s research and scholarship focuses on diversity and inclusion related to race and ethnicity, national origin, and disability. She currently has two externally funded projects examining diversity within early childhood education and early intervention, one of which is funded through the Research Triangle International University Scholars Program. Dr. Blanchard is the first RTI scholar to be selected from ECU.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Jeff Skibins
College of Health & Human Performance
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Essie Torres
College of Health & Human Performance

Dr. Torres is a health equity and disparities researcher and has successfully managed approximately $4.6 million in grant funding. Her work has focused on cancer prevention and control, specifically on breast and HPV-related cancers among medically underserved populations, medication adherence among cancer patients, vaccine adherence, and addressing social determinants of health that contribute to health inequities in eastern North Carolina.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Courtney Caiola
College of Nursing

Dr. Caiola is committed to utilizing community-engaged research methods, mixed methods, and intersectional approaches to examine and address the social and economic determinants of health among women at risk for or living with HIV.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Nancy Dias
College of Nursing

As a researcher, Dr. Dias has a niche for a very significant and innovative aspect of pediatric palliative care services that includes parent caregiver health outcomes, their bereavement processes, and innovative technology.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Chandra Speight
College of Nursing

Speight’s research investigating barriers and facilitators to buprenorphine prescribing among nurse practitioners working in primary care settings will be instrumental in saving lives of many individuals with substance use addiction issues.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

David Lagomasino
Integrated Coastal Programs

Dr. Lagomasino has consistently produced lead-authored and co-authored peer-reviewed publications in some of the world’s highest impact journals. Collectively, this excellent scholarship as well as his annual proposal submissions and awards truly personify a highly-productive faculty member in research-intensive academic departments.
Ramiro Murata
School of Dental Medicine

Dr. Murata was awarded a NIH grant to investigate host-Candida interactions and the impact on host pro- and anti-viral restriction factors.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Linda May
School of Dental Medicine

Dr. May has assembled an interdisciplinary team at ECU to investigate the effect of exercise modality during pregnancy on childhood obesity risk.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Acela Martinez Luna
School of Dental Medicine

Dr. Martinez Luna received a grant from the American Academy of Implant Dentistry to investigate the effects of customized CAD/CAM generated healing abutments on soft and hard tissue parameters around dental implants.
Outstanding Research Scholars & Artists

Joi P. Walker
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Walker is the PI of a current NSF grant (TEaMS-UR) that provides $1,632,581 to develop empirical evidence demonstrating that embedding team science within undergraduate research experiences supports the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes as transportable team competencies and demonstrates what factors contribute to successful, inclusive, and scalable programs across disciplines including Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Geology, and Engineering.
Helen Dixon
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Dixon has demonstrated a significant research profile in the short time she has been at ECU, to include awards from the Getty Foundation Fellow, NSF and NEH.
Ryan Schacht
Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences

During the last year, Dr. Schacht was a PI or co-PI on three grants totaling over $700,000 from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He was also the author or coauthor on five publications including Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, Biodemography and Social Biology, and Nature Scientific Reports, among others.