Twelfth Annual

Celebration of Faculty & Staff Academic Excellence

Thursday, October 22, 2015 | Slee Hall

University at Buffalo The State University of New York
Order of Program

All awards will be announced by the Master of Ceremony unless otherwise noted.

Master of Ceremony

Robert Granfield
Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs

Welcome

Satish K. Tripathi
President

SUNY Distinguished Ranks

SUNY Distinguished Professor

SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor

SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in:

Scholarship and Creative Activities

Teaching

Librarianship

H. Austin Booth
Vice Provost, University Libraries

Professional Service

Dennis R. Black
Vice President, University Life and Services

Classified Service

Laura E. Hubbard
Vice President, Finance and Administration
PERFORMANCE: “Fanfares” and “Autumn in Warsaw” by G. Ligeti

Eric Huebner: Pianist
Associate Professor, Department of Music

Charles F. Zukoski
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

50 Years of Service to UB

UB Distinguished Professor

UB Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring Award

Graham L. Hammill
Vice Provost, Graduate Education; Dean, Graduate School

Andrew M. Stott
Dean, Undergraduate Education

UB Teaching Innovation Award

ABOUT TODAY’S PIANO PERFORMANCE

Today’s études by György Ligeti traverse a vast array of compositional and stylistic influences—from the music of the Central African Pygmies to the improvisational style of jazz pianist Bill Evans—which are filtered through Ligeti’s unique compositional approach.
SUNY Distinguished Ranks

SUNY Distinguished Professor

John M. Canty, Jr.
Department of Medicine

A fellow of the American College of Cardiology, American College of Physicians, and American Heart Association, Dr. John Canty is an internationally renowned physician-scientist and sterling academic role model for students and faculty. Dr. Canty’s pioneering cardiovascular research, which has been continuously funded for over 30 years, is characterized by an interdisciplinary approach ranging from physiology and biochemistry to stem cell biology and nanotechnology. Prior to his work, the phenomenon of myocardial hibernation was misclassified and misunderstood. Through his development of a unique animal model and innovative experiments, he challenged this misconception and redefined the paradigm of hibernation and sudden cardiac death. Dr. Canty has achieved international prominence for his distinguished scholarly work and is a guiding light for young people working in the area of cardiovascular disease. He has elevated the standards of scholarship of his colleagues within and beyond his academic field, and his research has impacted millions of patients with severe ischemic cardiomyopathy.

Michael C. Constantinou
Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

One of the world’s leading scholars of seismic protective systems, Dr. Michael Constantinou has had a profound impact on earthquake engineering in the U.S. and around the globe. His research has been employed to ensure the stability and safety of prominent structures located in seismically active regions around the world, from the San Francisco International Airport to off-shore oil and gas platforms in Russia, to several seismically isolated hospitals and the new Apple building in California. He has served as consultant or reviewer for over 100 structures with seismic protective systems in 19 countries. Dr. Constantinou has been principal or co-principal investigator on over $30 million in externally funded research, leading to more than 300 publications and four issued or pending patents. His significant contributions have been recognized by numerous awards, including the prestigious Nathan M. Newmark Medal from the American Society of Civil Engineers in 2015 and the 2004 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities.

Gene D. Morse
Department of Pharmacy Practice

A pioneering, internationally recognized HIV pharmacology researcher and one of SUNY and UB’s most productive and visible faculty members, Dr. Gene Morse is a leader in assessing pharmacokinetics of new medications addressing Hepatitis C and tuberculosis in relation to HIV. Among his many accomplishments, he has developed national clinical pharmacology groups to pursue therapeutic drug monitoring (TDM) and pharmacogenomics, establishing the National HIV TDM Registry for protease inhibitors. He created groundbreaking methodologies for measuring drug concentrations in humans, has directed a pharmacology laboratory for the NIH-funded AIDS Clinical Trials Group since its establishment in 1987, and has led the HIV Treatment Education program and Adherence-Pharmacology Unit at the Erie County Medical Center since 1988. The founding leader of the new SUNY Global Health Institute, he has directed an HIV research development program with the University of Zimbabwe since 1998. Recently, Dr. Morse received a $12 million NIH grant to lead a quality assurance program in clinical pharmacology for HIV/AIDS and related diseases.

SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor

Johannes M. Nitsche
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

A leading example to his students as a superb scholar and dedicated researcher, Dr. Johannes Nitsche is internationally renowned for his theoretical research in biological transport processes and dermal absorption. Widely recognized as an exceptional and innovative educator, Dr. Nitsche has received many teaching awards, including the 1995 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Among his numerous innovative and highly effective contributions, Dr. Nitsche conceived and implemented the Spiral Learning Initiative in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, which has revolutionized the undergraduate curriculum in the department. Dr. Nitsche cares deeply about advancing the mathematics and computation ability of graduate students, and has played an instrumental role in graduate curriculum revision that strengthens training in this area. Dr. Nitsche has recently received a book contract from Springer to write a problem-based textbook on transport phenomena with the potential to positively impact the way that chemical and biological engineering is taught to undergraduates across the nation.
SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence

SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities

Stella N. Batalama
Department of Electrical Engineering

Professor and chair in the Department of Electrical Engineering, Dr. Stella Batalama is a world-renowned leader in the areas of wireless communication systems and networks, multimedia data security, underwater communications, cognitive networking, and signal processing. Her research has developed groundbreaking technologies that have forged new pathways and integrally shaped her field over the past two decades. She has received more than $9 million in research funding from agencies such as the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense, as well as private industry. Her research has been published in more than 150 peer-reviewed journals.

Ann M. Bisantz
Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering

The chair of industrial and systems engineering, Dr. Ann Bisantz is a world-renowned expert in the areas of human factors engineering and cognitive engineering. A fellow of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES), she is a member of the advisory board of the National Center for Human Factors Engineering in Healthcare and executive council of HFES. The recipient of a prestigious National Science Foundation CAREER Award, she has received funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and a number of defense organizations, and has participated in collaborative research with UB’s Center for Multisource Information Fusion.

Ralph H.B. Benedict
Department of Neurology

A fellow of the American Psychological Association, Dr. Ralph Benedict is a pioneer in the practice of neuropsychological testing and quantitative brain imaging that has led to a better understanding of the frequency, quality, and correlates of cognitive impairment. His research led to the current view that deep gray matter atrophy is a key driver of dementia in multiple sclerosis. He has developed two memory tests that are widely used in neuropsychology, especially in the areas of multiple sclerosis, head injury and schizophrenia, and are included in consensus panel test batteries for NFL and NHL athletes suffering concussions.

Sriram Neelamegham
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

A fellow of the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering, Dr. Sriram Neelamegham serves as co-director of UB’s Center for Biomedical Engineering and recently was named co-director of the Stem Cells in Regenerative Medicine program, an interdisciplinary research training program involving scientists from UB and Roswell Park Cancer Institute. A recipient of a National Institutes of Health Independent Scientist Award, he is renowned as a pioneer in the fields of systems glycobiology, molecular and cellular bioengineering, pathways in inflammation and thrombosis, and cell biomechanics and adhesion molecules. He has a long-term goal of identifying new targets for drug development.
**SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching**

**Peter G. Bradford**  
*Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology*

A nationally and internationally recognized authority in endocrine pharmacology and signal transduction, Dr. Peter Bradford studies how hormones and nutrients affect growth and survival of bone osteoblasts and breast epithelial cells. He directs the Endocrine and Reproductive Systems module for second-year medical students as well as the core pharmacology courses for third-year dental students and advanced undergraduates. Recipient of the Dental School’s 2014 Richard A. Powell Award for Excellence in Teaching, Dr. Bradford has an exemplary record of teaching and mentoring and is lauded by students and colleagues as a singularly “passionate” and “engaging” professor.

**Steven Miller**  
*Department of English*

A specialist in psychoanalytic theory, continental philosophy, 19th-20th century European literature, and translation studies, and director of UB’s Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture, Dr. Steven Miller teaches courses in literary theory and criticism, psychoanalysis, and various literary traditions. A rigorous and highly engaging educator who makes complex materials accessible, he is an outstanding teacher and mentor at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. He has authored “War After Death: On Violence and Its Limits,” along with numerous essays and translations, and in 2010 he was the Fulbright-Freud Visiting Scholar of Psychoanalysis at the Freud Museum in Vienna.

**Mary Nell Trautner**  
*Department of Sociology*

Associate professor and director of graduate studies in sociology, Dr. Mary Nell Trautner’s research and teaching focus on social inequalities and social justice. A highly regarded graduate student mentor, Dr. Trautner has published a series of peer-reviewed pedagogical research articles. The range of courses she teaches includes Criminology, Sociology of Gender, Sociology of Law, and Social Problems. Dr. Trautner studies how law, culture, and organizational practices shape the ways inequalities are created, perpetuated, and experienced. Her National Science Foundation-funded research explores how families cope with and make medical and legal decisions about how to respond to their child’s birth injuries.

**SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Librarianship**

**Theodora Belniak**  
*Charles B. Sears Law Library*

As head of collection management for UB’s Law Library, Ms. Theodora Belniak oversees the acquisitions department, managing the budget and selection of library materials. She teaches “New York Legal Research” in the Law School, and has guest lectured in the Law School’s “Legal Research and Writing” course and also a legal information course in the Department of Library Science. A member of the American Association of Law Libraries and the Association of Law Libraries of Upstate New York, Ms. Belniak earned an MLS and JD from UB, and an MA in culture and colonialism from the National University of Ireland, Galway.

**Michelle L. Zafron**  
*Health Sciences Library*

As associate librarian for the Health Sciences Library, Ms. Michelle Zafron coordinates day-to-day reference operations and administrative tasks and provides reference services to students, faculty, staff and the public. The library faculty liaison to five departments in the School of Public Health and Health Professions, she also serves as an adjunct instructor in the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and co-teaches a doctoral course in physical therapy and a course in the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences. A member of the Medical Library Association, she is the author of a chapter in "Introduction to Reference Sources in the Health Sciences."
SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service

Beth A. Corry
University Business Services

As director of financial services, Ms. Beth Corry was responsible for executing a strategic plan; developing accounting, financial, and internal control policies; and directing operational improvement activities in the Office of Financial Services. In this role, Ms. Corry made significant contributions that positively impacted the university, including developing a multi-year central budget model, leading the Business System Transformation Financial Team, guiding and advising multiple university departments through implementing a strategic account reporting process, and developing standards and governance for access to financial data. Earlier this year, Ms. Corry was appointed associate vice president for business services and controller at UB.

Elaine R. Cusker
Academic Affairs

As associate dean in the Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, Dr. Elaine Cusker’s broad responsibilities encompass academic areas of key importance at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels—from program evaluation, academic integrity, curriculum assessment and oversight to addressing student and family concerns that reach all levels of academic administration. Dr. Cusker has held significant leadership roles in high-impact university-wide initiatives, including the successful Middle States reaccreditation, the new general education program, the Finish in 4 program, UB’s compliance with the SUNY Seamless Transfer initiative, and the Student Systems Transformation project (HUB).

John DellaContrada
University Communications

As associate vice president for media relations and stakeholder communications, Mr. John DellaContrada plays a critical role in positioning the strategic messaging of a major public research university in local, national, and international media. He serves frequently as the “university spokesperson” to external media; assists top-level administrators, researchers, and others in promoting UB; and leads and mentors a large and talented staff of media professionals. Prominent within the professional communications community, he is a member and past president of the local chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and was awarded its Platinum Award and 2015 Outstanding Practitioner Award.

Valerie A. Frerichs
Department of Chemistry

As associate director of the General Chemistry Laboratory and research assistant professor within UB’s Department of Chemistry, Dr. Valerie Frerichs displays the highest degree of excellence in her service, mentorship, teaching, scholarship, and implementation of laboratory curricula in undergraduate general and analytical chemistry. Among her numerous responsibilities, Dr. Frerichs mentors undergraduate and new graduate students in the General Chemistry Laboratory and analytical programs. Dr. Frerichs was integral in the development of the department’s research-based curricula, including her redesign of UB’s freshman laboratory work into research-based experiments that provide critical experience in experimental design, hypothesis formulation, testing, and analysis.

Jacqueline Molik Ghosen
School of Management

As assistant dean and director of communications for the School of Management, Ms. Jacqueline Molik Ghosen works to enhance and expand the school’s world-class reputation through the strategic implementation of effective public and media relations, communications, and marketing to a diverse audience of students, faculty, alumni, university friends, and employers. Her communications projects have earned her more than 40 awards of excellence from such professional groups as CASE, SUNY CUAD and PRSA. An active member of the local chapter of PRSA, she is a recipient of the chapter’s Outstanding Practitioner Award in recognition of her exceptional professional success and dedication.

Krista Hanypsiak
Undergraduate Education

As administrative director of UB’s Honors College, Ms. Krista Hanypsiak oversaw all activities related to the highly regarded Honors College, including recruitment, admissions, student advisement, alumni and donor relations, service learning, curriculum, and program development. Under Ms. Hanypsiak’s leadership, the Honors College framework transformed to include a strong emphasis on student community engagement and greater alumni and faculty involvement with the program. As chair of the Integrative Cluster working group for the general education program, she was the primary architect of the concept that links courses thematically across disciplines. Earlier this year, Ms. Hanypsiak was appointed director of general education at UB.
Kevin Leary  
*Arts Management Program*

As assistant to the director of UB’s Arts Management Program and financial administrator for the Technē Institute, Mr. Kevin Leary’s many responsibilities include managing the budgets of both programs, student advisement and recruitment services, managing special events, scheduling courses and events, website design and maintenance, and general office operations. Displaying an extraordinarily sustained dedication to his professional duties while playing a significant role in ensuring the success of both the programs with which he works and the students enrolled in them, Mr. Leary is considered integral to the continuity and success of these programs.

Patricia Shyhalla  
*International Education*

As associate vice provost for resource management for the Office of International Education, Ms. Patricia Shyhalla provides personnel administration and fiscal oversight of all units comprising international education, including International Enrollment Management and International Admissions, Study Abroad Programs, International Student and Scholar Services, and Immigration Services, as well as the English Language Institute. Ms. Shyhalla also provides personnel support for international education’s overseas divisions, which include, among others, UB’s undergraduate degree programs at the Singapore Institute of Management. In this role, she supports UB employees who live and work overseas – more than 50 individuals within any given year.

Deborah Szurgyi  
*Department of Oral Biology*

A senior clerical staff member in the Department of Oral Biology, Ms. Deborah Szurgyi is lauded by colleagues for her dedicated and responsive service to faculty, department staff, post-doctoral associates, laboratory staff, dental clinic patients, and graduate students. In addition to supervising departmental support staff members and overseeing an extensive portfolio of externally funded research accounts for department faculty, Ms. Szurgyi also expertly handles numerous other duties, including oversight of all time-and-attendance reports in Foster Hall, hiring and supervising student workers, managing the oral biology supply inventory, and overseeing all maintenance and repair issues in Foster Hall.

Paul Wilcox  
*Anderson Gallery*

As maintenance supervisor for UB’s Anderson Gallery, Mr. Paul Wilcox has assumed a leadership role that extends well beyond the oversight of daily maintenance and care of the building and grounds. Among his numerous contributions, he voluntarily assumed responsibility for supervising contracted services for his building’s systems, including environmental controls, security, elevator maintenance, snow removal, landscaping, and fire inspection. In addition to supporting the unique requests of artists, curators, faculty, and students, Mr. Wilcox also serves as the gallery’s primary point of contact for University Facilities and its liaison with contractors for major capital improvement projects at the gallery.

**SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Classified Service**

Vickie Searight  
*Department of Biological Sciences*

As undergraduate secretary in the Department of Biological Sciences, Ms. Vickie Searight balances numerous priorities and demands while demonstrating exceptional professionalism and excellence, great flexibility and creativity, and exemplary customer service—all while continuously seeking ways to improve the experience of students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Among her numerous contributions to the department, she played a leading role in helping her department transition from a paper-based student record system to the university-wide HUB student data system, helped re-envision her department’s fall semester open house, and transformed the departamental reception area into a welcoming space for guests and visitors.
50 Years of Service to UB

Robert E. Ackerhalt  
Department of Nuclear Medicine, Emeritus

A distinguished UB alumnus (BS ’82, pharmacy; PhD ’70, chemistry), Dr. Robert Ackerhalt is clinical professor emeritus of nuclear medicine. An expert in radioactive materials and radiopharmaceuticals, he served as director, secretary, and treasurer at UB’s Central Radiopharmaceutical Services, which was the first of its kind when established in 1970 and now serves over thirty clinical sites. He also served as chair of UB’s Department of Nuclear Medicine (1996-2000) and president of the American Board of Science in Nuclear Medicine (2001-2002).

Harvey Breverman  
Department of Art, Emeritus

SUNY Distinguished Professor of Art and member of the National Academy of Design, Harvey Breverman has received awards from the Tiffany Foundation, Netherlands Government, National Endowment for the Arts, and American Academy of Arts and Letters, among many others. A widely exhibited and internationally acclaimed artist, Professor Breverman’s artworks are included in the permanent collections of more than 150 prominent museums and galleries worldwide, including the British Museum, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Whitney Museum of American Art, Museum of Modern Art and National Portrait Gallery.

Sebastian G. Ciancio  
Department of Periodontics and Endodontics

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor in the School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Sebastian Ciancio has served as chair of periodontics and endodontics for over 40 years. A prolific and highly regarded scholar, he received the American Academy of Periodontology’s Gold Medal (2001) and the Ross Award for Clinical Research from the American Dental Association (2015)—those organizations’ highest honors—and numerous other accolades. An author or co-author of more than 150 papers, he is editor of the ADA/PDR Dental Therapeutics Online.

Georg G. Iggers  
Department of History, Emeritus

SUNY Distinguished Professor of History, Dr. Georg Iggers is an internationally renowned scholar of intellectual history who was involved in two of the most important political movements of the 20th century: the American civil rights movement and overcoming the division of Germany during the Cold War. In 2007, Dr. Iggers was presented the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for his "outstanding contribution to German-American relations and constant effort to build bridges—academically, culturally and politically—across seemingly insurmountable divides.”

George H. Nancollas  
Department of Chemistry, Emeritus

Dr. George Nancollas is a SUNY Distinguished Professor and emeritus Larkin Chair of Chemistry, who served as provost of the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and was chair of the former Department of Biomaterials. The author of more than 420 publications, Dr. Nancollas is internationally recognized for his research. A fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, American Association for Crystal Growth and American Association for the Advancement of Science, he is a recipient of the National Institutes of Health MERIT Award.

Shinpei Ohki  
Department of Physiology and Biophysics

Dr. Shinpei Ohki’s NIH-funded research focuses on molecular mechanisms of biological membrane fusion. He earned a doctorate from Kyoto University, came to UB as a postdoctoral fellow in 1965, and joined the faculty in 1969. He has held numerous visiting appointments at distinguished institutions, including visiting professor at Jichi Medical College and Science University Tokyo, visiting researcher at the Institute of Fundamental Physics in Kyoto, visiting scientist at the University of Leipzig, and corporation member at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Massachusetts.
Pamela M. Rose  
*Health Sciences Library*

The web services and library promotion coordinator for the Health Sciences Library (HSL), Ms. Pamela Rose earned her BS in anthropology (1990) and MLS in library and information studies (1995). Ms. Rose serves on the HSL reference team and develops content for the HSL website. She has been instrumental in instituting therapy dogs at UB and other colleges since 2011. She has been with the Professional Staff Senate since 1982 and volunteers at the Buffalo Zoo, Paws for Love, TAWNY, and PAWNY.

UB Distinguished Professor

John H. Schlegel  
*Law School*

Professor John Schlegel, who joined the UB faculty in 1973, is the Floyd H. & Hilda L. Hurst Faculty Scholar in the Law School. The author of nearly 60 articles and two books, Professor Schlegel is especially known for his scholarship on corporate finance, economic redevelopment of rust belt cities, and legal history in America—in particular the American legal realism and critical legal studies movements. His current project, a book on law and economy in the United States since the Civil War, examines change in the national economy and its social consequences, using Buffalo as a case study.
UB Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring Award

Rajan Batta
Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering

Dr. Rajan Batta is a SUNY Distinguished Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering. A fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE), he is the recipient of IIE’s David E. Baker Distinguished Research Award and Albert G. Holzman Distinguished Educator Award. Since joining UB in 1984, he has advised or co-advised 41 doctoral and 45 master’s students. For their research in transportation and logistics, Dr. Batta and his students have won two journal best paper awards and a modeling competition award.

Anthony A. Campagnari
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Dr. Anthony Campagnari, professor of microbiology and immunology and senior associate dean for research and graduate education, has dedicated much of his career to mentoring and training over 45 biomedical graduate students, many of whom are now leaders in higher education, industry and government. Dr. Campagnari’s research in bacterial pathogenesis has been funded continuously by the National Institutes of Health for 23 years and recognized by numerous UB awards, including the Exceptional Scholar Sustained Achievement, Visionary Innovator, and Inventor and Entrepreneur awards.

Yvonne K. Scherer
School of Nursing

Dr. Yvonne Scherer is an associate professor in the School of Nursing and has mentored numerous graduate students in both the Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Nurse Specialist Programs as well as students completing their PhD in nursing. Her areas of research have focused on symptom management in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and use of simulation to improve interprofessional collaborative practice. She is the recipient of a Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and UB Teaching Innovation Award.

UB President Emeritus and Mrs. Myerson Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Mentoring

Ana Mariella Bacigalupo
Department of Anthropology

Dr. Ana Mariella Bacigalupo, associate professor of anthropology, has gained national and international recognition for her groundbreaking research and prolific scholarship on the Mapuche shamans and people. She has received numerous fellowships from, among others, the Guggenheim Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, Max Planck Institute, Radcliffe Institute, and National Endowment for the Humanities. Recipient of the Milton Plesur Teaching Award, Dr. Bacigalupo is a highly regarded educator who trains UB students in northern Peru through an NIH Minority Health and Health Disparities International Research Training Grant.

Lance Rintamaki
Department of Communication

Dr. Lance Rintamaki is an associate professor and director of undergraduate studies in UB’s Department of Communication and an inaugural Honors College Faculty Fellow. He is best known for his research on provider-patient communication and programs that facilitate coping with chronic illness. He has chaired, co-chaired, or served on numerous university committees to improve learning outcomes and assessment, as well as developed a comprehensive approach to curriculum design that integrates students, alumni, and industry leaders to best prepare our graduates for the job market.

Mark T. Swihart
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering

A UB Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Dr. Mark Swihart is internationally known for his research in synthesis and processing of nanomaterials. During his 17 years at UB, he has mentored more than 50 current and former graduate students and more than 90 undergraduate researchers. He has co-authored approximately 150 peer-reviewed journal papers, which have been cited approximately 7,000 times, and has been voted “Professor of the Year” by the chemical engineering undergraduates five times.
UB Exceptional Scholars

Sustained Achievement Award

Chester H. Fox
Department of Family Medicine

An authority in health informatics and health system transformation, Dr. Chester Fox is at the forefront of translational research that uses evidence-based evaluation frameworks for measuring practice transformation, patient-centric safety and self-management. As director of the Upstate New York Practice Based Research Network, he has achieved an exceptional level of funding for translating research into practice, leading to improved and more evidence-informed healthcare. Dr. Fox has received numerous awards from prestigious organizations including the National Institutes of Health and American Medical Association.

Susan Zonglu Hua
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

An accomplished researcher working in materials science and microfluidics for cell physiology and cell mechanics studies, Dr. Susan Zonglu Hua has a long and impressive history of funding from the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health, and she holds nine patents. Her research on the development of high-resolution microfluidic chips that enable real time measurement of biological events has gained international acclaim and application. In recognition of her outstanding contributions, her research has been highlighted in several of her discipline’s top journals.

Janet R. Morrow
Department of Chemistry

Dr. Janet Morrow is an internationally acclaimed scholar in the field of bioinorganic chemistry. She has a distinguished record of scholarship, sustained funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Institutes of Health (NIH), and is associate editor of Inorganic Chemistry, the leading journal in her field. Her research contributions have been recognized with numerous honors including the prestigious Schoellkopf Medal from the American Chemical Society in 2014 and awards from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, NIH, and NSF.

Norma J. Nowak
Department of Biochemistry

A pioneer and leader in human genomics, Dr. Norma Nowak has made significant contributions to the landmark Human Genome Project and genomic approaches to understanding human health. She currently heads UB’s New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences and has served in various leadership roles at Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI) and UB. In recognition of her outstanding scholarship and leadership, Dr. Nowak has received numerous awards from organizations including the American Association of Cancer Research, RPCI, and American Society of Dermatopathology.

Noreen Williams
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

A groundbreaking researcher in the biology of trypanosomes, Dr. Noreen Williams is recognized as a leading expert in Trypanosoma brucei, a parasite that causes African sleeping sickness. Her research is published in high-impact journals and funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) at such a level that she was twice recognized as a UB Top Federal Grantee. Dr. Williams was chosen to chair three NIH study sections and co-organize the International Molecular Parasitology Meeting (2010-12), honors extended to only the top scientists.

Jinhui Xu
Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Supported by an outstanding level of grant funding, Dr. Jinhui Xu's research focuses on problems related to computational geometry, combinational optimization and machine learning and their applications in medicine, biology, and networking. Dr. Xu has published 150 papers in highly competitive international journals and conferences in a range of fields and has garnered many accolades, including a prestigious National Science Foundation CAREER Award and IBM Faculty Partnership Award. In 2009, he received the UB Visionary Inventor Award, recognizing his innovative and sustained research.
Xuefeng Ren
Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health
An emerging leader in the fields of environmental health and toxicology, Dr. Xuefeng Ren's laboratory-based research focuses on understanding how environmental, genetic, and epigenetic factors interact to cause cancer and other diseases. Since joining UB in 2010, Dr. Ren has established an outstanding record of publishing in top-tier journals and obtaining funding to support his research—securing three National Institutes of Health grants as a principle investigator in the last two years alone, an exceptional achievement for a young scholar.

Iman Borazjani
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Already a leading researcher in computational fluid dynamics, Dr. Iman Borazjani develops advanced computational tools to advance knowledge in the physics of biological and engineering flows. Since joining UB in 2010, he has established a strong publication and funding record, including receiving prestigious early-career awards from the National Science Foundation, American Heart Association, and American Chemical Society. An engaged researcher, Dr. Borazjani also creates videos for display at the Buffalo Museum of Science to educate children about science and engineering.

David Dietz
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology
A rising star in the neuroscience discipline, Dr. David Dietz joined the UB faculty in 2011. To support his research on molecular and behavioral plasticity in relation to drug abuse and addiction, Dr. Dietz recently received a nearly $2 million National Institutes of Health RO1 grant. An author of over 50 articles, his work has been recognized as a “hot topic” by the Society of Neuroscience and as one of the “Top 10 Research Advances of 2011” by the National Institute of Mental Health.

Changhyun Kwon
Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), United States Department of Transportation, and industrial partners, Dr. Changhyun Kwon’s interdisciplinary research focuses on designing safer and more environmentally friendly transportation and logistics systems. Since joining UB in 2008, Dr. Kwon has published over 20 articles in the highest quality journals in his field and co-edited the important “Handbook of OR/MS Models in Hazardous Materials Transportation” (2013). In recognition of the significance of his work, Dr. Kwon recently received a prestigious NSF CAREER Award.
UB Teaching Innovation Award

William A. Prescott, Jr.
Department of Pharmacy Practice

Dr. William Prescott is an exceptional educator who incorporates innovative pedagogical techniques and technology into his own teaching and School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences’ curriculum. An advocate of active learning, his teaching methodologies include simulation-based and interprofessional education, flipped classroom, and team- and case-based learning. Widely recognized for his teaching effectiveness, Dr. Prescott has received numerous teaching awards, including the American College of Apothecaries Albert E. Rosica, Jr. Memorial Award and School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Teacher of the Year Award, twice.
CELEBRATION OF FACULTY & STAFF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE 2015

SAMPLING OF NATIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS: 2014-15

David M. Alff
English
Summer Fellowship
National Endowment for the Humanities

Ana Mariella Bacigalupo
Anthropology
Visiting Fellowship
Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

Douglas S. Basford
English
Literature Translation Fellowship
National Endowment for the Arts

Ronald E. Batt
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Harry Reich Award
Endometriosis Foundation of America

Rajan Batta
Industrial and Systems Engineering
Albert G. Holzman Distinguished Educator Award
Institute of Industrial Engineers

Lisa A. Bauer
Law
Bellow Scholar
Association of American Law Schools

Roseanne C. Berger
Family Medicine
Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

Iman Borazjani
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
CAREER Award
National Science Foundation

Frank V. Bright
Chemistry
Award in Spectrochemical Analysis
American Chemical Society Division of Analytical Chemistry

Randolph L. Carter
Biostatistics
Fulbright Fellowship
Council for International Exchange of Scholars

Alexander N. Cartwright
Electrical Engineering
Fellow
National Academy of Inventors

Kee H. Chung
Finance
Top-Journal Paper Award
Financial News and Korea-America Finance Association

Sebastian G. Ciancio
Periodontics and Endodontics
Norton M. Ross Award for Excellence in Clinical Research
American Dental Association

Luis A. Colón
Chemistry
Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring
White House

Kim Diana Connolly
Law
Bellow Scholar
Association of American Law Schools

Michael C. Constantinou
Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering
Nathan M. Newmark Medal
American Society of Civil Engineers

John L. Crassidis
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Fellow
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Nathan J. Daun-Barnett
Educational Leadership and Policy
Arturo Schomburg Distinguished Service Award
Association for Equality and Excellence in Education

Stephanie Davidson and Georg Rafailidis
Architecture
People's Choice Award and Award of Merit
AZ Awards

Oscar A. deLeon-Casasola
Anesthesiology
President
American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine

Danielle Pelfrey Duryea
Law
Bellow Scholar
Association of American Law Schools

Carole Emberton
History
Willie Lee Rose Prize
Southern Association for Women Historians
Robert J. Genco  
Oral Biology  
R. Earl Robinson Periodontal Regeneration Award  
American Academy of Periodontology

Venu Govindaraju  
Computer Science and Engineering  
Outstanding Achievements Award  
International Association for Pattern Recognition and International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition

Amit Goyal  
Chemical and Biological Engineering  
Fellow  
National Academy of Inventors

Walter N. Hakala  
English  
Edward Cameron Dimock, Jr. Prize in the Indian Humanities  
American Institute of Indian Studies

Linda M. Harris  
Surgery  
President  
Association of Program Directors in Vascular Surgery

Stephen McKinley Henderson  
Theatre and Dance  
Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play  
Lucille Lortel Awards

Daniel B. Hess  
Urban and Regional Planning  
Global Fellowship  
European Commission’s Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

George M. Hezel  
Law  
Lifetime Achievement Award  
New York State Association for Affordable Housing

D. Jeffery Higginbotham  
Communicative Disorders and Sciences  
Fellow  
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Megan M. Holland  
Educational Leadership and Policy  
Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship  
National Academy of Education

Faye E. Justicia-Linde  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Excellence in Teaching Award  
Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics

Damien D. Keane  
English  
Robert Rhodes Prize  
American Conference for Irish Studies

David A. Kofke  
Chemical and Biological Engineering  
Fellow  
American Association for the Advancement of Science

Jackyung Lee  
Counseling, School and Educational Psychology  
Outstanding Reviewer  
American Educational Research Association

Elad I. Levy  
Neurosurgery  
Hero of the Heart Award  
American Heart Association of Western New York

Natalia M. Litchinitser  
Electrical Engineering  
Fellow  
American Physical Society

Carl R.F. Lund  
Chemical and Biological Engineering  
Fellow  
American Institute of Chemical Engineers

Manoranjan Majji  
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering  
New Investigator Award  
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Makau W. Mutua  
Law  
Distinguished Africanist Award  
New York African Studies Association

Yunjoo Nam  
Social Work  
Fellow  
Gerontological Society of America

Sasha D. Pack  
History  
Fulbright Fellowship  
Council for International Exchange of Scholars

Pamela D. Paplham  
Nursing  
Fellow  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
Abani K. Patra  
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering  
Fellow  
United States Association for Computational Mechanics

Davina Porock  
Nursing  
Distinguished Australian Alumni Award  
Curtin University

Paras N. Prasad  
Chemistry  
Honorary Doctorate  
Aix-Marseille Université

Calyampudi R. Rao  
Biostatistics  
Honorary Doctorate  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

John P. Richard  
Chemistry  
Fellow  
American Chemical Society

Stefan H. Ruhl  
Oral Biology  
Salivary Researcher of the Year  
International Association for Dental Research Salivary Research Group

Dhaval K. Shah  
Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Outstanding Manuscript Award in Modeling and Simulation  
American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists

Daniel W. Sheehan  
Pediatrics  
Excellence in Care Award  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Robert Mark Silverman  
Urban and Regional Planning  
Best Article Award  
Leadership and Policy in Schools

Barry Smith  
Philosophy  
Fellow  
American College of Medical Informatics

Jin Young Song  
Architecture  
Residential Building Concept Second Award  
Re-Thinking the Future Sustainability Awards

Edward H. Steinfeld  
Architecture  
James Haecker Award for Distinguished Leadership in Architectural Research  
Architectural Research Centers Consortium

Gerald Sufrin  
Urology  
President  
American Association of Genitourinary Surgeons

Kathleen M. Tornatore-Morse  
Pharmacy Practice  
Fellow  
American Society of Transplantation

John M. Violanti  
Epidemiology and Environmental Health  
Officer Wellness Panel Member  
President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing

Deborah P. Waldrop  
Social Work  
Award of Excellence in Research  
Social Work Hospice and Palliative Care Network

Gil I. Wolfe  
Neurology  
Doctor of the Year Award  
Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America

Ashley E. Woodruff  
Pharmacy Practice  
Teacher of the Year  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

Cynthia Wu  
Transnational Studies  
Florence Howe Award  
Women’s Caucus of the Modern Language Association

Ying Xu  
Pharmaceutical Sciences  
New Investigator Award  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

Chi Zhou  
Industrial and Systems Engineering  
Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award  
Society of Manufacturing Engineers

Jun Zhuang  
Industrial and Systems Engineering  
MOR Journal Award  
Military Operations Research Society and Military Applications Society
PROMOTED AND/OR TENURED FACULTY: 2014-15

Julian L. Ambrus, Jr., Professor
Medicine

Steven Todd Brown, Professor
Law

Deborah Chiarella, Associate Librarian
University Libraries

Jan Chomicki, Professor
Computer Science and Engineering

Gregory A. Fabiano, Professor
Counseling, School and Educational Psychology

Myles S. Faith, Professor
Counseling, School and Educational Psychology

Yoly M. Gonzalez, Associate Professor
Oral Diagnostic Sciences

Amit Goyal, Professor
Chemical and Biological Engineering

Melanie C. Green, Associate Professor
Communication

Shermali Gunawardena, Associate Professor
Biological Sciences

Violet I. Haraszthy, Professor
Restorative Dentistry

Erin Hatton, Associate Professor
Sociology

Wilma A. Hofmann, Associate Professor
Physiology and Biophysics

Christopher V. Hollister, Librarian
University Libraries

David P. Hostler III, Professor
Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

Eric H. Huebner, Associate Professor
Music

Marc T. Kiviniemi, Associate Professor
Community Health and Health Behavior

Venkat Krovi, Professor
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Changhyun Kwon, Associate Professor
Industrial and Systems Engineering

Ellis G. Levine, Professor
Medicine

Meredith Lewis, Professor
Law

Qing Lin, Professor
Chemistry

Stephen J. Lycett, Associate Professor
Anthropology

Michael G. Malkowski, Professor
Structural Biology

Eduardo Mercado III, Professor
Psychology

Xiuqian Mu, Associate Professor
Ophthalmology

Hung Q. Ngo, Professor
Computer Science and Engineering

Amanda B. Nickerson, Professor
Counseling, School and Educational Psychology

James M. O’Donnell, Professor
Pharmaceutical Sciences

Heather Orom, Associate Professor
Community Health and Health Behavior

Michael A. Rembis, Associate Professor
History

Stefan H. Ruhl, Professor
Oral Biology

Maria E. Runfola, Professor
Learning and Instruction

Camila Sabatini, Associate Professor
Restorative Dentistry
Celebration of Faculty & Staff Academic Excellence

2015

Salvatore Salamone, Associate Professor
Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

Margaret W. Sallee, Associate Professor
Educational Leadership and Policy

Vaikuntanath Samudrala, Professor
Biomedical Informatics

Fraser J. Sim, Associate Professor
Pharmacology and Toxicology

Mettupalayam V. Sivaselvan, Associate Professor
Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering

David A. Teegarden, Associate Professor
Classics

Stephanie L. Vander Wel, Associate Professor
Music

Margaret M. Vickerman, Professor
Periodontics and Endodontics

Amy J. Vilz, Associate Librarian
University Libraries

Noemi Waight, Associate Professor
Learning and Instruction

David F. Watson, Professor
Chemistry

Gregory E. Wilding, Professor
Biostatistics

Zheng Yang, Associate Professor
Communication

Antoine I. Yoshinaka, Associate Professor
Political Science

Jennifer L. Zirnheld, Associate Professor
Electrical Engineering
Charles D. Abbott Hall houses UB’s extensive Health Sciences Library. The original 1933 building, then
called Lockwood Library, nearly doubled in size with the 1985 addition. The library’s grand entranceway
is impressive in its own right, and the long, stone balustrade was salvaged from the old Albright estate by
renowned architect E.B. Green.