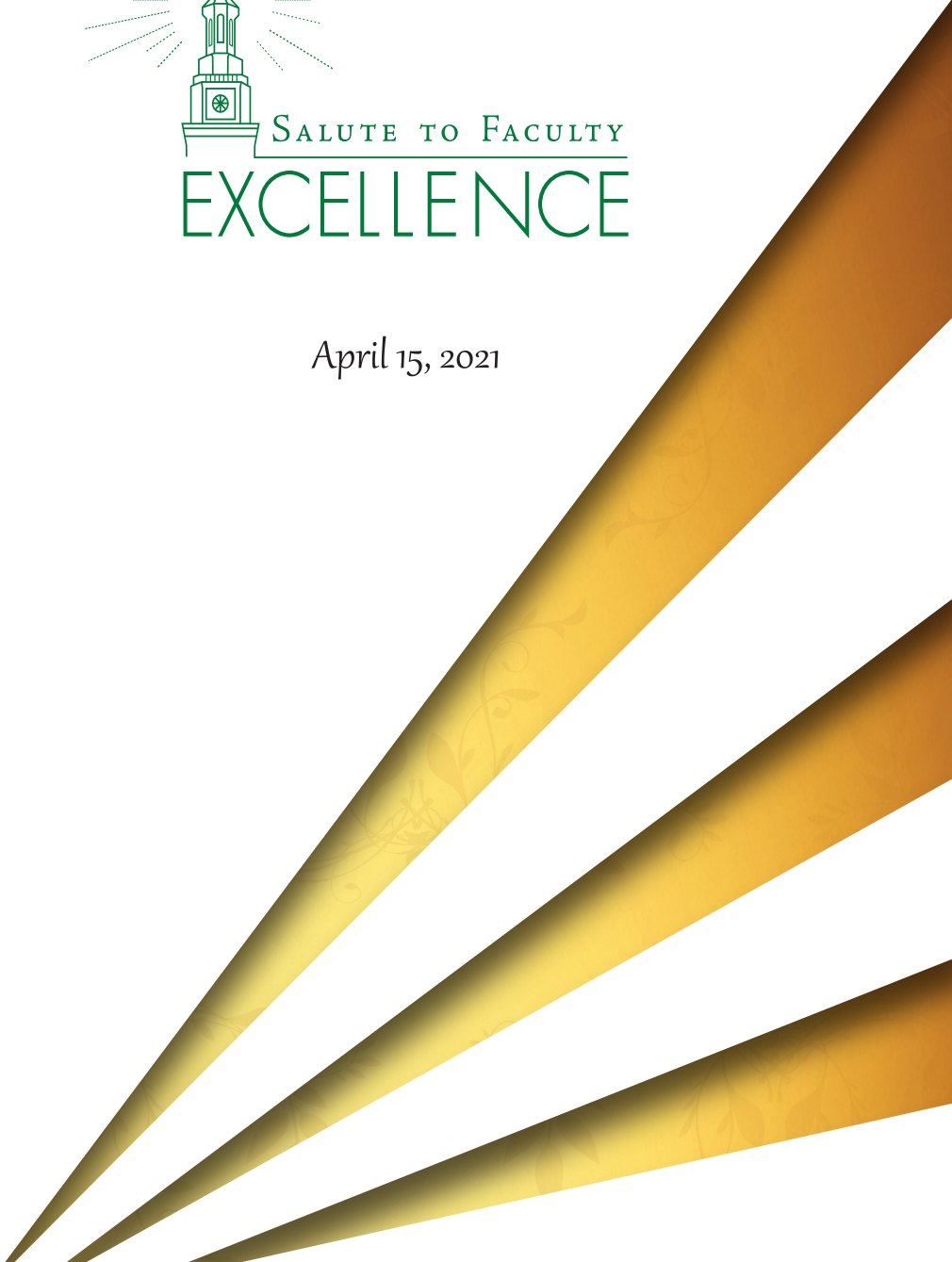




SALUTE TO FACULTY
EXCELLENCE

April 15, 2021



Salute to Faculty Excellence 2021

High-quality faculty members are hallmarks of a great university. Their impact on student success and the research enterprise makes them one of the most valuable resources on campus. Nowhere is their influence more profound than here at UNT, where more than 1,700 dedicated faculty members provide great learning opportunities in a supportive environment, engage in cutting-edge research and enhance the image of the university through their work every day.

Salute to Faculty Excellence is just one of the many ways UNT honors the outstanding faculty members who help continue our tradition of prestige. We are especially grateful for the vision and commitment of the UNT Foundation in its support of four faculty awards and tonight's special celebration. As a partner in our success, the UNT Foundation enhances the educational mission of our institution by accepting, investing and managing private gifts, endowed funds and other assets for the benefit of the university and our students.

Order of Events

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Jennifer Cowley, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Neal Smatresk, UNT President

GREETINGS FROM THE UNT FOUNDATION

Samuel P. Golden, Chair, UNT Foundation

TOAST TO FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Jennifer Cowley

PRESENTATION OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY AWARDS

Sian Brannon, Associate Dean for Collection Management, UNT Libraries
Neil Foote, Principal Lecturer, Mayborn School of Journalism

PRESENTATION OF UNT FOUNDATION AWARDS

Mike Mlinac, President and CEO, UNT Foundation

CLOSING REMARKS

Neal Smatresk



External Awards



Professional Awards and Accomplishments

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

KINESIOLOGY, HEALTH PROMOTION AND RECREATION

Tao Zhang

- 2020 Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

COLLEGE AWARD

- 2021 Bronze Award from the American Society of Engineering Education for Diversity and Inclusion

MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Diana Berman

- 2021 Early Career Development Award from the National Science Foundation

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Vishwanath Prasad

- 2020 Heat Transfer Memorial Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers

Cheng Yu

- 2021 Structural Engineering Institute Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers

Professional Awards and Accomplishments

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ANTHROPOLOGY

Mariela Nuñez-Janes

- 2020 President of the Council on Anthropology and Education

ENGLISH

Angela Calcaterra

- 2020 Wilbur R. Jacobs Fellowship from the Huntington Library
- 2020 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Fellowship from the Newberry Library

John Peters

- 2020 Member of the International Association of University Professors of English
- 2020 First Runner-up for the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America's Waclaw Lednicki Award for Excellence in the Humanities
- 2020 Ian P. Watt Award for Lifetime Achievement in Conrad Studies from the Joseph Conrad Society of America

GEOGRAPHY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Joseph Oppong

- 2021 Ronald F. Abler Distinguished Service Honors from the American Association of Geographers

Professional Awards and Accomplishments

COLLEGE OF MERCHANDISING, HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM MANAGEMENT

Xi Leung

- 2020 Facebook Research Award, Economic Impact of Digital Technologies

G. BRINT RYAN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

MANAGEMENT

Bob Heere

- 2020 Stotlar Award from the Sport Marketing Association

UNT Awards



University Faculty Awards

SERVICE AWARDS

CITATION FOR DISTINGUISHED INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

UNT International

Chiachih DC Wang
Psychology

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL UNIVERSITY SERVICE AWARD

Faculty Senate

Christy A. Crutsinger
Merchandising and Digital Retailing

UNT COMMUNITY AWARD

Office of the President

Kara Fulton
Applied Arts and Sciences

TEACHING AWARDS

DSI-CLEAR ONLINE TEACHER AND COURSE AWARD

Digital Strategy and Innovation

Allyson Packer
Art Foundations

PIPER PROFESSOR AWARD NOMINEE

Faculty Senate

J. Todd Moye
History

University Faculty Awards

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL TEACHING AWARDS

Faculty Senate

Glen Biglaiser
Political Science

Eric M. Nestler
Instrumental Studies, Woodwinds

J.H. SHELTON EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Faculty Senate

Jodi L. Duryea
Hospitality and Tourism Management

RESEARCH AWARDS

DECKER SCHOLAR AWARD

Research and Innovation

Aaron Roberts
Biological Sciences

EARLY CAREER AWARD FOR RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY

Research and Innovation

Rajeev K. Azad
Biological Sciences

TEACHER SCHOLAR AWARD

Research and Innovation

Laura K. Siebeneck
Emergency Management and Disaster Science

University Faculty Awards

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP AWARD

Research and Innovation

Wonbong Choi

Materials Science and Engineering

TOULOUSE SCHOLAR AWARD

Toulouse Graduate School

Jonathan Eaton

Conducting and Ensembles, Opera

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST SERVICE AWARDS

ULYS AND VERA KNIGHT FACULTY MENTOR AWARD

Mariela Nuñez-Janes

Anthropology

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST RESEARCH AWARDS

UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH PROFESSOR AWARD

Pudur Jagadeeswaran

Biological Sciences

PRESIDENTIAL EARLY CAREER PROFESSOR AWARD

Ifana Mahbub

Electrical Engineering

University Faculty Awards

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST TEACHING AWARDS

UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED TEACHING PROFESSOR AWARDS

Renee Bryce

Computer Science and Engineering

Nancy L. Stockdale

History

Carol D. Wickstrom

Teacher Education and Administration

ADJUNCT AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Melissa Nelson

Anthropology

REGENTS PROFESSOR AWARDS

Francis D'Souza

Chemistry

Yan Huang

Computer Science and Engineering

Lynn E. Seaton

Jazz Studies

Nada M. Shabout

Art History

About the UNT Foundation Awards

Each of the UNT Foundation Award recipients receives a commemorative award, and a bronze eagle sculpture is presented to the Eminent Faculty Award winner. Throughout the year, the bronze eagle is displayed in the honoree's department to publicly recognize the recipient's accomplishments and to acknowledge the support of fellow colleagues, administrators, students and support staff. Unlike other awards, the Eminent Faculty bronze award rotates each year from department to department as new winners are announced, creating a legacy of pride over time and across the institution.

The UNT Foundation commemorative bronze eagle was designed by Stan Briney, a local artist, retired physician and former department chair at the UNT Health Science Center. Commissioned by the Salute to Faculty Excellence committee, Briney's work captures the excellence and rich history of our institution.



UNT Foundation Awards



Outstanding Lecturer Award

The UNT Foundation Outstanding Lecturer Award recognizes a full-time lecturer who has made significant and sustained contributions to the university as evidenced by the quality of the recipient's teaching and service.

Karen Dorff
Design

Ms. Karen Dorff is the coordinator of the Communication Design program's Graphic Design track and principal lecturer in UNT's College of Visual Arts and Design.

Ms. Dorff earned her B.F.A. in Painting and Drawing from UNT in 1985, back when it was still North Texas State University. She honed her skills as a successful designer for several large corporate firms, creating award-winning annual reports, branding and identity campaigns, editorial designs and promotional materials for such well-known clients as Dr Pepper/7-Up, JCPenney, Cigna, Motorola and Texas Instruments.

Guided by her deep industry knowledge and strong belief that design programs should prepare students to become outstanding practitioners, Ms. Dorff has dedicated her teaching career to ensuring that the Communication Design program maintains its pedagogic excellence while continually evolving to meet future industry demands. As a result, UNT's Communication Design graduates are highly sought after, not just in the North Texas region but across the nation. They've been retained by some of the most prestigious studios in the country, including Facebook, Fossil, Google, Nike, McGarrah Jessee and Starbucks Global Creative, as well as prominent local studios such as Caliber Creative, The Richards Group, Matchbox Studio and Tractorbeam.

Each year, Ms. Dorff coordinates the selection and transporting of UNT's submissions for the National Student Show & Conference, the nation's largest competition for visual communication students. Several graduates have been hired for internships and offered their first job based on projects accepted in the NSSC competition.

The Communication Design program has won the NSSC's Best School Award several times throughout her career at UNT, most recently in 2020. Ms. Dorff attributes the program's significant and sustained success to its ability to attract talented, disciplined students and accomplished educators who work in partnership toward shared goals. She considers it a rare privilege to work with such incredible students and faculty.

UNT Foundation Awards



Community Engagement Award

The **UNT Foundation Community Engagement Award** recognizes a faculty member who has the sensitivity to understand and work across organizational boundaries and the leadership to build bridges among community institutions.

Suzanne M. Enck
Communication Studies

Dr. Suzanne Enck is chair of the Department of Communication Studies and an associate professor of feminist rhetoric and public culture. She also serves as an affiliated faculty member of the Women's & Gender Studies program. She joined the UNT faculty in 2009.

A committed feminist scholar and pedagogue, Dr. Enck teaches courses rooted in social justice and civic engagement. She blends her scholarship and outreach at the intersections of gendered violence and women's incarceration. Her work at the nexus of gendered violence and activism has earned her the National Communication Association's Critical & Cultural Studies Division's 2016 Outstanding Scholar-Activist Award.

For nearly 30 years, Dr. Enck has volunteered with domestic violence prevention programs, rape counseling centers and university-based prevention initiatives, work that earned her a national peace award from the Sunshine Lady Foundation in 2004.

Dr. Enck is one of the founding members of the Denton Feminist & Queer Collective, a local organization aimed at engaging and activating our local community in cultural, social and political actions necessary to improve the quality of life for those who are often pushed out of political decision-making.

At UNT, Dr. Enck is active with programming and advocacy related to intersectional inclusivity, co-facilitating the student UNiTy program and serving on the CLASS Inclusive Excellence committee.

Nationally, she has served on the leadership for the NCA's Feminist and Gender Studies Division and Women's Caucus since 2006 and currently serves as part of NCA's leadership development committee, aimed at promoting practices of equity, diversity and inclusion within the national organization.

UNT Foundation Awards



Faculty Leadership Award

The UNT Foundation Faculty Leadership Award acknowledges a faculty member who significantly impacts the academic enterprise through initiatives, leadership and service.

Corey Marks English

Dr. Corey Marks, a University Distinguished Teaching Professor, has taught poetry at the University of North Texas since 2000, and he became Director of Creative Writing for the Department of English in 2005. Dr. Marks received his bachelor's degree in English in 1992 from Kalamazoo College before moving to Warren Wilson College in North Carolina, where he graduated with a master's degree in Creative Writing two years later. In 2000, he completed his studies with a Ph.D. in Creative Writing and Literature at the University of Houston.

Dr. Marks' published books of poems include *Renunciation*, winner of the National Poetry Series Open Competition, and *The Radio Tree*, winner of the Green Rose Prize. His work has also earned him a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Natalie Ornish Award from the Texas Institute of Letters, the Bernard F. Conners Prize from *The Paris Review* and two fellowships from UNT's Institute for the Advancement of the Arts.

UNT Foundation Awards



Eminent Faculty Award

The UNT Foundation Eminent Faculty Award recognizes a faculty member who has made outstanding and sustained contributions to scholarly-creative activity, teaching and service. The Eminent Faculty Award is one of the highest faculty achievements, and its recipient serves as an inspiration for the entire UNT community.

Alicia Re Cruz Anthropology

Dr. Alicia Re Cruz is a scholar, professor, mentor, mother of three wonderful young Latino men, wife, daughter and proud to traverse these roles “with her own accent.” Much of her professional life has been colored by her efforts in creating and being part of “communities” — the survival strategy she learned in El Puente de Vallecas, the barrio where she was born and raised in Madrid, Spain.

In 1985, Dr. Re Cruz received her bachelor’s degree in Geography and History, with a specialty in American Ethnology and Anthropology from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, followed by her master’s degree and Ph.D. in Anthropology from the State University of New York at Albany in 1992. That same year she became the third faculty member of the Department of Anthropology at UNT.

Dr. Re Cruz began her career working with Maya peasants in the Yucatan and the cultural transformation associated with Maya migration towards Cancún. Through this experience, she paved the way for the Department of Anthropology at UNT to develop a Latin American and migration focus. One of her major milestones as a professor was the organization of summer ethnographic field schools in Mexico, which were inspired by her pedagogical philosophy that the most meaningful learning happens when students experience different ways of thinking, living and acting in the world.

As chair of UNT’s Department of Anthology, Dr. Re Cruz created several partnerships and collaborations within the university and abroad. In 2017, she was appointed the director of Women’s & Gender Studies. Since then, she has co-organized the Social Justice Lab, where through shared knowledge and training, master’s students in Applied Anthropology, bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. students in Behavior Analysis and master’s students in Women’s & Gender Studies meet, establish interdisciplinary conversations and engage in participatory research. These types of collaborations are the fuel that ignites her theoretical and applied contributions to the humanitarian global crises of displacement.

For Dr. Re Cruz, anthropology is the essential tool for social justice and equity. It is her life's work, profoundly inspired by the passion to learn from people, to work with people and to create a philosophy of "togetherness."

Praise for Alicia Re Cruz

"My own work has been inspired and enriched by Professor Re Cruz in many different ways. In her different roles as professor at the university, researcher, writer, team leader and community advocate, she has influenced the work and careers of many others as well, especially in Spain, her country of origin."

~ Margarita del Olmo
Departamento de Antropología
Instituto de Lengua, Literatura y Antropología

"In the 25 years Dr. Re Cruz has been faculty at UNT she has consistently contributed to UNT's scholarly reputation. She is a leading member of a department team that built a recognized Applied Anthropology program, and she helps forge and strengthen UNT's connections with international universities."

~ Mariela Nuñez-Janes, Ph.D.
Professor, Anthropology
University of North Texas

"Professor Re Cruz has contributed to the genuine education of our students, the efforts of many faculty across campus and the international reputation of UNT in the scholarship of global immigration and border studies. She is a renaissance woman. Her interests are world-encompassing and her participatory action research and classroom teaching are global in their vision and execution. I can think of no professor more worthy of this award."

~ Shahla Ala'i-Rosales, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Behavior Analysis
University of North Texas

"From the beginning of her career, Dr. Re Cruz has reflected on, taught and researched the intersections of theory, practice and social action within anthropology. She was instrumental in our department's motivation for becoming an Applied Anthropology program, concerned with educating students to become practitioners of anthropology who work to solve problems and improve people's lives. In the 20 years I've worked beside her, I've had the opportunity to learn from her what it means to be eminent. I am proud to call her my colleague and mentor."

~ Lisa Henry, Ph.D.
Professor and Department Chair, Anthropology
University of North Texas

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