

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

20th Annual
FACULTY
RECOGNITION
LUNCHEON

APRIL 15, 2015
11:30 a.m.
Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

• FOUNDERS' DAY 2015 •

FOUNDERS' DAY 2015

At this year's recognition luncheon,
we honor outstanding Oakland University faculty members
for their scholarly achievements, dedication, path-breaking
discoveries in research and critical teaching roles in educating
the leaders of tomorrow.

Today, we formally recognize faculty members whose teaching
and research excellence, creative achievements and community
service have contributed to the betterment of society.

Founders' Day honors the memory of University benefactors
Alfred and Matilda Dodge Wilson, whose gift of 1,400 acres and
\$2 million has enriched the lives of thousands of people since
Oakland University's founding in 1957.

ORDER OF CEREMONY

WELCOME

George W. Hynd
President

LUNCHEON

REMARKS

Kathleen Moore
Professor Emerita of Chemistry
Director of WISE@OU

RECOGNITION OF FACULTY HONOREES

James P. Lentini
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

CLOSING REMARKS

George W. Hynd

MENU

Chilled Peach Soup with Ginger Ale and Fresh Basil

Chicken in Puff Pastry with a Tarragon Poultry Glaze

Wild Rice Pilaf

Steamed Asparagus

Strawberry Cheesecake



*Vegetarian entrée**

Grilled Portobello Mushroom Napoleon with Mozzarella Cheese,

Roasted Tomatoes and Sautéed Spinach

Red Quinoa

**Vegetarian entrée available based on prior request.*

2015 HONOREES

Honorees are listed in alphabetical order by name within each unit.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

KATHLEEN M. BATTLES, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Communication

Area of Recognition: Research

In the past five years, Dr. Kathleen Battles has authored three stand-alone books which are connected by her exploration of the ways in which media informs our identity, beliefs and culture. Her first book project, *Calling All Cars: Radio Dragnets and the Technology of Policing*, was the first examination of the culturally significant police serial radio drama. Dr. Battles coined the term “dragnet effect” to describe the cultural perception of police omnipresence.

Dr. Battles’ second book project extends the examination of radio programming’s influence on cultural perception and practice. Her edited collection, *War of the Worlds to Social Media: Mediated Communication in Times of Crisis*, commemorates the 75th anniversary of the War of the Worlds radio broadcast and questions the concept of “panic” associated with the response to the broadcast.

Dr. Battles has a third book manuscript project in press for distribution Spring 2015. The book, *Sexual Identities in the Media*, will provide an introduction to undergraduate-level exploration of the intersection of gender, sexual identity and media practices.

KAPILA (CLARA) CASTOLDI, Ph.D.

Adjunct Associate Professor of Physics

Area of Recognition: Teaching

Dr. Clara Castoldi plays a key role in the physics department, carrying a large fraction of departmental teaching duties. She led the important effort of incorporating labs into introductory courses and organized the new electromagnetism and optics labs that go along with the second semester of introductory physics classes. Dr. Castoldi assigns and supervises the graduate teaching assistants who teach these labs, as well as maintains, repairs and purchases lab equipment. She has also created a new laboratory manual and new exercise to improve the labs.

Additionally, Dr. Castoldi developed several very popular online courses, which were required by the School of Education for their online degree program. She is also responsible for the development of teaching methods, choice of books, and unification of tests and examinations in the undergraduate course in General Physics.

ERIN B. COMARTIN, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Social Work
Area of Recognition: Research

Dr. Erin Comartin is an assistant professor of social work and focuses her research on public attitudes of sanctions for sex offenders, juvenile/young adult sex offenders and public policy.

In her first three years on the faculty at Oakland, Dr. Comartin has had a total of six articles published or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Comartin's 2012 article in the *Journal of Social Work: Values and Ethics* is currently being translated into Turkish for schools of social work to use across Turkey.

STACEY L. HAHN, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of French
Area of Recognition: Service

Within the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, Dr. Stacey Hahn is a steady source of dedication, encouragement and leadership.

Since 2004, Dr. Hahn has served as director of the Oakland University/Université d'Orléans exchange program. In this role she works closely with students from before their program begins, throughout the program and upon their return to Oakland. Students return after having participated in this program with a renewed sense of purpose and dedication to their degree.

She also has served countless times as French Section Head wherein she coordinates the French schedule for the department and acts as the point person for all matters related to French. She has served on 23, and been chair of 14, review committees. Dr. Hahn also has demonstrated a commitment to interdisciplinary programs, including Women and Gender Studies, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies and the Honors College.

DAVID R. HAMMONTREE, Ph.D.

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Writing and Rhetoric
Area of Recognition: Service

In addition to his role as adjunct assistant professor, Dr. David Hammontree is the interim director of First-Year Writing. As interim director, he focuses on hiring, training, mentoring and reviewing all part-time faculty who teach in the first-year writing program. He also chairs the full-time and part-time First-Year Writing Committee. He will serve as the co-editor of the first-year writing guide, *Grizz Writes*, helping to produce the fourth edition of this required textbook.

Dr. Hammontree co-chairs the Writing Excellence Awards and is active as a member of the department's Professional Writing Committee. In addition, Dr. Hammontree is the department's representative on the AAUP's Advisory Forum. He is a member of the Board for Michigan's Liberal Arts Network for Development (LAND), former member of Board of the Michigan Council of Teachers of English and former President of the Michigan Council of Teachers of English.

NIELS HEROLD, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of English
Area of Recognition: Research and Service

Dr. Niels Herold's book, *Prison Shakespeare and the Purpose of Performance*, offers an original, multifaceted analysis of the Shakespeare Behind Bars (SBB) prison theater programs. Dr. Herold's work with SBB has branched out beyond the scholarly realm, however; he arranged a highly successful (Judd Endowed) SBB film screening and talkback event in 2012, and last May he accompanied eight students to Luther Luckett Correction Complex in La Grange, Kentucky for an SBB performance of *Much Ado about Nothing*. He is currently advising Creative Writing faculty regarding their interest in launching a partnership at the Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility and West Shoreline (both medium security prisons).

Dr. Herold's service to the English department and the College includes helping found and advise the student "British at Heart Club," as well as chairing a C1 review and writing a class visitation summary for a C1 review of assistant professors.

THAYER P. JONUTZ, M.F.A.

Assistant Professor of Dance

Area of Recognition: Research

Thayer Jonutz's creative work has been amazing and prolific. He is the co-founder and artistic director of a newly formed dance company, "Take Root," and formed "Mise En Place" several years ago.

"Take Root" has been a major vehicle for Jonutz as an artist in both choreography and performance. Collaboratively, he and colleague Ali Woerner have created four full-evening length productions, each one requiring at least six weeks of work to choreograph. This summer, Jonutz and "Take Root" are scheduled to perform internationally in both Berlin, Germany and Seoul, Korea.

In addition to "Take Root" performances, Jonutz has gained a strong reputation as a versatile and adaptive performer and has been invited as a guest dancer to perform with other professional companies. Jonutz himself has performed both nationally and internationally. Jonutz earned his M.F.A in Dance from the University of Michigan, performing in the Peter Sparling Dance Company.

NESSAN KERRIGAN, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Chemistry

Area of Recognition: Research

Dr. Nessian Kerrigan recently received a National Institute of Health grant entitled "Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of Deoxypropionates from Ketenes." This is the third external grant Dr. Kerrigan has received since joining Oakland in 2006. He received his first grant in 2008. This record of continuous funding is especially noteworthy due to the challenging funding environment of recent years.

Dr. Kerrigan recently graduated his second Ph.D. student. He has also directed three master's theses and mentored 22 undergraduate students. Nine of his undergraduate students are co-authors in peer-reviewed publications in addition to numerous conference presentations.

WELDON (DON) MATTHEWS, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of History

Area of Recognition: Service

Dr. Don Matthews is one of the most active and engaged members of the history department faculty. He is one of the anchors of our program in world history and international studies, as he has long offered an array of courses in Middle Eastern history, particularly 21st century and contemporary fields. His focus currently is on the Kennedy administration and U.S. involvement with Iraq. So far, he has produced two journal articles from this research, and is at work on a book manuscript on the topic.

Dr. Matthews has been a department leader in translating and disseminating his important scholarly work to a broader audience, and he has consulted on projects and programs for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. and for Barnard College. He has been a regular presenter in the department's acclaimed "History Comes Alive" lecture series, and will present again in 2015-16.

BYUNGWON WOO, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Area of Recognition: Teaching

As an assistant professor of political science, Dr. Byungwon Woo teaches political science, international relations, public administration and public policy majors. An example of Dr. Woo's impact on students can be found in this testimonial from a recent student: "This class was my most rewarding class at Oakland University because it stimulated my interest not only in my own capstone paper, but also broadened my knowledge of the vast international relations literature ...Further, his class ...strongly honed my analytical capabilities, a skill that will follow me for the rest of my life."

Dr. Woo is serving as a Faculty Fellow in the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL). CETL fellows are selected at least in part because of their passion for teaching and learning, demonstrated commitment to student learning and student success, innovations in the classroom and skills that lend themselves to collaboration with other faculty. As a fellow, Dr. Woo provides mentoring, coaching and training to faculty across the campus.

WEN (WENDY) ZHANG, Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics

Area of Recognition: Service

Dr. Wendy Zhang has been associate chairperson of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics for the past two years. She helps in running the department and managing its day-to-day activities, and plays an important leadership role.

Dr. Zhang has played a key role in making graduate cooperation agreements with two Chinese universities, Changchun University of Technology (CCUT) and Liaocheng University. These agreements will make it simpler for their students to apply to the mathematics master's program. Dr. Zhang led the discussions with the deans of these universities, then drafted, helped revise and translated the agreements into Chinese. She visited both CCUT and Liaocheng University, and talked to potential students about Oakland.

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

LIZABETH A. BARCLAY, Ph.D.

Professor of Management

Area of Recognition: Teaching

Dr. Lizabeth Barclay teaches courses across all levels, both face-to-face and online. Her teaching is continually updated to reflect the most current human resource management trends and students appreciate her knowledge and expertise in the field. Her student evaluations reported exceptional performance and her students enjoy the continual feedback they receive on their assignments. Students reported they would recommend Dr. Barclay to a friend in all cases.

Dr. Barclay's interests include religious discrimination at work, the work experiences of persons with disabilities, creativity and teaching effectiveness. Her research can be found in various journals, including *Academy of Management Review*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Human Relations*, *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology*.

In 2013, Dr. Barclay was nominated by her students for the teaching excellence award.

RAMMOHAN PISHARODI, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Marketing

Area of Recognition: Service

Dr. Rammohan Pisharodi is the faculty advisor for the American Marketing Association and continues to support the chapter's growth and involvement at the school, local and national level.

He is also the faculty advisor for the Marketing Major Honors Society and he maintains the school's role in the society and annual indoctrination ceremony. Dr. Pisharodi serves as the school's representative to the organization's graduation responsibilities and was recently elected to serve as the school's F.R.P.C. representative.

Dr. Pisharodi specializes in the areas of marketing logistics, supply chain management, distribution channel management and international marketing. His current research interests include distribution customer service, relationship marketing, industrial pricing and reverse logistics. His methodological interests include structural equations, modeling and script-theoretic modeling.

RONALD L. TRACY, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Economics

Area of Recognition: Service

Dr. Ronald L. Tracy was instrumental in starting the actuarial science program at Oakland, a joint program of the Department of Economics and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. He makes an effort to be familiar with all students in the program, participates in activities sponsored by students, promotes the program at campus- and school-wide events when possible, keeps a constant watch on upgrading and improving the program, and sits on the Actuarial Board of Advisors.

Additionally, Dr. Tracy, along with his colleague Dr. Jonathan Silberman, has established the *Southeast Michigan Quarterly Economic Outlook* project. The project has set up surveys for both business leaders and consumers. Dr. Tracy is making serious efforts to turn the Outlook project into a full-fledged named Public Policy Center, through which all public policy related research at Oakland is restated in ordinary language for distribution at various levels.

In addition to the above contributions, Dr. Tracy is serving his second term as the faculty representative on the School of Business Administration Executive Committee.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

ANDREW S. GUNSBURG, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Education

Area of Recognition: Teaching

Dr. Andrew Gunsberg has been teaching at Oakland for the past 28 years. During this time, he has taught a range of courses from the undergraduate to doctoral level. Dr. Gunsberg's courses have covered a variety of topics including theory, curriculum, play, creative arts, self-regulation in young children and early childhood special education. He has supervised both master's theses and doctoral dissertations.

Dr. Gunsberg's classes are very popular; he mixes a blend of theory and practice using interactive formats, which model best practice in early childhood education. He has also developed a music elective where he teaches students to use music as a teaching tool with young children. In exit interviews of graduating students, his name is often mentioned as a professor who has had a tremendous impact on them and one they will never forget.

BONG GEE JANG, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Education

Area of Recognition: Research

Dr. Bong Gee Jang's research is multifaceted, but his major area of research has been in the area of motivation, attitudes toward reading and writing, and literacy achievement, particularly comprehension. He is now investigating how the many parts of motivation integrate so that they can be better understood and how they affect literacy acquisition. Dr. Jang has designed instruments to explore these relationships and he is testing them as to their validity and efficacy — in two languages, in two countries; the United States and Korea.

Dr. Jang also is part of a collaborative that began looking at the effects of the partnership with school districts on the learning of the elementary students as well as the Oakland students.

He has had three publications in prestigious journals in the United States and Korea since joining the Oakland faculty two years ago. He has also received an Oakland University Research Fellowship and grants from the School of Education and Human Services.

EILEEN S. JOHNSON, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Education

Area of Recognition: Service

Dr. Eileen Johnson served as chair of the Committee on Appointment and Promotion (CAP) and in that role and since leaving it, she is leading the School of Education and Human Services in the Revision of the School's Personnel Review Statement (PRS).

Additionally, Dr. Johnson led the Department of Organizational Leadership through the state accreditation process — a long, thankless, but critical task. For several years now, Dr. Johnson started an annual SEHS Graduate Research symposium. She is one of, if not the most, active in service in the school.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

LAURA A. DINSMOOR, M.S.

Special Instructor of Engineering

Area of Recognition: Service

Laura Dinsmoor is the faculty adviser for the Association for Computing Machinery and FIRST Robotics (now Makers of Oakland University) student organizations. She willingly provides guidance to the Society of Women Engineers student organization whenever possible and includes them in some of her outreach projects. Dinsmoor has been a tremendous communicator for young girls through her numerous Oakland - Girl Scout STEM events and is a fine example of how important it is to encourage women in engineering. Her summer STEM work has been invaluable to the University's outreach efforts. As Assistant Director of Outreach, Dinsmoor coordinated and organized many different workshops for the students and has provided insight as to how to improve the camps for next year.

Dinsmoor is always assisting new students with academic and career advice, and has also worked in the First Year Advising Center. She provides personal tours of the building and gives extensive information so that the student and parent can make a more informed decision when choosing the right college.

JING TANG, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Engineering Biology
Area of Recognition: Research

Dr. Jing Tang's research is in the field of image reconstruction for emission tomography especially for positron emission tomography (PET) imaging. She is currently incorporating magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) anatomical information in PET image reconstruction as well as correcting cardiac and respiratory motion in static and dynamic PET imaging.

Dr. Tang has received a National Science Foundation (NSF) award for research in PET imaging. In addition, Dr. Tang submitted an NSF CAREER proposal aimed at advancing the state of multimodal molecular/anatomic imaging that was funded in the amount of \$500,000. The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program is a foundation-wide activity that offers the NSF's most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars.

Dr. Tang has published 22 journal articles, among which six have been published since she joined Oakland University. In addition, Dr. Tang has published/presented 55 articles in various conference proceedings out of which 19 have been published/presented since she joined Oakland University.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

CHRISTINE H. STILLER, Ph.D., PT

Special Instructor of Physical Therapy
Area of Recognition: Service

Dr. Christine Stiller has been an active contributing faculty member at Oakland for over 33 years. She has served the physical therapy program in many capacities including several times as interim director, as chair and member of innumerable department committees, and as a writer for several self-studies to achieve accreditation.

Her current service activities include coordinating the transitional Doctor of Physical Therapy Program and the Pediatric Certificate. Dr. Stiller serves on a number of committees including the Clinical Internship Selection Committee and chairing the Scholarship Committee. At the University level she is Chair of the Institutional Review Board; is one of two Faculty Athletic Representatives (FAR); and is a member of the Dean of Graduate Education Search Committee, the Title IX Committee, the Senate Athletic Committee, and the Autism Council.

She has mentored countless students, faculty and physical therapists, and is a valuable resource in helping students and faculty in navigating the Institutional Review Board approval process and in enhancing student and faculty understanding of qualitative research methods and the ethics related to human subjects' protection in research.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

LYNDA POLY-DROULARD, M.Ed., RN

Adjunct Instructor of Nursing
Area of Recognition: Service

Lynda Poly-Droulard has been the interim executive director of Continuing Education at the Riverview Institute and Focus: Hope since January 2014. In this role, she has been responsible for arranging a major move, overseeing the hiring of faculty to teach in the LPN and CNA programs, maintaining a close relationship with Focus: Hope and supervising a staff of four.

She has worked closely with the interim dean of the School of Nursing on the planning of the renovations at Focus: Hope in preparation for admitting the inaugural class of LPNs in May 2015. All of these functions were crucial for the continued success of the School of Nursing and the success of students in both the CNA and LPN programs.

Poly-Droulard did all of this in addition to a regular teaching load in the Accelerated Second Degree program at the Anton Frankel Center.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

SANDOR SHOICHET, M.D.

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine
Area of Recognition: Teaching

Dr. Sandor Soichet has over 30 years of experience in medical teaching. He facilitated the first faculty development programs for the Oakland University William Beaumont (OUWB) School of Medicine in 2011. Dr. Shoichet was first to step forward to implement the inaugural Medical Education Week and create the first Medical Education Week Distinguished Lecture series by his commitment from the William Davidson endowment. He is an innovative master teacher who established the school's OUWB faculty development programs focused on teaching skills, education, feedback and development to 1,400-plus faculty.

Dr. Shoichet is currently providing faculty development leadership, mentoring and facilitator training models while working to ensure that there are teaching and learning systems in place to reach the next generation of medical teachers. He has been instrumental in the creation of the OUWB Distinguished Medical Educators program, organized to teach-the-teachers. As a result of Dr. Shoichet's leadership, the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) recently cited faculty development as a strength for the medical school.

EYE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DAO QI ZHANG, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Biomedical Sciences

Area of Recognition: Research

Dr. Dao Qi Zhang started at the Eye Research Institute as an assistant professor in 2010. In five years, he has established a solid, independent vision research program, aiming to understand the involvement of the dopaminergic and melanopsin systems in neural network adaptation of normal and diseased retinas.

For this work, he employs patch clamping techniques on single amacrine cells of isolated mouse retinas, along with various transgenic mouse models. His studies have application to diseases associated with a deficiency of retinal dopamine, leading to low vision, such as Parkinson's, diabetic retinopathy, retinopathy of prematurity and retinitis pigmentosa. The work has advanced an understanding of the regulation of retinal dopamine release by light, and provided important implications for the role of this neurotransmitter in visual information processing, gene expression and eye development.

Last year, Dr. Zhang received a five year, \$1.8 million R01 grant from the National Eye Institute, NIH, for his project entitled "Functional organization of the retinal dopaminergic network".

2015 OUTSTANDING GRADUATE MENTOR AWARD

VIRGIL ZEIGLER-HILL, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Psychology

Dr. Virgil Zeigler-Hill is being recognized for this willingness to go beyond his normal duties to ensure that each student has a personalized experience as well as the resources necessary to succeed in the graduate program.

Dr. Zeigler-Hill encourages students to pursue more advanced statistical techniques that put the program's research above and beyond what is commonly produced by students in psychology. He works to ensure that each student has first-hand experience with creating, managing and publishing research projects. He challenges his students to objectively explore their individual research interests while providing ample opportunities to gain firsthand experience writing and publishing manuscripts, and encourages submission to conferences and journals. As students become more comfortable with the research process, Dr. Zeigler-Hill offers them the opportunity to take more of a leadership role, an invaluable experience in graduate school, as these skills will be required after graduation.

2015 EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

Each year, the Oakland University Senate Teaching and Learning Committee and the University Research Committee honor faculty members whose teaching and research efforts have achieved singular praise or recognition. These individuals receive the Teaching Excellence Award, Research Excellence Award, New Investigator Research Excellence Award or Excellence in Teaching Award for their work. Recipients are chosen based on nominations submitted by Oakland students, faculty and staff, student letters of recommendation and materials provided by the nominee.

Excellence in Teaching Award

PETER T. MARKUS, M.F.A.

Special Lecturer

Department of English

Peter Markus earned his M.F.A. in fiction writing from Western Michigan University in 1994 and has amassed a wealth of teaching experience since then. Most notably, he has served as the senior writer in the InsideOut Literary Arts Project for twenty years. He has also taught at the Interlochen Center for the Arts, as part of the PEN/Faulkner Writers-In-Schools Program, in the Gotham Writers' Workshop, at Wayne State University, at Eastern Michigan University and at the Iowa Summer Writing Festival. Markus has been teaching creative writing in Oakland's Department of English since 2013. Students in his introductory and intermediate fiction writing classes are effusive in praising their professor: the word "amazing" appears throughout his course evaluations, and students describe a writer who is passionate about arts education and the material he teaches.

Markus has published seven books of fiction and nonfiction; he has placed stories, essays and poems in numerous literary journals. He was awarded the 2012 Kresge Artist Fellowship for his work in the literary arts.

Teaching Excellence Award

TANYA M. CHRIST, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Education

Department of Reading and Language Arts

Dr. Tanya Christ's commitment to student learning is demonstrated through her innovation in the undergraduate reading assessment and correction course. In particular, she has pioneered the application of video-based student assessment and has become a national leader in disseminating this innovation to teacher education programs nationwide.

She has developed a new instructional model for this course that takes both students and the instructor to one of Oakland's K-12 partner schools or an urban community center for lectures, assessments and field-work. The collaboration at the Baldwin Center brings together at-risk and high-needs students and encouraged pre-service teacher education students to better understand and work with students in an urban community. In addition to community involvement, Dr. Christ's students are collaborators and co-authors in research presented at professional meetings and conferences. These activities, more than anything else perhaps, speaks to Dr. Christ's commitment to students – she helps them to see well beyond their capacity as students so that they can appreciate their potential as professionals and scholars.

New Investigator Research Excellence Award

LISA L.M. WELLING, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Department of Psychology

Dr. Lisa Welling is a biological and evolutionary psychologist with primary research interests in hormonal influences on behavior, sources of variation in adaptive preferences, and mate choice and romantic relationships.

Dr. Welling's research was the first to investigate how natural hormonal variation across the menstrual cycle influences women's preferences for cues to mate quality using measured hormone levels. More recently, she has investigated the role of the dose of synthetic hormone in hormonal contraceptives in jealous behaviors and personality. In the area of interpersonal relationships, Dr. Welling has examined varied topics that influence relationship satisfaction.

She has recently secured three internal grants and funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Penn State Social Science Research Institute and the American Institute of Bisexuality. Dr. Lisa Welling has more than 50 publications. Her work has been published in leading outlets, such as *Evolution and Human Behavior*, *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, and *Hormones and Behavior*.

Research Excellence Award

XIANGQUN ZENG, Ph.D.

Professor of Analytical Chemistry

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Xiangqun Zeng's laboratory studies fundamental and applied interfacial phenomena, or in other words, what happens on the surface of electrodes. Her students then use these findings to design and build a variety of sensors to address important problems associated with the determination of materials and amounts of material from medical, environmental and other fields. These projects are highly interdisciplinary and require significant collaborative efforts from a diverse group of individuals.

Dr. Zeng serves as the focus of these collaborative efforts and is able to bring people together as a result of the breadth of her knowledge as well as the respect she has earned through the demonstrated ability to get things done on time and with high quality.

Dr. Zeng currently has two active research grants. Previous support for her work has come from the National Institute of Health (NIH), National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety, Office of Naval Research, American Chemical Society, National Institute for Environmental Health and Safety, as well as private corporations. These awards so far total more than \$6 million.

2014 OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT AWARD

UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH PROGRAM

The Undergraduate English Program at Oakland University is recognized for the successful integration of the assessment of student learning outcomes with curricular development. Faculty have shown an outstanding commitment to developing and utilizing assessment tools effectively with the aim of ensuring that graduates of the program are well-prepared for the challenges of a changing future.

The Department of English randomly selects a sample of their student seminar papers and evaluates them according to a rubric that aligns with their student learning outcomes. This data is then fed to the Undergraduate Program Committee, and is used to help make improvements to the program. In addition, the program uses two indirect measures of student learning; an alumni survey and an exit interview, that further enhance their direct measures of student learning. Assessment data is another tool that the department uses to help make decisions to improve the program. Recent changes include implementing a standard literary handbook and creating three new courses.

2015 DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

EDWARD HAWORTH HOEPPNER, Ph.D.

Professor of English

Dr. Edward Haworth Hoepfner joined the faculty of Oakland University in August 1990 and was promoted to the rank of professor in 2001. In his 26 years of service to Oakland, he has quietly made his mark on the institution, his students and his discipline. He is an award winning poet, a respected scholar, a gifted teacher and mentor and a hard-working member of Oakland's academic community.

Dr. Hoepfner is an established scholar and well-known poet who has published three highly acclaimed collections of poems: *Rain Through High Windows*, *Ancestral Radio* and *Blood Prism*. *Blood Prism* received the Charles Wheeler Prize for Poetry from the Ohio State University Press. He also was one of three finalists for the prestigious Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award in 2013.

Dr. Hoepfner has mentored a new generation of poets whose work is achieving recognition. Among his former students are Terry Blackhawk, a 2013 Kresge Artist Literary Fellow; Molly Brodak, winner of the 2009 Iowa Poetry Prize; and David Hornibrook, a recipient of the 2013 Pushcart Prize. Students recognize and appreciate Dr. Hoepfner's love of poetry – even in introductory general education courses. Student evaluations contain high praise for his classes and his passion for his subject.

As a colleague, Dr. Hoepfner has demonstrated his willingness to lead and contribute to the development of Oakland University and the profession. He has left a lasting mark on the institution through his work to develop the Creative Writing major proposal in the Department of English. Long desired by students, the Creative Writing program enrollment has grown to more than 70 majors in just three years. The Maurice F. Brown, Jr. Memorial Poetry Reading has grown in stature and import due to his leadership and his ability to attract contemporary poets, including two Poet Laureates, to come to Oakland University to read their work.

2015 DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

MEIR SHILLOR, Ph.D.

Professor of Mathematics

Dr. Meir (Fiki) Shillor joined Oakland University in 1988 as an associate professor and promoted to professor in 1993. He is a world renowned mathematician whose work has been applied to research questions in biology, engineering and other fields.

Dr. Shillor's productivity as a scholar is undeniable. He has more than 175 published articles to date in addition to numerous papers in print. He has given more than 50 research presentations at conferences and universities around the globe. His specialty is mathematical modelling using partial differential equations and dynamic systems. His work can be applied to contact mechanics, biology, geophysics and industry. Dr. Shillor is an international expert in contact mechanics, the study of the motion of objects that may come into contact with one another. This work has implications for the understanding of friction, adhesion, wear, heat generation and material damage and thus much relevance to industry, but also to the understanding of tectonic plates.

The scope of Dr. Shillor's contributions are perhaps underscored by the large number of co-authors and topics covered by his research. He has more than 80 co-authors spanning the range of topics he investigates; many of these co-authors are from countries other than the United States lending further support to his status as an internationally known scholar.

He is a lead investigator on the European Grant Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme, which is the only grant in applied mathematics granted by the European Community in 2012. This grant brings together six universities from France, Poland, China, and the United States and involves more than 50 researchers and 30 Ph.D. students.

In addition, Dr. Shillor is also generous with his time within Oakland University. He has led the graduate program within the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and has served on Graduate Council. He has served on more than 50 dissertation committees. Dr. Shillor's work as a mentor and teacher applies to students and faculty alike.

2015 DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS

JACQUELINE H. WIGGINS, Ed.D.

Professor of Music

Dr. Jacqueline H. Wiggins is a noted scholar, a committed and inspirational teacher, and a hard-working member of the Oakland University community. She joined the Oakland faculty in 1994 following a 22-year career as a music teacher in various school districts in New York. She was promoted to professor in 2002 and has been department chair of Music, Theatre and Dance since January 2004.

Dr. Wiggins is an expert in the application of constructivist learning theory in music education and is at the forefront in reshaping music education in the United States and around the world. Her work is lauded by music educators due to the quality of her scholarship and her ability to translate her research for use by music teachers at all levels of education. Her book, *Teaching for Musical Understanding*, has been described as one of the most important and influential books about teaching music in the world and is used in music education programs across the United States and in South America, Africa, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Dr. Wiggins has given workshops to teachers around the state, the country and the world. She is a reviewer for numerous journals and a member of the editorial board of several highly respected journals. Along with her colleagues, she established the Center for Musical Understanding (CARMU) creating an opportunity for researchers from around the world to discuss their work. In addition, she is credited with the development of a rich and vibrant elementary and middle school education community in Michigan.

Described as an extraordinary classroom presence, Dr. Wiggins' contributions are noteworthy and voluminous. Dr. Wiggins has championed her department, music education and the arts as a member of the Oakland University community. In recent years, her attention has largely been on the graduate programs in music with a particular focus on Ph.D. students. She is credited for leading the doctoral program in music education to a status alongside the best programs in the nation. Oakland University recognized the quality of her mentorship by awarding her the first ever Graduate Mentor Award in 2014.

