Welcome to the Seventh Annual College of Arts and Sciences Faculty & Staff Awards Ceremony. Each spring we honor outstanding faculty and staff across the college and celebrate the commitment to excellence that each recipient demonstrates.

My gratitude goes out to the faculty and staff who nominated their colleagues and co-workers. Their letters of nomination reveal their deep appreciation and recognition of the many ways the awardees contribute to our university being known as a “caring community transforming lives through discovery.”

A special thanks goes to Dr. Wil Kilroy, our emcee and to the members of the awards committees who thoughtfully reviewed the nominations and selected the awardees from a broad-based talent pool in our college.

We are so pleased that you have joined us for this special celebration and we value your support of our college and New Mexico State University.

Dr. Enrico Pontelli, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Wil Kilroy is currently the Department Head of Theatre Arts at NMSU and the Managing Director of the American Southwest Theatre Company, holding a BFA and MFA in Acting with additional training at the American Academy of Dramatic Art and the National Shakespeare Company in NYC.

He has worked nationally as an actor and director, from an alien on TV’s Babylon 5, to the jilted boyfriend in Tony ‘n Tina’s Wedding, and he annually performs as a guest artist with The State Ballet of Rhode Island. As the co-founder of the National Michael Chekhov Association, Wil has presented workshops from Greece to London and the U.S.

Wil is the recipient of three Kennedy Center Bronze Medallions, a Kennedy center scholarship for study with Uta Hagen, the Moss Hart Award, the Maine Education Association’s Human and Civil Rights Award, and USM’s Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. Wil is also a certified fitness instructor.

Motoko Furuhashi
Art

Motoko Furuhashi is an assistant professor in Metalsmithing and Jewelry. She will use her travel grant to attend the Society of North American Goldsmith (SNAG) conference in New Orleans where she will be presenting her work, exhibiting an inter-collegiate collaborative student work project with the University of Texas El Paso, as well as supporting one of her graduate students, Victor Beckmann.

Clinton Lanier
English

Clinton R. Lanier is a College Assistant Professor in the English Department and teaches courses in the Rhetoric and Professional Communication Program. He will be using the grant to travel to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Library to conduct archive research on the historic People's Brewing Company.

Larissa Lury
Theatre Arts

Larissa Lury is an assistant professor and teaches courses in collaborative theatre-making, acting, directing, and creative drama. She will use her travel grant to attend a summer intensive with the National Alliance of Acting Teachers, which will gather acting teachers from around the country to work with three highly recognized master teachers.

Mini-Grants

Jamie Bronstein
History

Michele Nishiguchi
Biology

Nancy Chanover
Astronomy

Inna Pivkina
Computer Science

Paola Mera
Chemistry & Biochemistry

Michael Tapia
Criminal Justice
**Travel Grants**

**Eric Morgan**  
Communication Studies  

Eric Morgan is an associate professor of Communication Studies. He will use his travel grant to attend the Conference on Communication and Environment in Leicester, U.K. He will also return to Ireland to develop a research collaboration concerning language revitalization exchanges.

**Danielle Halliwell**  
Communication Studies  

Danielle Halliwell is an assistant professor and her research focuses on how people in relationships communicate about and make sense of difficult experiences. She will use her travel grant to present at the International Communication Association Annual Conference in San Diego, CA.

**Tim Wright**  
Biology  

Tim Wright is a professor in biology and will use this award to travel to Uruguay, where he will be initiating a new field study on native populations of monk parakeet, one of the world’s most invasive bird species. He will be evaluating field sites, meeting with collaborators, and mentoring graduate students who are currently in the country on a Fulbright Fellowship.

**Jing Chen**  
Psychology  

Jing Chen is an assistant professor and her research is focused on human performance and decision making in cybersecurity and human-automation interaction. Dr. Chen will use her travel grant to attend the ACM CHI 2017 Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems in Denver, Colorado.

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**Program**

**Welcome**  
Dr. Enrico Pontelli, Interim Dean  
Wil Kilroy, Department Head for Theatre Arts

**Presentation of Awards**  
**Arts and Sciences Travel Grants**

**Arts and Sciences Mini-Grants**

**Arts and Sciences Manasse Scholar**

**Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award in Outreach**

**Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award in Creative Activity and Scholarship**

**Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award in Teaching**

**Arts and Sciences Staff Awards**

**Arts and Sciences Outstanding Department Head**
Award Committee Members

Committee Members for Faculty Awards
Jack Wright, Geography
Hing Leung, Computer Science
Claudia Billings, Theater Arts
Peter Houde, Biology
Michael Hout, Psychology

Committee Members for Exempt Staff Awards
Lucille Casas, Dean’s Office
Michelle Montano, Interdisciplinary Studies
Mary Alice Scott, Anthropology
Jim Murphy, Dean’s Office

Committee Members for Non-Exempt Staff Awards
Dana Barksdale, Dean’s Office
Barbara Franco, Creative Media Institute
Dan Dugas, Geography
Jim Murphy, Dean’s Office

Committee Members for Mini-Grants
Michael Marks, Psychology
Bruce Berman, Journalism & Mass Communications
Pat Morandi, Mathematical Sciences
Joe Song, Computer Science
Jennifer Curtiss, Biology
Michaela Buenemann, Geography

Travel Grants

Gary Rayson
Chemistry & Biochemistry
Gary Rayson is a professor in the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department. He will use his travel grant to attend and give a keynote presentation titled "Phytofiltration: Investigations of Passive Heavy Metal Binding to Plant-Derived Materials," at the international conference on Environmental Toxicology to be held in Atlanta, Georgia during October of 2017.

Marat Talipov
Chemistry & Biochemistry
Marat Talipov is an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. His research is focused on a theoretical prediction of novel molecules potentially important for atmospheric chemistry. He will use his travel grant to attend the International Conference on Chemical Bonding (ICCB-2017) as an invited speaker.

John Harding
Mathematical Sciences
John Harding is a professor in the Department of Mathematical Sciences where he conducts research in logic, lattice theory, and foundations of quantum mechanics. Travel funds will be used for travel to TACL, a conference in algebraic logic in Prague, QPL/IQSA, a quantum foundations conference in Nijmegen, and to ESSLLI, a European summer school on language logic and information in Toulouse.

Margaret Goehring
Art
Margaret Goehring is an associate professor and she will be going to the Archives du Nord in Lille, France to study a thirteenth-century illustrated book of rents that was made for the bishops of Cambrai. As one of only two illustrated rent-books known from the Middle Ages, this book is a rare visual document of material culture and urban economics in thirteenth-century France.
Travel Grants

Andrea Joseph
Criminal Justice

Andrea F. Joseph is an associate professor, and will use the award to help defray the cost of attending the Alpha Phi Sigma, 2018 National Criminal Justice Conference and Competition to be held in New Orleans, LA, if needed, or to attend a National Criminal Law Conference.

Wes Kline
Art

Wes Kline, assistant professor, will be using his travel grant to attend a screening of his film "Laura, or Scenes from a Common World" at the Cinema on the Bayou Film Festival in Louisiana, as well as take part in panel presentations as part of the festival. He has shown his work nationally and internationally and teaches courses in photography and extended media, including video, installation and sound.

Connie Voisine
English

Connie Voisine, associate professor will use her travel grant to support travel to Belfast, Northern Ireland, to complete research on a poetry book about that city, where once there was a long sectarian conflict. This work began when I was on a Fulbright in Northern Ireland, was nearly finished on a sabbatical there, and will be, finally, ready for submission after this trip.

Mai Zheng
Computer Science

Mai Zheng is an assistant professor in Computer Science and his research interests are computer systems with an emphasis on data storage. He will use his travel grant to present his work at USENIX HotStorage'17 in Santa Clara, CA.

Manasse Award

Kathryn Hanley
Professor
Biology

Dr. Kathryn A. Hanley conducts cutting-edge research on the emergence and control of mosquito-borne viruses, including Zika, dengue and chikungunya. Dr. Hanley graduated magna cum laude with a major in Biology from Amherst College and completed her Ph.D. in Biology at the University of California, San Diego. She subsequently conducted post-doctoral research at the University of California Davis, the University of Maryland and the National Institutes of Health.

During her time at NIH, Dr. Hanley participated in the development of a dengue virus vaccine; this vaccine is currently in clinical trials. In 2004 Dr. Hanley joined New Mexico State University as a faculty member in the Biology Department. At NMSU she has investigated the ecology and molecular biology of mosquito-borne viruses in the laboratory and the field, shedding light on the risk of emergence of new virus strains in Africa and Asia. She has also worked on the development of new drugs to treat flaviviruses, the genus that includes both dengue and Zika virus. Dr. Hanley, with her students and colleagues, has published more than 60 papers in peer-reviewed journals and has co-edited the book *Frontiers in Dengue Virus Research*. She is Chair of the NMSU University Research Council and Past-Chair of the American Committee on Arthropod-borne Viruses.
Spencer R. Herrera is an Associate Professor of Spanish at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces where he teaches Chicano/a Studies. He is the co-author of *Sagrado: A Photopoetics across the Chicano Homeland* (UNM Press, 2013), winner of a Border Regional Library Association Southwest Book award, a New Mexico-Arizona Book award, and a Pima County Public Library Southwest Book of the Year award. He is the author/editor of *Before/Beyond Borders: An Anthology of Chicano/a Literature* (Kendall/Hunt, 2010). He also guest edited a special issue on Chicano/a literature for *Revista Casa de las Américas*, a premier Latin American literary journal published in Habana, Cuba. He was born and raised in Houston, Texas, but has enjoyed living in Nuevo México with his wife, Jessica, and their two daughters, Sofía and Emiliana, for seventeen years. He completed his Ph.D. in Spanish with a minor in film at the University of New Mexico.

Derek Fisher is an Associate Professor teaching animation and visual effects. He will use his travel grant to further develop his screenplay inspired by the life of a working-class man from Devon, United Kingdom, during the late Victorian Age. He will also further his experience in visual effects at a U.K. based motion control technology studio.

Nicholas Natividad is an assistant professor in Criminal Justice and his research interests include borderland studies and social justice issues in crime and law. He will use his travel grant to conduct research at the Institute for Global Peace, Security, and Justice at Queens University in Belfast, Ireland where he has been accepted as a visiting research fellow.

Lori Keleher is an associate professor of philosophy. She will use her travel grant to travel to Cape Town, South Africa to present at the Human Development and Capability Association's conference. Lori is on the executive board of the Human Development Capability Association.

Robert Smits is a professor of Mathematics and Fulbright Scholar. His research interests are in stochastic processes, especially applied to mathematical medicine and systems biology. He will use his travel grant to attend the annual meeting of the Society of Mathematical Biology in Salt Lake City where his PhD student, Qianning Liu, will also be presenting a poster.
Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award in Creative Activity and Scholarship

Jianjun Tian
Associate Professor
Mathematical Sciences

Dr. Jianjun Paul Tian obtained a Ph.D. in pure mathematics, did a postdoctoral fellowship in Mathematical Biosciences Institute supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), and then took a faculty position in the College of William and Mary. In 2014, Dr. Tian came to New Mexico State University, and was promoted to Associate Professor of Mathematics in fall 2016.

Dr. Tian's research area is applied mathematics - mathematical biology. He has created three new theories - evolution algebras, genetic coalgebras, and colored coalescent theory - and built several mathematical models for cancer growth, stem cell regulation, and infectious disease. Currently, he has three research projects which are being funded. The project of fluid structure and tumor growth is funded by NSF and the project of solid tumor and its microenvironment is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), where he is the PI. The project of infectious disease modeling with media coverage is funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China, where he is a co-PI. Dr. Tian has published one research monograph and 35 articles in mathematics, medical, and mathematical biology journals. Dr. Tian has given more than 60 invited talks in national and international meetings including in seminars and colloquia. He also organized or co-organized 8 meetings or sessions of conferences. He is in editorial board of a journal, and a referee for more than 38 international journals. He also is a reviewer for NSF and Chile National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development.

Outstanding Staff Awards

Mary Holguin
Administrative Assistant
History

Sylvia Saenz
Administrative Assistant
Biology

Andrea Scarborough-Jaramillo
Administrative Assistant
Criminal Justice

Rosa Christensen
Fiscal Assistant, Senior
Physics

Bill Ketzeback
Telescope Technician
Apache Point Observatory
Astronomy
Outstanding Faculty Achievement Award in Teaching

Mitch Fowler
Assistant Professor
Creative Media Institute

Mitch Fowler has loved movies all his life, and is lucky enough to have turned that into a career. An instructor at the Creative Media Institute since 2007, Mitch earned his Bachelor’s degree from the University of Alabama, where he also played football for the Crimson Tide. He later earned his M.F.A. in Film Production from Florida State University.

Mitch’s primary teaching focus is in cinematography and production, with emphases in lighting for mood and emotion, and helping students articulate and execute their visions. His teaching philosophy is to develop the student filmmaker as a whole; to teach not only concepts and techniques, but to help students understand how they can apply those concepts to things outside filmmaking, and how they can bring their outside lives into their world as filmmakers.

Mitch’s production experience spans over 300 feature-length, documentary, short, and student films, including the Academy Award-nominated documentary Murderball. In addition to ongoing narrative work, Mitch is currently in production on the feature-length documentary series Labeled, which endeavors to inspire and educate through the sharing of personal and intimate stories of people living with mental illness.

Outstanding Department Head

Glenn Fetzer
Department Head
Languages & Linguistics

Glenn Fetzer has been at NMSU since 2012, after teaching in Michigan for twenty-five years. He publishes widely on twentieth and twenty-first century French poets, most recently through the lens of linguistics. He is head of a terrific department and appreciates the goodwill and support of the faculty members.