FACULTY RESEARCH DAY
Celebrating Excellence

Awards Ceremony 2020

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2020
4:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Bryant Conference Center, Sellers Auditorium
240 Paul W. Bryant Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
OPENING REMARKS
Russell J Mumper, PhD
Vice President for Research & Economic Development

WELCOME
Stuart R Bell, PhD
President

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS®
INDUCTEE PRESENTATIONS
Lauren A Wilson, JD
Assistant Vice President for Research & Technology Agreements

PRESIDENT’S FACULTY RESEARCH
AWARD PRESENTATIONS
John C Higginbotham, PhD, MPH
Senior Associate Vice President for Research & Economic Development

CONCLUDING REMARKS
Russell J Mumper, PhD
Vice President for Research & Economic Development
The National Academy of Inventors®
is a member organization comprising U.S. and international universities, and governmental and non-profit research institutes, with over 4,000 individual inventor members and Fellows spanning more than 250 institutions worldwide.

The University of Alabama
is proud to now have 53 members.
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS®
2019 INDUCTEE

Jialai Wang, PhD
Professor of Civil, Construction & Environmental Engineering

PATENT NUMBER 10392305
ADDITION OF CARBON DIOXIDE TO CONCRETE MIXTURES

Dr. Jialai Wang’s main research efforts focus on material innovations to enhance the resilience and sustainability of civil infrastructure systems. His current research topics include:

Synthesis and characterization of innovative sustainable materials, including low and non-clinker construction materials, fiber reinforced polymer composites.

In-situ nanoparticle production for better performance of structural materials.

Adaptive building envelope for multi-hazard mitigation and energy efficiency.
2020 PRESIDENT'S FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS

EMERGING SCHOLARS

ARTS & HUMANITIES
Kelly E Shannon-Henderson, DPhil
Assistant Professor
Modern Languages and Classics

PHYSICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES,
MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING
Alexander Hainen, PhD
Assistant Professor
Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Sonya E Pritzker, PhD
Assistant Professor
Anthropology
Dr. Kelly E. Shannon-Henderson has served since 2014 as Assistant Professor of Classics in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics at The University of Alabama. She holds a DPhil in Greek and Latin Languages and Literature from the University of Oxford. A scholar of Greek and Latin literature of the Roman Empire, she is the author of two monographs. **Religion and Memory in Tacitus’ Annals** (Oxford University Press, 2019) is the first book-length treatment of religion in the Annals, the most famous work by the Roman historian Tacitus (fl. 110s CE), and reveals how references to concepts such as the gods, fate, and emperor worship are a key vehicle for Tacitus’ assessment of the principate as a system of government, the activities of individual emperors, and their impact on Roman society and cultural identity.

Dr. Shannon-Henderson’s second monograph is an edition, translation, and commentary on the *Peri Thaumasion* (“On Wonders”) by Phlegon of Tralles (Brill, 2019), a Greek-speaking freedman of the emperor Hadrian (r. 117–138 CE) who compiled in his native language a collection of strange tales including stories of giants, centaurs, and resurrections from the dead. She has also published several articles on Roman religion, ancient historiography, and paradoxography, and presented her work at numerous national and international conferences.
Alex Hainen is an assistant professor in the Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering at The University of Alabama. He received his BSCE from Michigan Technological University and his MSCE and PhD from Purdue University. He has 32 peer-reviewed journal articles and 20 additional conference proceedings. His research includes traffic signals, transportation operations, travel mobility, and connected vehicles. He has worked with 17 departments of transportation on pooled funds projects, and has worked extensively with the departments of transportation in Indiana, Utah, and Alabama. He has collaborated with George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG). He currently serves as the secretary for the Transportation Research Board’s Standing Committee on Utilities, as the academic chair on the Gulf Region Intelligent Transportation Society, and as the chair for the University’s Parking & Traffic Committee.

Currently, Alex is working on the first connected vehicle pilot deployment in the state. The pilot will cover more than 100 signalized intersections and over 30 miles on I-20/59. He has presented to the Transportation Research Board in Washington, D.C., Intelligent Transportation System America in Washington, D.C., and numerous state transportation engineering conferences. He is fortunate to work very closely with colleagues at ALDOT and the Tuscaloosa DOT. Support from State and local agencies has allowed this real-world work to be conducted.

Alex is actively involved at Church of the Highlands in Tuscaloosa, having served with the usher, greeter, production, prayer, and outreach teams.
Dr. Sonya E. Pritzker is a linguistic and medical anthropologist with an emphasis in psychological and biocultural medical anthropology, as well as a licensed practitioner of Chinese medicine. Her work, very broadly, investigates how both health and healthcare are mediated by interaction in multiple cultural settings. Her research thus far has focused on three principal areas, including translation in the practice of Chinese medicine, psychology in China, and the study of language and emotion in human relationships.

Dr. Pritzker received a Ph.D. in 2011 from the UCLA Department of Anthropology. Her first faculty appointment was in the UCLA Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research, where she worked as a researcher with a focus on integrative medicine. In 2015, she joined the faculty of the Department of Anthropology at The University of Alabama. At UA, she is active in the core program in biocultural medical anthropology and serves as the department’s linguistic anthropologist. She is also active in the interdepartmental programs in Linguistics and Asian Studies.
2020 PRESIDENT'S FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS

MID-CAREER SCHOLARS

ARTS & HUMANITIES
Andrew Raffo Dewar, PhD
Associate Professor
New College

PHYSICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING
Laura K Reed, PhD
Associate Professor
Biological Sciences

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Peter D Harms, PhD
Associate Professor
Management
ARTS & HUMANITIES

Andrew Raffo Dewar, PhD
New College

Andrew Raffo Dewar, Ph.D. is a composer, musician and ethnomusicologist. He is Professor of Interdisciplinary Arts in New College and the School of Music.

Recent publications include ethnographic research on 1970s intermedia art in Argentina during a military dictatorship, 1960s handmade electronic music collective the Sonic Arts Union, philosophical issues of ontology in performance and music technologies, original music for his performing ensembles, music for film and theatre, compositions incorporating ethnographic interviews, biofeedback, and electronic music utilizing 3D spatial audio.

He has performed internationally for the past 25 years, with over 200 performances and installations on five continents during his 12 years at UA. Recordings of Dewar as a composer and performer are available on over two dozen albums.

His scholarly writing has been published in the Journal of the Society for American Music, Musiktexte, Leonardo Music Journal, Jazz Perspectives, Jazz Research Journal, Jazz & Culture, and elsewhere. He has also published chapters in Negotiated Moments: Improvisation, Representation and Subjectivity (Duke Univ. Press, 2016) and Experimentalisms in Practice: Music Perspectives from Latin America (Oxford Univ. Press, 2018).

He has received grants and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, Chamber Music America, NewMusicUSA, ASCAP, the Getty Foundation, Arts International and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In 2019, he was awarded the Robert M. Stevenson Prize from the Society for Ethnomusicology, the premier award given by the society to composers who are also ethnomusicologists. Dewar holds an interdisciplinary BA in Music, Anthropology, and Asian Studies from the University of Minnesota, and an MA and Ph.D. in music composition and ethnomusicology from Wesleyan University.
Dr. Laura K. Reed is an Associate Professor of Biology, having joined the University of Alabama in 2010. Her research focuses on understanding how evolutionary, genetic, and environmental factors interact to shape complex metabolic traits, including diseases like obesity and type-2 diabetes. She uses the fruit fly, Drosophila melanogaster, and its relatives to understanding the evolution of metabolic traits. Her work has been supported by more than $6M in external research grants from NSF and NIH. She has authored more than 35 referred research articles in journals including Nature, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Genetics, and Molecular Ecology, and more than 80 referred conference presentations. She also co-edited a book on teaching evolution in the American South. She has served on a number of scientific community professional boards and working groups.

In 2017, she also became the Director for the Genomics Education Partnership, a long-standing national collaboration involving over 100 colleges and universities, which provides authentic course-based research experiences to undergraduate biology students. In that role she has secured grant funding to double the number of institutions served by the partnership over the next five years, especially focusing on Minority Serving Institutions and Community Colleges. At UA she teaches upper division courses in Integrated Genomics and Evolution, and Ecology and Evolution to biology majors. Dr. Reed also leads an outreach effort to bring fruit fly-based biology lessons to local middle school students. Her research lab group has graduated 70 undergraduate research students, ten graduate students, and one postdoctoral researcher. She is also the proud mother of two young children.

Dr. Reed’s academic training prior to coming to Tuscaloosa included a B.S. in Biology from the University of Oregon in 2000, a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolution from the University of Arizona in 2006, and a NIH-National Research Service Award Postdoctoral Fellowship in Genetics at North Carolina State University.
Peter D. Harms is an associate professor and the Morrissette Faculty Fellow in Leadership and Ethics in the Department of Management at the Culverhouse College of Commerce. He received his Ph.D. in Personality Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research focuses on the assessment and development of personality, leadership, and psychological well-being. Dr. Harms has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles in such outlets as Journal of Applied Psychology, Personnel Psychology, Psychological Bulletin, Psychological Review, Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Journal of Organizational Behavior, and The Leadership Quarterly. This work has been featured in popular media outlets such as CNN, Scientific American, Forbes, and the BBC. Dr. Harms has been invited to speak to audiences around the world and was selected by the St. Gallen symposium as one of the “100 Knowledge Leaders of Tomorrow” in 2011. He was recently selected as a fellow of the Society for Industrial and organizational Psychology (SIOP) and has twice received SIOP’s Joyce and Robert Hogan Award for Personality and Work Performance Paper of the Year.

2020 PRESIDENT'S FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD RECIPIENTS

SENIOR SCHOLARS

ARTS & HUMANITIES
Seth Panitch, MFA
Professor
Theater and Dance

PHYSICAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES,
MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING
Steven Jones, PhD
James R. Cudworth Professor
Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
Susan W White, PhD
Professor
Psychology
ARTS & HUMANITIES

Seth Panitch, MFA
Theater and Dance

Seth Panitch is Professor of Acting and heads the MFA and BFA Acting programs at The University of Alabama. A professional Director, Actor, Playwright and Filmmaker, Seth has worked internationally in Havana, Cuba with the Ministry of Culture; Off-Broadway at the 59E59 Theatre, American Place Theater, Westbeth Theater Center, Harold Clurman Theatre, Samuel Beckett Theatre, and Urban Stages Theatre; regionally at the Colorado Shakespeare Festival (three seasons), Utah Shakespearean Festival, Texas Shakespeare Festival and Idaho Repertory Theatre; and in Los Angeles at the Globe Playhouse, Odyssey Theatre, Ventura Court Theatre, Complex Theatre and the Hillside Repertory Company. His plays Hell: Paradise Found (published by Broadway Play Publishing Inc.), Separate and Equal, Alcestis Ascending and Dammit, Shakespeare! have received critical success in New York and Los Angeles productions, as well as productions in Havana, Cuba.

Seth wrote, directed, and performed in the feature film Service to Man, which was awarded Best Picture at over a dozen national and international film festivals, and is distributed by Freestyle Entertainment Pictures. His documentary A Night in the Theatre has been published by Insight Media, and his second documentary Company HavanaBama: Directing Across the Gulf was screened by the 15th Annual Sidewalk Film Festival. Seth has been awarded the Southeastern Conference (SEC) Faculty Achievement Award, The University of Alabama’s Blackmon-Moody Outstanding Professor Award, the Burnum Distinguished Faculty Award, the Alabama National Alumni Association’s Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award, and was named the 2010 Druid Arts Educator of the Year. He was also awarded a Leadership Board Faculty Fellowship from 2009-2012.

At The University of Alabama, Seth has directed eighteen productions, from Shakespeare to Modern Musical Theatre, and performed as a guest artist in Misalliance, Moon Over Buffalo, A Flea in Her Ear and Blithe Spirit. Seth received his MFA in Classical Acting at the University of Washington’s Professional Actor’s Training Program and is a member of both the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers and the Dramatists Guild of America.

www.sethpanitch.com
Dr. Steven Jones has more than 20 years of transportation engineering and planning experience spanning both academic and private sector consulting appointments. He has participated in transportation projects in the U.S., Europe, Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa.

Jones has served as principal investigator on some $13 million in externally-sponsored projects from a range of funding sources and participated in and/or managed more than $1 million in projects as a consultant. He has authored or co-authored more than 150 journal articles, conferences papers, design manuals, and project reports on a range of transportation topics.

Jones serves on the advisory board of the World Bank-funded African Center of Excellence, the Transport Research and Education Centre Kumasi located at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana. He has recently completed a year as Fulbright Scholar conducting road safety research at the Namibia University of Science and Technology.

Jones currently focuses much of his professional efforts exploring how transportation impacts human development (e.g., health and safety, basic accessibility) with particular emphasis on how transportation relates to the Sustainable Development Goals. He is interested and active in cultivating international relationships to facilitate collaborative research, education and technology transfer.
Susan W. White, PhD
Psychology

Dr. Susan W. White is Professor and Doddridge Saxon Chair in Clinical Psychology at The University of Alabama. She directs the Center for Youth Development and Intervention (CYDI). Her research interests include assessment and intervention for co-occurring and core social problems in ASD. Dr. White’s body of work rests solidly at the intersection of science and clinical practice. In addition to conducting several grant-funded studies, she maintained a private practice for several years and also has developed and directed a university-affiliated assessment clinic. Over the past two years, since joining UA, in addition to directing the CYDI she has launched the ‘Building the Bridge’ Initiative, the goal of which is to improve the pipeline from research to practice and dissemination of evidence-based practices.

Dr. White works with several graduate and undergraduate students, and has co-authored numerous papers with students through the years. She finds mentoring one of the most rewarding aspects of her career, and she has been recognized for her mentorship abilities, as recognized by her induction into the UA Mortar Board as an honorary member in 2020 and by her receipt of the ABCT Mentor Award in 2019.

She is Editor of the ABCT Series on Implementation of Clinical Approaches and Associate Editor for the Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology and the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the US Department of Defense, and several foundations. She is co-author of the Emotion Awareness and Skills Enhancement (EASE) Program and developer of the Stepped Transition in Education Program for Students with ASD (STEPS). She is also widely published in high-impact scientific journals and has authored or co-edited several books.
FACULTY RESEARCH DAY

The purpose of Faculty Research Day is to showcase and celebrate excellence in research, creativity and scholarship by bringing together faculty from across our campus. The event is intended to increase awareness and generate enthusiasm for scholarship among faculty as the University advances its research enterprise and its impact. During the event, the President’s Faculty Research Award, sponsored by our President and the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, is presented to outstanding faculty researchers from across UA Colleges and Schools. National Academy of Inventors® inductees are also recognized at the Faculty Research Day Awards Ceremony.

The Office for Research & Economic Development wishes to thank President Stuart R. Bell for supporting Faculty Research Day.