



2014 Academic Awards Ceremony

3:00 PM • FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014

THE DOROTHY DICKSON DARTE CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

*Featuring the presentation of awards to students who have
achieved academic distinction during their career
at Wilkes University*

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Barbara E. King
Associate Dean, Student Affairs

GREETINGS

Dr. Paul S. Adams
Vice President, Student Affairs

THE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Patrick F. Leahy
President

Many of the academic awards at Wilkes are named for former professors, such as Jaroslav Moravec, Alfred Bastress, James DeCosmo, and Tom Bigler. This year, three awards have been created or renamed for professors who have left us far too early in life. All are greatly missed for their abilities, mentoring, camaraderie, and friendship. Most of all, though, the influence they had on students – urging them to develop a creative eye to perfection and striving for excellence – cannot be replaced.

Read more about their lives on the back of this program.

PRESENTERS

Dr. Jeffrey R. Alves
Dean/Sidhu School of Business

Dr. Thomas J. Baldino
*Interim Dean/College of Arts,
Humanities, & Social Sciences*

Dr. Anne Heineman Batory
*Professor/Chair, Sidhu School of
Business*

Dr. Edward T. Bednarz
*Visiting Assistant Professor, Electrical
Engineering*

Dr. Barbara A. Bracken
*Associate Professor/Chair, Mathematics
& Computer Science*

Dr. Amy L. Bradley
Associate Professor/Chair, Chemistry

Dr. Dale A. Bruns
Dean/ College of Science & Engineering

Dr. Jennifer J. Edmonds
*Associate Professor/Chair, Sidhu School
of Business*

Ms. Teresa Fallon
*Director of Theatre, Visual & Performing
Arts*

Dr. Suzanne M. Galella
*Associate Professor, Education-
Undergraduate*

Dr. Rafael Garcia
Assistant Professor, Foreign Languages

Dr. Judith A. Gardner
*Adjunct Instructor, Education-
Undergraduate*

Dr. Robert S. Gardner
*Assistant Professor/Education-
Undergraduate*

Dr. Sid P. Halsor
*Professor, Environmental
Engineering & Earth Science*

Dr. Kyle L. Kreider
*Associate Professor/Chair, Political
Science*

Dr. Lawrence T. Kuhar
*Associate Professor/Chair, English
& Philosophy*

Dr. Lorán E. Lewis
*Assistant Professor,
Communications Studies*

Dr. Eric A. Ruggiero
*Associate Professor/Chair,
Integrative Media & Art*

Dr. Linda S. Gutierrez
Assistant Professor, Biology

Dr. Mark D. Stine
*Associate Professor/Chair,
Communications Studies*

Dr. Thyagarajan Srinivasan
*Professor/Interim Chair, Electrical
Engineering*

Ms. Anne A. Thomas
*Faculty of Practice, Education-
Undergraduate*

Dr. Rhonda A. Waskiewicz
*Interim Dean/Education-
Undergraduate*

Dr. Diane E. Wenger
*Associate Professor/Co-Chair,
Global History & Languages*

Dr. Brian E. Whitman
*Associate Professor/Chair,
Environmental Engineering & Earth
Science*

BEHAVIORAL & SOCIAL SCIENCES

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Pi Sigma Alpha Award in Political Science	Nour Elbattah Stephanie R. Wogan	Larksville, PA Tewksbury, MA
Raymond R. Ritz Award (Sociology)	Rhonda E. Lynch	Susquehanna, PA
Outstanding Graduate in Psychology	Julia A. Cikota	Harding, PA
Jaroslav Moravec Award (Sociology)	Alysha M. Bixler	Williamstown, PA

BIOLOGY & HEALTH SCIENCES

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Outstanding Research Award	Colleen M. Pike Bryant Morocho Hiral C. Patel	Dallas, PA Wilkes-Barre, PA Mountaintop, PA
Outstanding Scholar (highest GPA) Rosenthal Award	Robert J. Sperazza Patrick R. Lello	Pittston, PA Dupont, PA

CHEMISTRY

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Alfred E. Bastress Award for Senior Research	Phillip L. Eempio	Nazareth, PA ^D
American Chemical Society Section Award	Phillip L. Eempio	Nazareth, PA ^D
Outstanding Freshman Chemistry Award	Jarret S. Colvin Olivia J. Gum	Stroudsburg, PA Conshohocken, PA

COMMUNICATIONS STUDIES

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Communications Studies Award	Dominick D. Costantino, Jr.	Hanover Twp., PA
Tom Bigler Scholars Award	Christine M. Lee	Bloomsbury, NJ

ENGINEERING & PHYSICS

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Dr. Umid R. Nejib Award for Outstanding Achievement in Electrical Engineering	Ryan T. Habib	Nanticoke, PA

ENGLISH & PHILOSOPHY

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Annette Evans Humanities Award	Catelyn M. Sofio	Exton, PA ^D
Frank J. J. Davies Award	Miranda K. Baur Gabriella K. Zawacki James M. Alderiso	Dallas, PA Old Forge, PA Bethlehem, PA ^D

ENTREPRENEURSHIP, LEADERSHIP STUDIES + MARKETING

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Academic Achievement Award - Entrepreneurship	Allison M. Kristofco	Hollidaysburg, PA
Academic Achievement Award - Marketing	Dominic J. Manzione	Honesdale, PA
Dean's Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship	Tory L. Price	Berwick, PA
Dean's Award for Excellence in Marketing	Evana Manandhar	Kathmandu, Nepal

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING & EARTH SCIENCES

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Science	Keri M. Skvarla	Nanticoke, PA

FINANCE, ACCOUNTING, + MANAGEMENT

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Academic Achievement Award - Accounting	Kaitlyn A. Chase	Avoca, PA ^D
Academic Achievement Award - Business Administration	Kelly Trochak	Tunkhannock, PA
Academic Achievement Award - Finance	Megan E. Heverly	Allentown, PA ^D
Academic Achievement Award - Management	Deanna N. Moore	Cresco, PA
Academic Achievement Award - MBA	Gopu Kiron	Wilkes-Barre, PA
PICPA Award for Excellence in Accounting	Kaitlyn A. Chase	Avoca, PA ^D
Dean's Award for Excellence in Business Administration	Carl G. Santoro	Phoenixville, PA
Professor Ted Engle Award for Excellence in Finance	Megan E. Heverly	Allentown, PA ^D
Dean's Award for Excellence in Management	Daniel V. Curry	Drexel Hill, PA

GLOBAL HISTORY & LANGUAGES

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Phi Alpha Theta Book Award	Richelle M. Smith	Nesquehoning, PA
Outstanding Graduate in Spanish	Milana Grigoriev Elizabeth M. Dollman	Lexington, NC Beachwood, NJ

INTEGRATIVE MEDIA & ART

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Outstanding Achievement in Integrative Media and Art	SamanthaAnn E. Kerpovich Eric N. Larsen	Drums, PA Wilkes-Barre, PA
Richard Fuller Excellence in the Arts Award	Chelsea D. Fufaro	Dallas, PA

MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
James G. DeCosmo Award in Mathematics	Krystina M. Baker	Nanticoke, PA

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING + ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Outstanding Achievement in Mechanical Engineering	Andrew J. Bergey Ethan C. E. Culler	Kingston, PA Nottingham, PA ^D

NURSING

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Outstanding Clinical Practice Award	Alyssa N. Amerosa Kellie A. Taylo	Kunkletown, PA Madison, NJ
Academic Excellence Award	Lisa R. Yumen	Danville, PA

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Outstanding Elementary+ Early Childhood Teacher Education Student	Jamie L. Barlow	Shenandoah, PA
Outstanding Middle Level Teacher Education Student	Megan M. Petrochko	Nanticoke, PA
Outstanding Secondary Teacher Education Student	Catelyn M. Sofio	Exton, PA ^D
Outstanding Special Education Teacher Education Student	Jonathan A. Martin	Forty Fort, PA ^D
Marla Hosie Memorial Award	Kristen A. Santey	Pittston, PA

VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

<i>AWARD</i>	<i>RECIPIENT</i>	<i>HOME TOWN</i>
Music Award	Kelly M. Pleva	Schuylkill Haven, PA
Theatre Award	James M. Alderiso	Bethlehem, PA ^D

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES, & SOCIAL SCIENCES

AWARD

RECIPIENT

HOME TOWN

Outstanding Graduate for the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Katherine C. Dodson

Wilkes-Barre, PA

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

AWARD

RECIPIENT

HOME TOWN

Outstanding Graduate for the College of Science and Engineering

Ethan C. E. Culler

Nottingham, PA^D

SIDHU SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & LEADERSHIP

AWARD

RECIPIENT

HOME TOWN

Outstanding Graduate for the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business & Leadership

Jessica M. Batchler

Hanover Twp., PA

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

AWARD

RECIPIENT

HOME TOWN

Outstanding Graduate for the College of Education

Jonathan A. Martin

Forty Fort, PA^D

*International
Learn*

Costa Rica

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D = Student winning two (2) awards

Grand Scholastic

Maywood

Monmouth

U of Delaware

Phila College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM)

Geisinger Medical Center

Wilkes Mesa

East Stroudsburg

Lehigh

NYU

Boeing
Enterprise
Equine Solutions/Phila
WBGH

THEODORE ENGEL

Professor Ted Engel, a native of Florida, joined the Wilkes College Faculty in 1966. Prior to coming to Wilkes he completed his BBA in Economics and Business from the University of Miami, his MA in Economics from the University of Miami, and had served in the United States Army.

He assumed a variety of leadership roles including, but certainly not limited to: Dean, School of Business, Society and Public Policy; Chair, Commerce and Finance Department; Founding Commissioner of the international Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP); and member and chair of too many school and university committees to enumerate.

In addition to his unquestioned commitment to Wilkes and to his students, he found time to serve the community as a member of the Board of Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce; an advisor to the Mayor of Wilkes-Barr; an expert witness for the US House Banking Subcommittee, and an investment advisor to numerous clients. Ted also worked as a consultant to many companies and banks.

Ted is survived by his wife, Elaine Engel.

RICHARD FULLER

The Department of Integrative Media and Art, when thinking of Professor Richard Fuller and discussing names for the tribute award, used words like precision, perfection, dedication, professionalism, and effort; they settled on excellent. After ten years in the advertising industry in New York City, Dick came to Wilkes in 1969 and remained until his retirement in the spring of 2000. During that time he served as Chair of the Art Department and worked with hundreds of art students and art educators.

He continued to teach, reflecting his high expectations to our students, in a part time capacity through the spring 2013 semester. Dick pushed each student to do their best, giving direction until there were no more changes to make. He was also an accomplished artist; inspired by his time in Kyoto, Japan, his specialty was in the creation of many beautiful art pieces using the techniques of Batik and Shibori.

Dick is survived by his wife, Cheryl Fuller.

UMID R. NEJIB

Dr. Umid Nejb was a native of Baghdad, Iraq. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Baghdad, served in the Iraqi Air Force, and earned a master's and doctoral degree in electrical engineering from the Carnegie Institute of Technology. He joined the faculty of Wilkes College in 1965 and retired in May 2002.

While at Wilkes, Umid was responsible for developing the four-year engineering degree; the master's program in electrical engineering; and raised money through grants and donations for many of the labs in use today. One of the accomplishments of which he was most proud was his idea for, research on, and development of, the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. He served as the Chair of the Engineering Department, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering; Director of the Computer Center and temporary dean of the School of Pharmacy.

In addition to lecturing and presenting all over the world, Umid served on the board of the Luzerne County Interfaith Council; was President of the NEPA Arab-American Association; consulted with many large companies throughout the United States and held 3 U.S. patents. His dedication to Wilkes was unwavering, but he was most committed to his students.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara King.