



2016 Academic Awards Ceremony

3 P.M. • FRIDAY, MAY 20, 2016

DOROTHY DICKSON DARTE CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Terese Wignot
Associate Provost

WELCOME

Dr. Patrick F. Leahy
President

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Anne A. Skleder
Senior Vice President/Provost

PRESENTERS

Dr. Mischelle B. Anthony
Associate Professor/Chair, English

Dr. Edward T. Bednarz
Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering

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

Dr. David R. Carey
Associate Professor/Chair, Electrical Engineering

Dr. Kalen M. A. Churcher
Assistant Professor, Communication Studies

Dr. Jennifer J. Edmonds
Interim Dean, Jay S. Sidhu School of Business & Leadership

Dr. Karen Frantz Fry
Assistant Professor, Education - Undergraduate

Dr. Holly T. Frederick
Assistant Professor, Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences

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

Dr. Rafael Garcia
Assistant Professor, Foreign Languages

Dr. Sid P. Halsor
Professor/Chair, Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences

Dr. William Hudson
Dean, College of Science and Engineering

Attorney Ruth C. Hughes
Visiting Assistant Professor, Jay S. Sidhu School of Business & Leadership

Dr. Lisa A. Kadlec
Associate Professor, Biology

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

Dr. Del M. Lucent
Assistant Professor, Physics

Dr. Susan J. Malkemes
Associate Professor/Chair, Nursing

Dr. Donald E. Mencer
Associate Professor/Chair, Chemistry

Dr. Prahlad N. Murthy
Associate Dean/Professor, Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences

Dr. Diane M. Polachek
Professor/Chair, Education - Undergraduate

Dr. Rhonda Rabbit,
Dean, School of Education

Dr. Paul Riggs
Dean, College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

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

Dr. Michael Steele
Professor of Biology/H. Fenner Chair of Research, Biology

Dr. Mark D. Stine
Associate Professor/Chair, Communication Studies

Dr. Jeffrey A. Stratford
Associate Professor, Biology

Dr. Steven L. Thomas
Associate Professor/Chair, Performing Arts

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

Dr. Grace Xiao
Associate Professor/Int. Chair, Jay S. Sidhu School of Business & Leadership

Dr. Deborah Zbegner
Dean, Passan School of Nursing

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Pi Sigma Alpha Award in Political Science

Beth A. Gilbert

Raymond R. Ritz Award (Sociology)

Jessica M. Drebot

Outstanding Graduate in Psychology

Karly M. Mason

Jaroslav Moravec Award (Sociology)

Troy D. Carey

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Outstanding Communications Studies Graduate

Nicole E. Zukowski

Tom Bigler Scholar Award

James M. Jaskolka-Butler

HUMANITIES

Annette Evans Humanities Award

Sara A. Pisak

Frank J. J. Davies Award - Education Track

Gabriella N. Romanelli

Frank J. J. Davies Award - Writing Track

Sara A. Pisak

Frank J. J. Davies Award - Digital Humanities Track

Jason A. Klus

The Taft Achilles Rosenberg Naparsteck Scholarship

Michael L. Morrison

GLOBAL CULTURES

Phi Alpha Theta Book Award

Thomas J. Schmidt

Outstanding Graduate in Spanish

Jason A. Klus

INTEGRATIVE MEDIA AND ART

Outstanding Achievement
in Digital Design and Media Art

Melissa H. Scott
Kahdijah Venable

Richard Fuller Excellence in the Arts Award

Torin C. Keefer

BASS Award

Israel L. Rodriguez

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE FOR
THE COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES,
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Jason A. Klus

BIOLOGY AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Outstanding Research Award	Deep Patel Michael G. Warkala
Outstanding Scholar (highest GPA)	Somiah E. Almeky
Joel Rosenthal Award in Biology	Sebastian Moreno, Kaitlin M. Schafer

CHEMISTRY

American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Local Section Award	Brandon R. Harris
American Chemical Society Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry	Sarah R. Nichols
Outstanding Freshman Chemistry Award	Nicholas Fitzpatrick

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND PHYSICS

Dr. Umid R. Nejib Award for Outstanding Achievement in Electrical Engineering	Bernard J. Socha
Frederick E. Bellas Award for Outstanding Physics Student	Tracey G. Oellerich
Voris B. Hall Distinguished Physics Student Award	Lucas K. Domulevicz
Outstanding Bioengineering Graduate Student Award	Bryant Morocho Teresa N. Wasiluk

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND EARTH SCIENCES

Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Engineering	Jeffrey D. Mastrantuono Zachary R. Sullivan
Air Force ROTC Distinguished Graduate <i>Presented by Flyboys US Army Air Corps 6th College Training Detachment, Bucknell University College (1943-44) Lieutenant Colonel John J. Baum</i>	Lieutenant Corbin A. Sherman

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

James G. DeCosmo Award in Mathematics	Tracey G. Oellerich
Outstanding Achievement in Computer Science	Eric M. Klemchak

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT

Top Academic Performer in Mechanical Engineering	Brandon G. Petrouskie
Outstanding Achievement in Mechanical Engineering	Brian D. Schoonmaker
Mechanical Engineering Service Award	David S. Lee

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE FOR THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Tracey G. Oellerich

ACCOUNTING, FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Academic Achievement Award — Accounting	Donachatch Kiangsiri
Academic Achievement Award — Business Administration	William B. Robinson
Academic Achievement Award — Finance	Michael S. Zudjelovic
Academic Achievement Award — Management	Merisa L. Plavin
Academic Achievement Award — MBA	Jesse R. Heywood Angellica Ceballos Peggy L. Kipa Michael A. Kolinovsky Nicholas Budzyn
Academic Achievement Award — Sports Management	Madeleine S. Brownsey
PICPA Award for Excellence in Accounting	Donachatch Kiangsiri
Dean's Award for Excellence in Management	Thomas A. Matthews
Dean's Award for Excellence in Business Administration	William B. Robinson
Professor Ted Engel Award for Excellence in Finance	Joseph J. Harth

ENTREPRENEURSHIP, LEADERSHIP AND MARKETING

Academic Achievement Award — Entrepreneurship	Edward J. Powell
Academic Achievement Award — Marketing	Alexandria Thompson
Dean's Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship	Edward J. Powell
Dean's Award for Excellence in Marketing	Jamie M. Seyler
Dean's Award for Excellence in Sports Management	Madeleine S. Brownsey

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE —
JAY S. SIDHU LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Jamie M. Seyler

EDUCATION

Outstanding Elementary and Early Childhood Teacher Education Student	Theresa R. Kloeker
Outstanding Middle Level Teacher Education Student	Adam J. M. Glassic
Outstanding Secondary Teacher Education Student	Devin J. Dunn
Outstanding Special Education Teacher Education Student	Kayla M. Creed
Marla Hosie Memorial Award	Corey J. Moore

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE FOR
THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION**

Sydney R. Schafer

NURSING

Outstanding Clinical Practice Award	Savannah J. McCauley
Academic Excellence Award	Olivia T. Hess

**OUTSTANDING GRADUATE FOR
PASSAN SCHOOL OF NURSING**

Sarah M. Wasley

WILKES UNIVERSITY NAMED AWARDS

American Chemical Society Section Award

Given by the American Chemical Society.

Annette Evans Humanities Award

Awarded in honor of Ms. Evans, a generous benefactor of the University, through a bequest from her estate.

Frank J.J. Davies Award in English

A gift from the faculty; the award is given in honor of Dr. Davies, a former chair of the department.

Frederick E. Bellas Award in Physics

Given in memory of Dr. Bellas, a longtime faculty member who was named the first "Amicus Scholae," or "friend of the school," in 1989.

James G. DeCosmo Award in Mathematics

Given in honor of Mr. DeCosmo, a former faculty member. It is funded through a gift from the faculty in the department.

Jaroslav Moravec Award in Sociology

Awarded in memory of Dr. Moravec, a former chair of the Sociology Department.

Marla Hosie Memorial Award in Education

Given in memory of Marla, a former student at Wilkes. The award was established by her parents.

PICPA Award for Excellence in Accounting

Statewide Award

Raymond R. Ritz Award in Sociology

Established by Dr. Thomas and Mrs. Nancy Kay Kelly in memory of her father, Mr. Ritz.

Richard Fuller Award for Excellence in the Arts

Given to a deserving student in the arts, in memory of Mr. Fuller, who passed away in 2013. The award was begun with a bequest from his wife, Dr. Cheryl Fuller. Mr. Fuller came to Wilkes in 1969.

Joel Rosenthal Award in Biology

Established by the faculty in memory of a former student.

Professor Ted Engel Award for Excellence in Finance

Awarded in memory of Prof. Engel through a gift from his wife, Mrs. Elaine Engel. Prof. Engel, a former dean of the School of Business and department chair, began his career at Wilkes in 1966. He passed away in 2013.

Tom Bigler Scholars in Communication Studies

Established with funds given by the faculty in honor of Mr. Bigler, faculty member and longtime journalist.

Dr. Umid R. Nejjib Award for Outstanding Achievement in Electrical Engineering

Given in memory of Dr. Nejjib, former dean of the School of Science and Engineering, department chair of engineering, founder of the doctor of pharmacy program at Wilkes, and professor. He came to Wilkes in 1965 and remained until his passing in 2002. The award is a gift from his wife, Ms. Barbara King.

Voris B. Hall Distinguished Physics Student Award

Given in memory of Dr. Voris B. Hall, the first physics and engineering faculty member at Wilkes University. He came from Bucknell University in 1933, when Wilkes was still Bucknell University Junior College. He initiated the physics program and set up a two-year program in engineering. These programs ultimately became the four-year degree programs in physics and engineering.

Please note that all awards are not necessarily given each year.