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Awards

Faculty honored for teaching, research and service

By Pam Orel

Twenty-seven members of the Rutgers community were honored for outstanding contributions to the state, their communities, their disciplines and students at a May 4 reception held at the home of President Richard L. McCormick.

This marked the second year for the awarding of the President's Award for Research in Service to New Jersey, which includes a citation and a research account of \$5,000.

Joel C. Cantor directs the Center for State Health Policy, Institute for Health, Health Care Policy and Aging Research, and is a professor of public policy at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. He was recognized for his leadership in shaping state health care policy and for his outstanding research, which has contributed significantly to health insurance reform.

Two researchers received funding under the President's Program for Research in Service to New Jersey, which supports research that benefits Garden State citizens.

Recipients were **Claudia Moreno**, assistant professor, School of Social Work, and **Mark Holzer**, Board of Governors Professor of Public Administration and director of the National Center for Public Productivity, Rutgers-Newark.

The Rutgers College Class of 1962 Presidential Public Service Award recognizes distinguished, uncompensated service that reaches beyond the university community. The honoree receives a citation and a \$2,500 check.

Howard Gillette, professor of history, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Camden, was recognized for establishing bridges between the campus and the city. He was honored for his leadership in planning and directing the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities, for advancing humanities in the region and making them relevant to the public, and for his lifelong commitment to revitalizing the city of Camden.

The Warren I. Susman Award for Excellence in Teaching is the university's highest honor for excellence in the classroom. It honors the memory of a prominent cultural historian and popular teacher, and includes a citation and a check for \$1,000.

Kieron Burke, associate professor, chemistry and chemical biology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was honored for contributions to undergraduate and graduate education in the field of chemistry, his creative and inspirational teaching, and his ability to motivate students.

Mohan Kalelkar, professor of physics and astronomy, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was honored for contributions to undergraduate and graduate physics education, development of courses that incorporate innovative pedagogical techniques, and enthusiastic and effective classroom teaching.

John McClure, professor of English, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was recognized for inspirational teaching, innovative curriculum development, and his commitment to preparing students to be clear thinkers, expressive writers and good citizens.

Douglas W. Morrison, associate professor of biological sciences, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Newark, was honored for contributions to undergraduate education in the biological sciences, inspirational teaching and his ability to help students develop problem-solving skills.

Jamshid Rabii, professor of cell biology and neuroscience, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was cited for contributions to the development of undergraduate and graduate courses in the life sciences, and his passionate teaching and support that encourage students to recognize their strengths and achieve their potential.

The Rutgers Faculty Scholar-Teacher Award honors Outstanding contributions to research and teaching. It includes a citation and a check for \$1,000.

Steven Lawson, professor of history, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was recognized for scholarly achievements in the area of civil rights and mentoring young scholars. He was also honored for expanding opportunities for undergraduate research experiences as exemplified by his leadership role with the Aresty Research Center for Undergraduates.

Richard E. Miller, associate professor of English, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, executive director, Plangere Writing Center, was honored for achievements in pedagogy and composition studies, and his ability to challenge students to question and connect.

Peter Morin, professor of ecology, evolution and natural resources, Cook College, was recognized for scholarly achievements in population and community ecology, his stimulating teaching, and his ability to motivate students to achieve at the highest level.

The Rutgers Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research, the university's highest honor for distinguished research contributions, includes a citation and a check for \$1,000.

Charlotte Bunch, professor of women's and gender studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, and executive director, Center for Women's Global Leadership, was honored for her research on women's rights, which has transformed international agreements, human rights theory and political activism around the globe.

Yves J. Chabal, professor of biomedical engineering, School of Engineering, and professor of chemistry and chemical biology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was honored for contributions to the field of modern surface vibrational spectroscopy, including the development of infrared absorption spectroscopy to characterize semiconductor surfaces and the derivation of detailed mechanistic information for processes in microelectronics.

Günther Knoblich, associate professor, department of psychology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Newark, was recognized for boundary-breaking contributions to neuroscience that integrate the areas of psychology of perception and the psychology of the control of action.

Richard Lyons, professor of mathematics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was recognized for major contributions in finite group theory, particularly in the

classification of the finite simple groups.

Alan Robock, professor of environmental sciences, Cook College, was honored for contributions to the understanding of climate change through his groundbreaking research into the climatic effects of volcanic eruptions and the development of a global database of soil moisture observations.

Cheryl Wall, professor of English, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was cited for groundbreaking work in women's and American literature, and her outstanding scholarship that helped create and sustain African-American literature as a field of study.

The Ernest E. McMahon Class of 1930 Award honors the memory of a former dean of University College. It honors outstanding efforts to extend the mission and educational resources of Rutgers to the people of the state. The award includes a citation and a \$500 check.

J.W. (Bill) Whitlow, professor of psychology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Camden, was recognized for his role in the Science Preparation Alliance of Rutgers and Camden (SPARC), which demonstrates the role of science in improving the lives of individuals and the community. Whitlow also was cited for his role with the Alliance for Environmental Wellness in Camden, which unites civic, governmental, educational and research groups addressing environmental concerns.

The Rutgers Board of Trustees Fellowships for Scholarly Excellence honor faculty members who have recently been promoted with tenure and whose work shows exceptional promise. The fellowship includes a citation and \$2,000 research grant.

Ousseina Alidou, department of Africana studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was recognized for significant contributions in the areas of linguistics, literature, and culture and gender studies, particularly her innovative interpretations of Islam as it relates to women, and of individual and collective social practices in Africa.

Elizabeth Hillman, School of Law-Camden, was honored for contributions to U.S. legal history, particularly her pathbreaking work on military justice.

Frieder Jäkle, department of chemistry, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Newark, was honored for significant contributions in the area of main-group organometallic and materials chemistry, particularly his original work in the design and properties of boron-based multifunctional and polymeric Lewis acids.

Julie Livingston, department of history, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-New Brunswick, was recognized for her contributions in the area of African history and culture, particularly her original scholarship on the history of medicine in Africa.

John Wall, department of philosophy and religion, Faculty of Arts and Sciences-Camden, was honored for contributions to religious ethics and moral philosophy, particularly his innovative work on moral creativity.

Mark Weiner, School of Law-Newark, was honored for contributions in the area of legal history, particularly his insightful work on race and law in America.

She-e Wu, department of music, Mason Gross School of the Arts, was cited for her brilliant performance and compositional skills, particularly her outstanding talent as a marimba soloist.

Jun John Xu, department of materials science and engineering, School of Engineering, was honored for contributions in materials science and electrochemistry, specifically in advanced materials and devices for electro-chemical energy storage and conversion.

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For questions or comments about this site, contact [Greg Trevor](#)

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