President’s Awards Conferred to Four

The University of South Dakota has awarded grants for outstanding research to four faculty members who were chosen by external reviewers for their research accomplishments, publications and grant success. The Innovation & Entrepreneurship award further required that the winner demonstrate innovative thinking or research findings that had promising commercial potential, as well as a concept that had progressed beyond the theoretical stage to the applied stage. The 2018 President’s Award recipients each receive a $3,000 grant and a plaque.

President’s Award for Research Excellence New Mid-Career Faculty
Meghann Jarchow, Ph.D., associate professor and chair, Department of Sustainability & Environment
Research interests: sustainability, sustainable agriculture, tallgrass prairies and plant ecology

President’s Award for Research Innovation & Entrepreneurship
Brandon Ness, D.P.T., assistant professor of physical therapy
Research interests: physical therapy injury prevention and rehabilitation

President’s Award for Research Excellence Established Faculty
Andy Sykes, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Chemistry
Research interests: fluorescence sensors, inorganic chemistry and single-crystal X-ray crystallography

President’s Award for Creativity
Lee Ann Roripaugh, M.F.A., professor of English and editor of the South Dakota Review
Teaching interests: creative writing, contemporary American poetry, Asian-American literature and multicultural literature

The University of South Dakota is committed to addressing concerns in a fair and courteous manner. If you’d like to file a complaint about university matters or have a concern you feel should be investigated, please do so here: Anonymous concern/complaint form Non-anonymous concern/complaint form
Save the Date for 'Unleash Your Legacy' Alumni Achievement Awards Presentation

Join the USD Foundation Friday, Oct. 5 at 5:30 p.m. as USD alumni are recognized for their outstanding achievements in the following four categories: Service to the University, Public Service, Professional Achievement and Emerging Leader. Hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will be provided. If you plan to attend, please register here.

The 2018 award recipients are:
- Tyler Tordsen ‘15 - Emerging Leader
- Deb Peters ‘97 - Public Service
- Richard Holm ‘71, ‘73 - Professional Achievement
- James Clement ‘88 - Service to the University

The 104th Dakota Days weekend will also include the Dakota Days Parade at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6, followed by the Coyote Tailgate Nation pre-game festivities before the USD Coyote football game against Missouri State at 2 p.m.

For more information on Dakota Days, click here.

A special thanks to the Program Enhancement Committee for their role in selecting this year’s recipients.

Dialog Direct Audit

The State of South Dakota has contracted with Dialog Direct to conduct an audit of all dependents receiving health/flex benefits from the South Dakota benefit plan.

Dialog Direct began mailing correspondence to employees on Sept. 5, 2018, with instructions on how to complete the audit. You can prepare for the audit by locating birth certificates, marriage license (if married within the past year), tax returns, etc. that can be used to verify eligibility.

Do not ignore the correspondence received in the mail. If you do not complete the required actions within the 60-day period, dependent benefit coverage will be terminated as of Dec. 31, 2018. There will be no exceptions. COBRA health coverage will not be an option if you do not complete the verification.

If you did not receive a letter from Dialog Direct, please contact the Human Resources Office at 677-5671 to verify your address. Assistance is available from Human Resources in Slagle Hall 206.

Upcoming Lectures on Campus

Constitution Day Lecture
The School of Law hosts Nancy Chi Cantalupo as its guest speaker for Constitution Day on Monday, Sept. 17 at noon in the law school courtroom. Cantalupo is an associate professor of law at Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law and an expert on gender-based violence in education settings. Her lecture is titled "Due Process and the Civil Rights Approach to Gender-Based Violence."

Harrington Lecture
The College of Arts & Sciences will host the 66th annual Harrington Lecture Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. at Farber Hall in Old Main. This year’s lecture, about the German Enlightenment, will be presented by Istvan Gombocz, Ph.D., recently retired professor from the Department of Modern Languages. A reception will be held immediately following the lecture.

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar
The Phi Beta Kappa Society will host Paula Stephan as part of their visiting scholar program. Stephan will present "How Economics Shapes Science” on Thursday, Oct. 18 at 4:30 p.m. in Farber Hall.

Herbert S. Schell Lecture
Professor Lisa Tetrault, Ph.D., of Carnegie Mellon University, will deliver the Annual Herbert S. Schell Lecture in History. Her topic, "The Myth of Seneca Falls, or The Problem of a Beginning for U.S. Women's Rights," will be delivered Thursday, Nov. 8, at 4 p.m. Tetrault specializes in the history of U.S. women and gender. Her research and teaching interests focus on the 19th century, the history of political economy, the history of social movements (particularly feminism), women's health, narrativity and the politics of memory.
Ragothaman Wins Prestigious Research Award

Srinivasan Ragothaman, Ph.D., was awarded the 2018 Outstanding Researcher Award by the strategic and emerging technologies section of the American Accounting Association (AAA). Ragothaman is a professor of accounting and interim chair of accounting and finance at the University of South Dakota’s Beacom School of Business.

“We are delighted that Dr. Ragothaman received this prestigious award from the American Accounting Association,” said Venky Venkatachalam, Ph.D., dean of the Beacom School of Business. “This award is a great recognition of the research he has conducted for more than 25 years at the Beacom School of Business. Not only is Dr. Ragothaman a great researcher, he is also a tremendous mentor for our junior faculty. We are very proud of his accomplishments.”

According to AAA, the Outstanding Researcher Award is given in recognition of a researcher for their outstanding published research in the field of strategic and emerging technology. Ragothaman has published more than 30 articles in the field of strategic and emerging technology in accounting.

“This is a great honor for the accounting department at USD’s Beacom School of Business,” Ragothaman said. “I am humbled and honored to receive it. My coauthors helped me a lot over the years.”

During his tenure, Ragothaman has received several accounting and research awards, including the 2015 “Innovative Teaching Award” from the forensic accounting section of AAA.

Franken Named USD’s General Counsel

The University of South Dakota has named A.J. Franken its new general counsel.

Franken, a Watertown native, graduated first in his class from the USD School of Law in 2013. Most recently, he served as general counsel to South Dakota Governor Dennis Daugaard. Prior to joining the Daugaard administration in 2015, he worked as a private practice attorney in Pierre.

As general counsel, Franken will provide legal advice and assistance to the president, administrators, faculty and staff of the university. He will also serve as a liaison between the university and the South Dakota Board of Regents on legal matters.

“We are excited to have A.J. Franken fill this critical position at USD,” said USD President Sheila Gestring. "A.J. has experience navigating complex legal issues through his work in the governor’s office, and has been active in encouraging the state of South Dakota to think proactively about legal risks. He has a passion for lifelong learning that was developed at USD, and we look forward to welcoming him home.”

Franken said he is thrilled at the opportunity to return to his alma mater.

"It is an honor to be joining such a first-rate team at South Dakota’s flagship university," Franken said. "I have always had a love for education, and I look forward to working with members of the campus community to address legal needs and move the University of South Dakota’s educational mission forward."
SSOM's Garry is Nationally Honored

Mark T. Garry, M.D., assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine, has been awarded the 2018 Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award. This award, considered one of the most distinguished recognitions of medical school faculty at the nation’s 151 accredited medical schools, acknowledges a physician who serves as a caring and compassionate mentor while instructing and advising medical students. According to award criteria, the recipient also demonstrates by example to her/his students the personal qualities of ethics, empathy and service that are necessary to practice patient-centered medicine.

The award is administered by the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Organization of Student Representatives, and it has been annually presented since 1999.

“We are extremely fortunate to be able to work with Dr. Garry,” said Mary D. Nettleman, M.D., dean of the USD Sanford School of Medicine. “We congratulate him on this well-deserved, national honor.”

In addition to serving as an assistant professor at the USD medical school, Dr. Garry also maintains a practice in psychiatry in Rapid City at the General Beadle Community Health Center of the Black Hills, and is on staff at Regional Health in Rapid City. Dr. Garry serves as head of psychiatric education for USD Sanford medical students in western South Dakota and for residents at Regional Health in Rapid City. He has taught medical students at the USD Sanford School of Medicine since 2004.

Credit Hour Features Meghann Jarchow

Meghann Jarchow, Ph.D., chair of Sustainability and Environment, spoke with Credit Hour about recent changes in the sustainability program as well as ways everyone can make the world a better place.

The sustainability undergraduate program started in 2012, and six years later, students can now receive a master’s and doctorate degree in sustainability. This makes the University of South Dakota one of the few institutions in the country to offer an undergraduate and graduate education in sustainability.

“I think sustainability is the ultimate liberal art in that it is more of a way of thinking about the world or a different lens or worldview of understanding how we might think of topics,” Jarchow said.

Jarchow describes sustainability as a proactive way of thought to improve the environment, improve social well-being and to have financial systems that could continue over time. The end goal is to find solutions that make change.

“Sustainability is more than recycling,” Jarchow said. “It is trying to create a better world and actually taking steps to make it happen.”

There are several easy steps a person can take to make the world a more desirable place, Jarchow said, such as using a reusable water bottle or grocery bag. Additionally, with the free bike share program the sustainability department helped develop, Jarchow hopes it becomes normal for more people to bike around town all year around.

Credit hour is available on Stitcher, Apple Podcasts, Google Play and at www.usd.edu/podcast.
Olson Named July Employee of the Month

Mike Olson, a fabrication technician in the Department of Basic Biomedical Sciences, has been named the July 2018 USD Employee of the Month.

A long-term USD employee—he’s been on campus for 34 years—Olson is known to offer support with a smile always on his face. His day-to-day responsibilities include constructing devices and chambers for specific laboratory research and repairing laboratory equipment.

Laura Wiemers, senior secretary for the dean of health sciences and Olson’s nominator, said, “Mike is by far the hardest working, genuine and sincere individual I have ever met—versatile to boot!“ For our School of Health Sciences Research Conference, he started checking in with me about the setup the minute I submitted my ‘to do’ list. He goes out of his way to ensure everything setup-wise is perfect—and he does this every year the event comes around!”

It’s obvious to others that Olson enjoys what he does. “I like the steady employment, job challenges and the good coworkers,” he stated.

Olson and his wife, Kimberly, have been married for 34 years. The couple has two sons, Andrew and Alex. Alex passed away in March 2018. The Olsons also have a grandson, Isaac. In his spare time, Olson enjoys spending time with his family and making home improvements.

Custodian Sandy Harris was named the June 2018 Employee of the Month.

Harris is known as a go-getter, wanting to improve the areas she is responsible for. She is often an inspiration to others, encouraging them to do just a little bit better.

Her supervisor and nominator Russell Osterberg said, “One of Sandy’s primary strengths is that she will take initiative. That often involves her being elbow deep in a cleaning process. She performs thorough work in her tasks and does not leave things undone. She is willing to take on difficult tasks until they are done.”

Osterberg also says that Harris is on time and helpful and offers encouragement and help to others.

“Sandy has been with us a little over a year and has recently been diagnosed with cancer,” explained Osterberg. “Even though she has been traveling to Sioux Falls for treatments, she still tries to come in to work and keeps us posted of her status each day. At times, she cannot make it through a whole day cleaning at Burgess Hall, but she will follow up with what needs to be completed.

“It is a pleasure to supervise Sandy knowing that she gives her best to do a job well done.”

Harris was also nominated by coworker Michele Crawford. “Sandy is my ‘go-to’ person if I need anything,” said Crawford. “She is always thinking ahead and looks beyond to solve problems. She has a smile every day, is truly interested in caring for our students and staff and consistently goes above and beyond.”

Harris receives her Employee of the Month Award from USD President Sheila Gestring.
The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM) will collaborate with Child’s Voice and the Unified Judicial System (UJS) Court Improvement Program (CIP) to host the 18th Annual Community Response to Child Abuse conference for professionals and advocates. More than 500 attendees are expected at the conference, which will be held in Sioux Falls Oct. 4-5.

Training will be divided among five tracks covering learning sessions for teachers, social workers, law enforcement, medical professionals and community members.

Twenty-two state and nationally known speakers will share their expertise on topics related to child wellbeing. South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard and South Dakota Chief Justice David Gilbertson are additional guest speakers.

"The overarching goal of the conference is to provide evidence-based training for South Dakota professionals and advocates, while promoting networking opportunities in our state and region," said Carrie Sanderson, director of the CPCM. "The 2018 conference signals South Dakota’s continued commitment to education of our professionals by offering extended learning tracks, ACE Interface presenter training, and inaugural training on pediatric sexual assault exam kits. Together, we will help create a trauma-informed South Dakota."

The conference has historically provided South Dakotans a local learning opportunity to garner understanding on the appropriate response measures for child abuse.

"The 2018 conference provides a heightened learning opportunity by collaborating with the UJS Children’s Justice Conference. The networking opportunity will aid South Dakotans in creating and expanding collaborative community response efforts across the state. By working together, we can create safe and stable environments to facilitate resilience for children and families," Sanderson said.

Additional information is available at www.sdcpcm.com/conference1. CEUs are available.

University of South Dakota President Sheila Gestring will deliver the annual State of the University address on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 4 p.m. in Aalfs Auditorium, located inside Robert L. Slagle Hall on the USD campus.

The address is open to the public and students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend.
Wellness Center Offers Services to Find Balance

During this busy time of year, many people find themselves being pulled multiple directions and juggling a multitude of projects and activities. USD’s Wellness Center has many services to help you de-stress and find balance in your life.

Wellness Coach
Laura Kruger, wellness coach, is here to help you to discover ways to feel happy with your body, to have the energy to perform daily tasks, and to enjoy an overall feeling of happiness and well-being. She can be a partner on the journey to becoming healthy and can provide a system of support and advice.

Fitness Opportunities
Whether you want to attend one of 50 different group fitness classes or exercise on your own, the Wellness Center has an unlimited number of ways to include exercise into your life. There is a brand-new functional training room that will provide both boot camp opportunities and a way to add variety to your work outs. Exercise is a great way to minimize stress and anxiety.

Specialty Events and Classes
Many different personal development opportunities for members are offered. Some examples of specialty events you can experience this year include wellness seminars, self-defense classes, fitness incentive programs and more.

Wellness Days
Each month, the Wellness Center staff partners with different organizations in Vermillion to provide opportunities for individuals to visit the facility and receive free or low cost services. As cold and flu season nears, Sanford Health will provide sick kits this September and flu shots in October.

Personal Training
Several personal trainers are on staff to work with you to help you meet your goals. They are here to motivate you, push you to work harder than you may do on your own and help you set new limits for yourself that you may not have thought were possible. The Wellness Center also provides services to help you monitor your progress, such as girth measurements and body composition testing.

Intramurals
Did you know that faculty/staff and their spouses are eligible to participate in intramural events? Some of the upcoming opportunities include soccer, flag football, table tennis, volleyball and Wiffle ball.

If you are interested in finding out more about the Wellness Center services and activities, please visit www.usd.edu/wellness. Faculty and staff who purchase new memberships by Oct. 15 will receive a promotional discount of $15 to be used toward any service (excluding personal training and memberships).

ORSP Offering Grant Writing Workshop

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) and the Center for Teaching and Learning are collaborating to provide a special workshop on successful grant writing. This is perfect for new faculty or for anyone who wants a fresh way to find and secure grants. The workshop, held Thursday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m. – noon in MT110, will feature a panel of faculty who have been successful at obtaining grants. The round-table discussion will give participants a chance to talk about the strategy of writing grants, what each panelist has found most useful (and most surprising) and more. Coffee and cookies will be provided.