



University of Houston
DOWNTOWN

A large, glowing blue wireframe trophy is positioned on the left side of the poster. The trophy is composed of interconnected lines forming a cup and a hand holding it, set against a dark blue background with a subtle grid pattern and glowing points.

*Faculty
Awards*

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

2:30 - 4 p.m.

Zoom

Welcome

Faculty Senate President – Dr. Ronald Beebe

Remarks from UHD President

Antonio D. Tillis, Ph.D.

Senate Report

Faculty Senate Past President — Dr. Michael Duncan

Faculty Awards

Dr. Ashley Archiopoli — Chair

Faculty Awards Committee

Faculty Development Leave Awards

Dr. Johanna Schmertz — Chair

Funded Faculty Leave Awards Committee

Distinguished Faculty Award

Dr. L. Kirk Hagen — Chair

Distinguished Faculty Awards Committee

Recognition of Faculty Years of Service
Provost & SVP Academic and Student Affairs

Dr. Eric Carl Link

Outstanding Adjunct

Elizabeth Cantalamessa

Philosophy

Richard Powers

Criminal Justice

Outstanding Lecturer

Luke Fedell

Theatre and Acting

Dr. Angela Goins

Social Work

Thomas A. Jackson

Accounting

Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activity

Dr. Edmund Cueva

Humanities

Dr. Rachna Sadana

Biology

Dr. Benjamin Soibam

Computer Science

Excellence in Service

Dr. Matthew Fugate

Urban Education

Dr. Windy Lawrence

Communication Studies

Dr. Jace Valcore

Criminal Justice

Excellence in Teaching

Dr. Anand Pore

Management

Dr. Arash Rahmatian

Engineering

Dr. Yuan Yuan (Connie) Kang

Biology

Distinguished Faculty Award

Dr. Edmund Cueva

Dr. Ryan Pepper

Dr. Hsiao-Ming Wang

Faculty Development Leave Awards

Edmund Cueva, Professor of Classics and Humanities

Department of History, Humanities and Language

The proposed project is a scholarly monograph that has as its aim to prove that the origins of literary horror (horror-fiction) as a genre may be found in the Graeco-Roman novels. The monograph first analyzes non-novelistic ancient Greek and Roman literary texts that may be recognized as having caused horror in the listener or reader in order to make clear that the authors of these texts were not writing in order to evoke horror specifically—the horror produced was an emotion that arose from the text coincidentally and not purposefully. Indeed, before the genesis of the ancient novel none of the texts were written primarily to cause horror. In other words, these pre-novelistic texts would narrate stories, incidents, myths, folktales, etc. that included horror-inducing moments as part of the plot or overall structure within which they were found, but were not explicitly written to cause horror. They cannot be classified as horror-fiction. It will be clearly and amply demonstrated that none of the non-novelistic texts include horror-fiction narratives that if detached from the body of the texts would not cause serious damage to the work's content, context, or plot. This is not the case for the novels, where the horror-fiction components may be removed without any noticeable harm to the novel's content, context, or plot.

Dr. Anisul Islam, Professor of Economics

Department of Finance & Management Information Systems

Economic relationships among nations and the foreign economic policies to manage those relationships in particular are integral to the overall foreign policy of a nation. Using this backdrop, the primary objective of this paper is to conduct in-depth empirical study of the historical evolution, current developments, and future prospects of continuously evolving economic relationships between the U.S. and Bangladesh. This study will focus on two major areas of economic relationships between the two countries as follows: (a) First, to conduct an empirical study on the evolving foreign aid and foreign investments from the U.S. to Bangladesh; (b) Second, to conduct an empirical study of the evolving bilateral trade relationships in both aggregated and disaggregated (commodity specific) forms between these two countries and the challenges and prospects for continued developments in bilateral trade flows. Theoretical models will be developed and empirically estimated using historical time series data for both countries over the entire historical period since the independence of Bangladesh in 1971 to present. This project is expected to result in several peer-reviewed journal publications and a book on the topic of "U.S.-Bangladesh Economic Relations". Such publications would be beneficial to the department, the college, and the university in maintaining its SACS and AACB-International accreditation and in enhancing its reputation in the academic community. Besides, these studies will be useful for my in-class teaching in some of my upper-level graduate and undergraduate level courses.

Dr. Omprakash Gupta, Professor of Management

Department of Management and Insurance

Needless to say research is an integral part of higher education. One of its widely recognized instruments is publications in research journals. This is true all academic realms, be it sciences, liberal arts, medicine, engineering, nursing, or business. Though this proposal is primarily focused on research in business disciplines, I

intend for it to be useful to other disciplines as well. The challenge to publish high-quality research begins when one is in a doctoral program and continues through one's entire career in academia. Having been in higher education for almost four decades, I have substantial experience as a researcher (70+ publications), reviewer, associate editor, and editor-in-chief. The primary objective of this proposal is to develop a book that will be useful to doctoral students and faculty (relatively new to publishing world) by helping them publish in business research journals.

The proposed book will be most useful to those who have skills and knowledge to conduct research but struggle in converting their research into respectable journal publication material. Having conducted several workshops in many universities all over the world on the subject, I have learned that many scholars make costly mistakes. I expect this guide to fill in this gap and make publishing a painless and fun activity for high-potential scholars.

Dr. Katrina Rufino, Assistant Professor of Psychology

Department of Social Sciences

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death overall, 2nd among 15-34 year-olds. In 2018, the most recent year for which there are statistics, 48,344 people in the United States died by suicide, which equates to 14.2 per 100,000 of the population and one person every 11 minutes (CDC, 2018). Despite these statistics, the field of suicidology has not come to consensus as to which measure constitutes best practices in the assessment of patients considered at risk for suicide. The purpose of this faculty funded leave is to continue to advance my line of suicide risk assessment research and ultimately culminate in the creation of a suicide risk assessment measure. This research has the potential to impact the field of suicidology and clinical psychology by advancing and further honing already identified risk factors and possibly uncovering unknown risk factors in the prediction of suicide attempts and death by suicide. Improving the assessment of those most vulnerable to suicide attempts and death by suicide would help reverse the current trend and decrease the number of deaths by suicide.

Dr. Michael Tobin, Associate Professor of Biology

Department of Natural Sciences

The funded leave will allow Dr. Tobin to complete research on water use and drought tolerance of grassland communities. He will analyze data and collaboratively publish results from a long-term, multifaceted experiment investigating community dynamics of tallgrass prairie conducted with Dr. Mangan at Tyson Research Center of Washington University in St. Louis. The team has five years of plant growth data collected by teams of undergraduates, including two UHD students. Dr. Tobin will also conduct research on leaf traits that confer drought tolerance in grasses, to build on research conducted by students in his General Ecology Laboratory. In this laboratory course, the entire class engages in novel scientific research to produce results of interest to the scientific community. Dr. Tobin will also pursue external funding to support research on functional trait distribution in native prairie grasses. These activities will increase the scholarly impact of past undergraduate students' efforts, and enhance the experience of future student researchers.

RECOGNITION OF FACULTY YEARS OF SERVICE

20 Years

- Dr. Mark Cervenka, Professor** - Art; Director, O'Kane Gallery
Dr. Peter DeVries, Professor - Management Information Systems
Dr. Johanna Schmertz, Professor - English
Dr. Leigh Van Horn, Professor - Education

25 Years

- Dr. Susan J. Baker, Professor** - Art History
Dr. Philip Lyons, Associate Professor - Biology
Dr. JoAnn Pavletich, Associate Professor - English
Dr. Tammis Thomas, Professor - English

30 Years

- Dr. L. Kirk Hagen, Professor** - Humanities
Dr. Anisul Islam, Professor - Economics
Mr. Vien Nguyen, Lecturer - Mathematics
Dr. Patrick S. Williams, Associate Professor - Psychology
Dr. Shishen Xie, Professor - Mathematics

40 Years

- Dr. Ruth R. Robbins, Professor** - Management Information Systems



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