

MSU Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Awards Recognize Outstanding Contributions by Faculty and Academic Staff

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – The MSU Service-Learning and Civic Engagement Awards were bestowed on April 20, highlighting efforts ranging from audience engagement in dance performance to screenings and treatments for companion animals affected by lead toxicity in Flint.

Award recipients are selected by the dean of each college, and represent outstanding achievements and exceptional contributions to academic, curricular, or co-curricular service-learning and civic engagement that is specifically linked with the mission and efforts of the college.

The Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement (CSLCE), in partnership with the associate provost for University Outreach and Engagement and the vice president for Student Affairs and Services, along with endorsement from the provost, established the awards in 2008, in honor of CSLCE's 40th anniversary. MSU has the oldest, continuously operating service-learning center in the United States, and in 2018 will celebrate a half-century of civic engagement linking faculty, staff, and students with community.

“Recognizing the faculty and staff who lead this work on our campus is important. The Center for Service-Learning and Civic Engagement is pleased to honor these outstanding faculty and staff members. Their engagement with students and community partners is exemplary and most worthy of recognition,” said Renee Zientek, CSLCE director.

The 2016-2017 award recipients include:

College of Arts and Letters

Alison Clare Dobbins, Associate Professor, Integrated Performance Media Design

College of Communication Arts and Sciences

David Keith Poulson, Senior Associate Director, Knight Center for Environmental Journalism

College of Human Medicine

Rae Lee Schnuth, Assistant Dean for Curricular Projects

College of Law

Joshua Matthew Wease, Assistant Clinical Professor of Law

College of Music

Rodney T. Whitaker, University Distinguished Professor of Jazz Bass and Director of Jazz Studies



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College of Natural Science

Pavel Sikorskii, Co-Director, Undergraduate Studies, Department of Mathematics

College of Social Science

Joshua Sapotichne, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

College of Veterinary Medicine

Daniel K. Langlois, Assistant Professor, Small Animal Clinical Sciences

John Philip Buchweitz, Assistant Professor and Toxicology Section Chief, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Department of Pathobiology and Diagnostic Investigation

James Madison College

Louise Ann Jezierski, Associate Professor

Lyman Briggs College

Sara C. Fingal, Assistant Professor, Department of History

Rebecca H. Lahr, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry

Residential College in the Arts and Humanities

Kevin Lamont Brooks, Academic Specialist for Diversity and Engagement

The program included a presentation by Michigan Campus Compact (MiCC) executive director Robin Lynn Grinnell, honoring Hiram E. Fitzgerald, University Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement, with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

MiCC also recognized President Lou Anna K. Simon, who was named the 2017 recipient of the John DiBiaggio Beacon Award for Presidential Leadership during the annual [Michigan Campus Compact Awards Gala](#) on March 23.

Denise B. Maybank, Vice President for Student Affairs and Services, said in closing remarks, “I’m amazed at the history and the context of how we have grown. It’s an honor to be part of a university community that knows what happens outside its doors. Thank you to all of you for making a difference in the world.”

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