Top U-M faculty recognized for teaching, scholarship

**Editor’s note:** The information presented in this story includes excerpts from the announce that originally appeared in the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Vice President for Research, the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs and the University Press.

Twenty-six faculty members will share the University for Distinguished Faculty for their teaching, scholarship, service and creative activities Wednesday in Rackham As-

Distinguished University Professorships recognize full or associate professors for exceptional scholarly and/or creative achievement, national and international reputation, and superior teaching skills. Created in 1947, each professorship bears a name determined by the appointive professor in consultation with her or his department. The endowment also carries an annual salary supplement of $5,000 and an annual research supplement of $5,000. The duration of the appointment is unlimited, and the title — without the salary and research supplement — is retained after retirement. In addition, newly appointed Distinguished University Professors will be able to deliver an inaugural lecture during the first year of appointment. Honorees and their awards are:

- Jacqueline Eccles, William McKeachie and Paul Pintrich Distinguished University Professor of Psychology and Education, Department of Psychology, LSA; professor of education, School of Education, and director of the Michigan Institute for Research Center for Group Dynamics, Institute for Social Research (ISR). The recipient will receive a $7,500 supplement of $5,000 and an additional $1,500 supplement. The cash value of the prize is $750 and is apart from any royalties the book may have earned. Awards are:
- Jeanne Leonard, Diane M. Kirkpatrick and Griselda Torreng Distinguished University Professor of Women’s Studies, Department of Women’s Studies, LSA; professor of education, School of Education, and director of the Michigan Institute for Research Faculty Recognition Awards are intended for faculty early in their careers who have contributed substantial research and/or creative endeavors: excellence as a teacher, adviser and mentor, and distinguished participation in service activities of the university. Eligible candidates should have no more than four years at that rank, associate professors and assistant professors. Up to five awards of $1,500 each are made each year. Recipients include:
- Anne Curzan, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, associate professor of English language and literature, Department of English Language and Literature; associate professor of linguistics, Department of Linguistics, LSA; associate professor of education, SoE; and director, Program on Ethnic, Immigration, and Multilingual Studies, College of Arts, Sciences and Letters, UM-Dearborn
- Thomas Zurbuchen, professor of space science, Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Space Sciences; director of the Aerospace Engineering, CoE
- Jackie Lawson Memo-}
Ewing: He is a member of 17 scientific organizations and a fellow of six of them. Since coming to U-M in 1997, he has served on numerous departmental committees, including the executive committee.

Distinguished University Professorship, William Fulton
William Fulton, the Oscar Zariki Distinguished University Professor of Mathematics; and Miner and Mary Ann Keeler Chair in Mathematics, Department of Mathematics, LSA, is an internationally renowned scholar who has had a huge impact on the mathematics department and its standing in the scientific community.

His contributions to algebraic geometry and related fields, his award-winning books, his leadership and expository have all been recognized nationally and internationally. He has welcomed undergraduates, post-doctoral and graduate students, and has put this belief into practice.

Ewing is the Edward H. Kraus Distinguished University Professor of Geological Sciences Department of Geological Sciences, LSA; professor of materials science and engineering; and professor of nuclear engineering and radiological sciences, Department of Nuclear Engineering and Radiological Sciences, CoE. He has been an important force behind the application of natural mineral analogues, mineralogical science and mineralogical science.

Ewing is a leader in developing new nuclear waste forms and advancing the understanding of nuclear waste forms behavior in geologic repositories over geologic time.

Ewing’s scholarly publication output includes 347 research publications, 212 papers in conference proceedings and 13 chapters in books. His work has appeared in a wide range of publications, including prominent journals such as Science and Nature. His research, which encompasses natural materials and radiation effects in ceramics and natural analogs, combines the most modern techniques of materials and solid state methods, ceramic science, nuclear materials and mathematics within the broader context of environmental interactions and geological science.

Among the many awards Ewing has received for his work, the highest and most recent is the 2006 Lomonosov Gold Medal from the Russian Academy of Science. The medal was awarded for Ewing’s research on materials science in support of advanced nuclear fuel cycles, particularly on radiation effects in materials and the safe disposal of nuclear waste.

Ewing initiated a review of the undergraduate program in geological sciences, and he has welcomed undergraduates into his laboratory. He has also been an effective mentor of graduate and post-graduate students. Ewing’s service record has likewise been extraordinary.

Ulsoy has made contributions to education through curricular innovations and a willingness to spend extra time with students. He has served as associate chair and graduate program chair of the department; as founding deputy director of the Engineering Research Center for Reconfigurable Machining Systems; as founding director of the Program in Manufacturing and of the Industry-University Cooperative Research Center; as founding director of the Grand Robotics Center; and as a member of the executive committee of CoE.

Distinguished University Professorship, John Vandermeer
John Vandermeer is a world authority on agricultural and rain forest ecology. He is known worldwide for his unique ability to develop and translate elastic systems, particularly in the area of control.

In his book "Intersec- tion Theory," he reviewed lectures on advanced control theory to control the monitoring and control of manufacturing processes. Most of all, he was one of the first people in the country to establish and lead the field of reconfigurable manufacturing systems, which now is a transformative paradigm in manufacturing.

Ulsoy is founding director of Michigan’s Program in Manufacturing, which awards Master of Engineering and Doctor of Engineering degrees. He also initiated the Master of Engineering Program in Manufacturing by distance learning to General Motors sites around the world.

The author of more than 130 journal articles and 130 conference papers in the highest quality proceedings, Ulsoy has received prestigious awards for his research at every stage of his career: the ASME Outstanding Young Engineer Award in 1986, the AACC Hugo Shuck Best Paper Award at the 1994 American Control Conference, the Rudolf Kalman Prize Paper Award in 2003 and the Henry M. Paynter Outstanding Investigator Award in 2004. In 2006 he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, the highest recognition in engineering, and in 2008 he received the Rufus Oldenburger Medal from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the highest recognition in the field of dynamic systems and control.
and inspiring leadership has made him a major force in behing science. He regularly standards to inform public policy decision-making na-
tionally and internationally. Most notably, he has used his scientific knowledge into the social and political world to deal with some of the most pressing human prob-
lems.
Over the course of his long career at U-M, Vander-
meer has been an effective and productive scholar, with 13 books, including two in press this year alone, and more than 100 scholarly articles and book chapters, as well as numerous other articles communicating scientific concerns to the public. His scholarship has been primarily in three major areas of ecology: theoretical ecology, tropical rain forest ecology and agricultural ecology. Much of his field research has been focused on prob-
lems of concern to the rural poor in Latin America, and notably his major research focus in alternative tropical agriculture and forestry. He is recognized as one of the world’s greatest theorists on the ecology and economies of mixed cropping and agro-
ecology in general.
Vandermeer constantly challenges his students to think about the ethical issues behind each research question. He teaches more than the re-
quired number of courses, including a immensely popular course for non-
majors, Biology and Human Affairs, which introduces students to current issues of fundamental social and eco-
nomic importance. Another substantial component of his teaching is an advanced field ecology course that students find exhausting but exciting. His influence has been life-
changing for many graduate students, and the scope of his research interests is seen in the diversity of positions his students have moved into, not only academic posts but also public service and environmental activism. His teaching record has been recog-
nized by his appointment as a Thurnau Professor and his receipt of a Sokol Award for graduate mentoring.

**Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award, Dennis Assanis**

A world-renowned scholar and expert in fundamental studies of internal combustion engines and automotive powertrain engineering, Dennis Assanis, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, and Jon R. and Beverly S. Holt Pro-
fessor of Engineering, Col., has brought about the renais-
sance of automotive research and education at U-M. His leadership and passion for scholarly research have transformed the W. E. Lay Automotive Laboratory into a beehive of activity that is recognized for its excellence among academic, industry and national laboratories.

Assanis’ research has had a significant influence on both fundamental knowledge and practical technology. His engine simulation models are widely used by engine researchers and develop-
ers to improve vehicle fuel economy while satisfying ultra-stringent emissions standards.

With more than $100 mil-

lion in research funding from a range of sources, Assanis has an exceptional research record in terms of quantity, quality, visibility and impact. His research in modeling and experimental testing of internal combustion engines has been at the leading edge of the field for more than 25 years. His achievements have been recognized by many prestigious awards. Most notable was his recognition in 2008 as a member of the National Academy of Engi-
neers, the ultimate honor in engineering.

Assanis has founded one of the most successful graduate degree programs at U-M, the Master of Automotive Engineering, designed spe-
cifically for industry engi-
neers, a program that has now graduated hundreds. He is a role model and mentor for his graduate students, and has advised more than 50 doctoral students and 100 Master in Engineering students. He has created a laboratory where students work on prob-
lems that are relevant to society and leave their labora-
tory ready to realize their full potential as scientists and future academicians.

For six years, Assanis served as chair of the De-
partment of Mechanical Engineering. During that period he led initiatives to create a vision of modern mechanical engineering that included reinvigorating its traditional strength in me-
chanics, manufacturing, en-
ergy systems and automotive engineering, and building new areas of nano-systems, biological systems and alter-
native energy production. Because of his leadership and vision, the department de-
veloped a plan of expansion and remodeling of existing facilities, which has now be-
turned a top building priority plan of the university.

**Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award, Michael Imperiale**

An internationally recog-
ized expert in the field of small DNA tumor viruses, Michael Imperiale, an Ar-
thur F. Thurnau Professor, and professor of microbiol-
y and immunology, De-
partment of Microbiology and Immunology, Medical School, is one of the most produc-
tive and effective in-
novators in his field.

Imperiale’s laboratory has a longstanding history of significant research findings in a wide variety of topics re-
lated to tumor virology, viral replication and pathogenesis, gene therapy, and gene ex-
pression. The importance of his research is reflected in his recent election as chair of the DNA virus division of the American Society for Microbiology, the world’s largest society of biological scientists.

With the recent apprecia-
tion that up to 15 percent of all human cancer is caused by viruses, Imperiale’s foresight in choosing the field of tu-
mor virology is evident. His research centers on the mo-
lecular biology of a group of viruses that can cause tumors in experimental animals and humans. He has focused on two viruses, adenovirus and BK virus. Viruses must re-
produce inside of host cells, and much of Imperiale’s work has to do with the in-
teraction of a virus with its host cell and how the virus assembles before it leaves a host cell.

Imperiale also has pur-
sued experiments aimed at demonstrating the utility of adenovirus as a recombinant vaccine vector. The research done by his laboratory group could eventually prove useful in creating a vaccine to pro-
tect against anthrax, without the side effects the current vaccine produces.

Apart from his own re-
search, Imperiale is influ-
ential in virology research through his role as a senior editor at the Journal of Virol-
ology. He is also the co-author of the chapter on polyomavi-
ruses in Fields Virology. Consistently praised as a highly effective teacher, Imperiale excels both as a classroom teacher and as a mentor in the laboratory. In 2000 he was recognized in the Medical School for his teaching with the Medical Student Award for Teaching Excellence.

He served as chair of the Institutional Biosafety Committee from 2000-
08. He has served on the Medical School’s executive committee and took on the responsibilities of associate chair in his department. Since July 2005 he has been a member of the National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity.

**Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award, John E. Jackson**

A highly respected figure in the social sciences, John E. Jackson, the M. Kent Jen-
ings College Professor of Political Science, Depart-
ment of Political Science, is recognized as not only a leader in defining the subfield of political meth-
odology and co-founding the Political Methodology Society. His many books and articles develop important new approaches and insights. His work has been recognized with numerous awards, most prominently, being elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and receiving the career achievement award from the Political Methodology section of the American Political Science Association, its top award.

Jackson’s research is in po-
itical methodology, political behavior, political economy and political institutions, and provides valuable new un-
derstanding in each area. He pioneered bringing advanced statistical methodologies to politics in a substantive way. His 1977 book with Eric Ha-
mshek, “Statistical Methods for Social Science,” is con-
sidered one of the best texts for political methodology. In addition to his methodologi-
cal work, he has made im-
portant contributions to the study of public opinion, elec-
torial politics and Congress. During Michigan’s eco-
nomic crisis in the 1980s Jackson returned to the field of political economy to study entrepreneurship and how it is the basis for growth and renewal. He co-authored a book, “The Political Econ-
omy of Poland’s Transition: New Firms and Reform Governments,” which re-
ceived the highest award the Polish government gives in social science. In showing how the growth of new busi-
nesses provided economic growth and political stability in Poland, this book and a body of related papers con-
tribute to the understanding of economic and democratic transitions.

Jackson devotes much of his career to teaching and mentoring graduate students and junior faculty. His in-
tense mentoring style makes students full partners in the research process. For un-
dergraduates, a number of whom maintain contact after graduation, he is a dedicated, resourceful and demanding teacher.

Finally, Jackson builds and sustains institutions. He makes contributions to the university and to the scholarly service at a major role. He was the founding director of the Program in American Institutions and is an active participant in various cen-
made notable contributions very beginning of his career, in the form of awards and substantial national recognition have been widely cited. some 150 papers and they continue to have an impact on a wide range of neuroscience. Kennedy has published a number of analytical methods aimed at elucidating the underlying molecular mechanisms associated with endocrine and neurological diseases. Kennedy’s research has focused on tackling one of the most challenging areas of contemporary analytical chemistry, namely the real time measurement of biologically important molecules in vivo with high sensitivity and selectivity. His work is oriented toward development of new micro-analytical instrumental approaches that will provide invaluable analytical information to our understanding of brain chemistry and of fundamental processes that lead to diabetes at the cellular level. The technology he developed continues to have an impact on a wide range of neuroscience research. Kennedy has published some 150 papers and they have been widely cited. He has received significant external funding and substantial national recognition in the form of awards and fellowships, among them a prestigious Sloan Fellowship, a Beckman Young Investigator Award and a Presidential Faculty Fellowship from the National Science Foundation, and recently he was elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Further, in recognition of his outstanding contributions toward the development of analytical methods to study diabetes and brain chemistry at the cellular level, he was awarded two special MERIT 10-year research award grants by the National Institutes of Health. Moreover, Kennedy is equally talented as a teacher and mentor. Since beginning his academic career in 1991, he has served as research advisor for 33 doctoral students (not including his current group) and 15 post-doctoral associates, many of whom hold faculty positions at major institutions. Kennedy has served on the editorial boards of a number of publications, as well as serving as editor for "The Analyst and the Journal of Chromatography." He has chaired a number of conference committees and serves on several conference organizing committees.

Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award, Henry Wellman

One of the most prominent developmental psychologists of his generation, Henry Wellman has been a pioneer in studying the cognitive development of children and in discovering a number of foundational skills that underlie their understanding of the world around them. Wellman, the Harvard W. Stevenson Collegiate Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, LSA; and research professor, The Center for Human Growth and Development, is one of a few researchers who essentially created the subfield of "theory of mind" research. The field of developmental psychology — and the field of psychology as a whole — has been shaped by his ideas and research findings. His two books, "The Child’s Theory of Mind" and "Children Talk about the Mind," now are classics.

Theory of mind refers to the everyday human understanding of people in terms of the internal mental states (beliefs, desires, emotions, intentions) that produce and explain their actions and feelings. Wellman’s research on the child’s theory of mind stems from a carefully detailed and documented con- viction that a theory of mind provides a model of a core cognitive domain, a cognitive structure that frames and encourages further developments; in this way, children engage in a social world of other humans from infancy. Beyond infancy, his focus on language is key, because children develop understanding of mental terms ("think," "know," "wish," "want," "happy," "sad") provides a window into a child’s developing understanding of the mental world. These ideas and research have succeeded in transforming the pursuit of developmental psychology during the past 20 years. What began as a relatively small and self-contained area of research has tremendously expanded, as researchers have documented links between theory of mind and other crucial issues. His contributions have received many awards, including an NIH MERIT Award in 2005, which funds his work for 10 years, and he is the current president of the Cognitive Development Society. Wellman is a senior leader in his department, serving on major search committees and on promotion panels. For many years he was chair of the developmental psychology area, the top-ranked developmental program in the country, and he also has served as associate director of the Center for Human Growth and Development.

Faculty Recognition Award, Anne Curzan

In her seven years at U-M, Ann Curzan, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, associate professor of English language and literature, Department of English Language and Literature; associate professor of linguistics, Department of Linguistics, LSA; and associate professor of education, SFB, has built a remarkable record of achievement in all areas of academic activity — research, teaching and service. Accolades for her "stellar intellectual and professional accomplishments" in multiple areas are numerous. In 2007 she won both the Henry Russel Award and a Thurnau professorship. Curzan’s central scholarly work is in English diachron- ic syntax and semantics, the study of how the English language has changed and developed over time. Particularly, because of her 2003 book “Gender Shifts in the History of English,” she has been called “the leading authority on issues of grammatical gender in the history of English.” This book, which is a synthesis of historical linguistics, corpus linguistics and social linguistics, has commanded a large and diverse audience of students, linguists, cultural and literary historians, and general readers. With a background in both linguistics and English language and literature, Curzan has wide-ranging interests and capacities, all of which she pursues with the same passion and competence that she brings to her central work in diachronic syntax and linguistic gender. She is a serious student of semantics and lexicography and an expert on North American English. And she has an intellectual passion for all issues that involve teaching, teacher training, the politics of pedagogy and classroom dynamics. She has co-authored both a book on teaching, “First Day to Final Grade,” and a textbook in her field of study, “How Language Works,” among her many other publications. She currently is working on two more books on the history of the language.

Her teaching of both under-graduate and graduate students is called “transformative” — for colleagues and other teachers as well as for students. She also has been invited to speak at conferences and on campuses around the country and internationally. In Curzan’s service to the Department of English, she has successfully fashioned and instituted a radical revision of the undergraduate curriculum, and has taken the task of directing the first-year writing program. Faculty Recognition Award, Lori Isom

Lori Isom has made a difference in the laboratory as an investigator and in the lecture hall as a teacher. Isom, professor of molecular and integrative physiology, professor of pharmacology, and director, Program in Biomedical Sciences, Medical School, has focused her efforts on creating an intimate, friendly and productive environment in which her students work toward a common goal of further understanding sodium channel biology. Her work on Na+ channels, the ion channels that act as batteries to produce nerve impulses, is relevant to nerve injuries and neurological diseases such as epilepsy and multiple sclerosis. Ion channels are important molecules that endow the nerve cells within our brains and spinal cords with the ability to generate electrical impulses, thereby allowing us to think, feel, move and do all the things that make us human. Isom’s laboratory has been a leader in the development of mouse and zebrafish models that can be used to investigate the mechanisms underlying Na+ channel mutations in vivo. With her expertise in cloning genes and the expression of the proteins of these cloned genes in vitro and in vivo systems, she is able to use the tools of molecular biology to investigate questions about important problems in pharmacology and physiology. During her years at U-M, Isom has made numerous observations and contributions to the understanding of Na+ channels, their assembly, structure and function, and their role in modulating the electrical activity of neurons and cardiac myocytes. She has obtained competitive funding from many sources and her work has been cited.
in more than 1,500 articles. She has been invited to speak about her research at uni-
versities and conferences worldwide, and she has been recognized as an Established
Investigator of the American Heart Association.

From the time she joined the Department of Pharma-
cology, Isom has been highly sought after by graduate
students as a thesis mentor. Twenty-eight students have
rotated through her labora-
tory, and she has served on
the thesis committees for 23
graduate students.

Faculty Recognition
Award, Webb Keane

Regarded by many as the
single most accomplished
philosophical anthropologist
writing in the United States
at the present time, Webb
Keane is at “an astonishing
peak of productivity and cre-
cativity,” Webb, professor
of anthropology, Depart-
ment of Anthropology, LSA,
is regarded by many in the
profession as an exemplar of
everything for which the discipline should stand.

A specialist in Indone-
sia, Keane consistently has
explored the relationships
between the material and
the immaterial and between
intentionality and structure.
He has taken two areas that
seem least promising for a
study of material culture,
whose language and belief,
and in both cases that
there was a huge benefit
in approaching both topics
from the point of view of
their essential materiality,
that is, the forms they have
to take in the world and the
consequences this has for the
people that use language and
live with belief. In his best-
known work, “Signs of Rec-
cognition,” he explores these
issues through an ethnogra-
phy. This book has become
a classic in Southeast Asian
studies and in semiotically
oriented branches of anthro-

Keane then shifted his
focus from Sundanese indig-
ous religion to a study of
their conversion to Chris-
tianity. This work culminated
in his second book, “Chris-
tian Moderns: Freedom and
Fetish in the Mission Encounter,” which examines the centuary-long encounter
between Dutch Calvinist
missionaries and the Indo-
nesiens they tried to con-
vert. This book has brought
high acclaim and attracted
a worldwide readership.
At its annual meeting, the
American Anthropological
Association sponsored a sym-
posium specifically focused
on “Christian Moderns”; another will be held this fall by the
American Academy of
Religion.

Webb now has turned to
the study of Indonesian
national culture and media,
including comparisons with
media production and jour-
nalism elsewhere. His third
book is tentatively entitled
“Nation and Mediation in
Indonesia.”

Keane has gained recogni-
tion for his ambitious schol-
larly work. He has received
a Guggenheim Fellowship
and fellowships at the Insti-
tute for Advanced Study at
Princeton, the Center for
Advanced Study in the Be-
havioral Sciences (Stanford),
and the Institute for the Hu-
manities. He has presented
papers both at the Edithmar
k and the Annette Weiner Me-
orial Lectures, which are
internationally recognized.

In addition to his scholarly
work, Webb has developed a
well-deserved reputation as a
teacher and mentor.

Faculty Recognition
Award, Peter van Keken

Peter van Keken, professor of
geological sciences, Depart-
ment of Geological Sciences, LSA, has had a
dramatic impact on research
in his field and in fields around
him through his own research
and that of his students, his
highly influential editorial
work on journals, and his
participation in workshops
and research meetings.

van Keken, a geophysicist,
had focused his research ef-
forts on the dynamics of
the Earth’s interior through
the study of mantle convec-
tion. He develops and uses
computational techniques to
simulate convection in the
mantle, and uses these meth-
ods to study fundamental
processes. He and his stu-
dents have published widely
cited research on the nature
of tectonic plates that move
towards the Earth’s surface,
on the fate of mobile slabs as
they sink into the mantle, and
on the nature and preservation
of chemical heterogeneities
in the mantle. These stud-
ies are directly relevant to
other work, ranging from
the nature of earthquakes
to the origin of the planet.

van Keken’s research, published in numerous first-
order scientific journals, has been noticed by the
wider scientific community, and he has been very effective in
becoming involved in scientific
groups that further his own
research goals. In particular,
he has been a key member of
the steering committee for
the MARGINS Program
that has been funded by the
National Science Foundation
and the European Science
Foundation in order to under-
stand processes along the
margins of Earth’s contin-
ts. He has been successful in
funding his research, and the large number of inves-
tigators involved in these
groups have contributed to
the interdisciplinary and collab-
orative nature of his work.

In addition to his scholarly
work, van Keken has developed
a high regard for students
to raise their own
research goals. In particular,
he helps them create a path
to reach their goals.

Students look forward to
van Keken’s lectures and
remember them long after
they’ve completed the courses,
describing them as highlights of their college
experience. In the wide range of courses he teaches, he has
gained a well-deserved reputation as a teacher and mentor.

Faculty Recognition
Award, Thomas Zurbuchen

One of the two top three young scientists in the entire
field of space plasma physics, Thomas Zurbuchen has
rapidly become an internationally and nationally
recognized leader in the field of heliophysics. He is also an
effective and creative instructor, a facilit-	or of university-industry partnerships and a public
speaker for science. Zurbuchen, professor of
space science, Department of Atmospheric,
Oceanic and Space Sciences; and profes-
sor of aerospace engineering, Department of
Aerospace Engineering, CoE, conducts research on the
sun and its extension into space to form
the heliosphere with the lo-
cal interstellar medium. He
does so in the broadest sense
analyzing and interpreting
data from ongoing space mis-
sions. He has presented his work in
the margins of Earth’s contin-
ts. He has been successful in
funding his research, and the
large number of invited lectures
he has delivered around the
world.

The high regard of the sci-
cient community is shown in
its appointment of van
Keken as one of three senior
editors of Geochimistry,
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online journal published by
the American Geophysical
Union and the Geochimical
Society that in 2008 pub-
lished more than 250 papers.
van Keken has taught nu-
umerous different courses,
and though trained as a geophysi-
cist, he has taken great inter-
est in teaching field projects
at Camp Davis.

He has served two sessions
on the department’s execu-
tive committee and has served
almost continuously on the
curriculum committee.

Faculty Recognition
Award, Mika LaVaque-Manty

Mika LaVaque-Manty is a
faculty member who believes
that teaching undergradu-
ates is absolutely core to the
mission of the university.
LaVaque-Manty is also
professor of political science,
Department of Political Sci-
cence; and associate professor
of philosophy, Department
of Philosophy, LSA, has an
acute awareness of the civic
responsibility of teaching a
large public institution and
teaches students to raise their
own research goals. He
challenges students to raise their
own expectations, to go beyond
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Students look forward to
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world.

The high regard of the sci-
cient community is shown in
its appointment of van
Keken as one of three senior
editors of Geochimistry,
Geophysics, Geosystems, an
online journal published by
the American Geophysical
Union and the Geochimical
Society that in 2008 pub-
lished more than 250 papers.
van Keken has taught nu-
umerous different courses,
and though trained as a geophysi-
cist, he has taken great inter-
est in teaching field projects
at Camp Davis.

He has served two sessions
on the department’s execu-
tive committee and has served
almost continuously on the
curriculum committee.
In “Disability Theory,” Siebers says he “takes issue with those who believe that identity politics either springs from disability or disempowers people for viable political action. I offer a defense of identity politics,” he says, “and a counterargument to the idea embraced by the right and left, that identity politics cannot be justified because it is linked to pain and suffering. The idea that suffering produces weak identities both enforces the ideology of ability and demonstrates a profound misunderstanding of disability: disability is not a pathological condition, only an ambiguity, an individual psychology, but a social location complexly embodied.”

Siebers argues that disability studies transcends basic assumptions about identity, ideology, language, politics, and the body. At the same time, he advances the emerging field of disability studies by putting its core issues into contact with significant thinkers in cultural studies, literary theory, gender studies and critical race theory.

Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award, Daniel Moerman

Daniel Moerman is the 2009 recipient of the Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award. The award, named for the woman for whom the award is named, Moerman, the William E. Stirton Professor Emeritus of English, is given to a faculty member from one of the three campuses. At the time of her death, Lawson was serving as chair of the Senate Committee on University Affairs (SACUA), the first faculty member from one of the regional campuses elected to that position.

University of Michigan Press Book Award, Joanne Leonard

In her 10 years at U-M, Joanne Leonard, the Diane M. Kirkpatrick and Griselda Montecinos professor of English and Women’s Studies, LSA, has established herself as a noted artist and photographer. Her work has widely been exhibited and frequently reproduced in publications, including “Gardiner’s Art through the Ages,” “Janson’s History of Art” and “The Time-Life Library of Photography.”

Now her visual/textual autobiography, “Being in Pictures: An Intimate Photo Memoir,” published in 2008, is one of the winners of this year’s U-M Press Book Award. The award was established in 1965 and is presented to members of the teaching and research staff whose book published by the U-M Press, has added the greatest distinction to the Press List. "Being in Pictures" interweaves the author’s photographic and collage work with an account of an artist’s life and creative processes. Her evocative, almost dreamlike creations have over four decades revealed “the tensions between black and white photography as well as her vivid, richly nuanced collages.”

Julia from birth onward constitute one of the most extensive and expressive portrayals by any photographer of a child’s journey to adulthood. “Being in Pictures” also explores notions of identity and loss, as Leonard probes in word and image the meanings of her mother’s slow decline resulting from Alzheimer’s disease. The book’s nearly 200 reproductions include a wide selection of black and white photographs as well as her vivid, richly nuanced collages.

U-M Press Book Award, Tobin Siebers

“Disability Theory” is just the book we’ve been waiting for,” according to a review of Tobin Siebers’ 2008 book, one of two winners of this year’s U-M Press Book Award. The award, established in 1965, is presented to members of the teaching and research staff whose book published by the U-M Press, has added the greatest distinction to the Press List.

“Clear, cogent, compelling analyses of the tension between the ‘social model’ of disability and the material details of impairment; of identity politics and unstable identities; of capability rights and human interdependence; of disability and law, disability as masquerade, disability and sexuality, disability and democracy — they’re all here, in beautifully crafted and intellectually startling essays,” the reviewer says.

The author of nine books and editor of several others, Siebers, the V.L. Parrington Collegiate Professor of Literary and Cultural Criticism, Department of English Language and Literature, LSA, also has published numerous articles, critical essays and reviews, all on a wide range of subjects. His principal contributions to literary and cultural criticism have been in ethics. Other areas include disability studies, aesthetics and politics of identity, literary criticism of the cold-war era, psychoanalysis, literature and anthropology, and creative nonfiction.

In “Disability Theory,” Siebers says he "takes issue with those who believe that identity politics either springs from disability or disempowers people for viable political action. I offer a defense of identity politics,” he says, “and a counterargument to the idea embraced by the right and left, that identity politics cannot be justified because it is linked to pain and suffering. The idea that suffering produces weak identities both enforces the ideology of ability and demonstrates a profound misunderstanding of disability: disability is not a pathological condition, only an ambiguity, an individual psychology, but a social location complexly embodied.”

Siebers argues that disability studies transcends basic assumptions about identity, ideology, language, politics, and the body. At the same time, he advances the emerging field of disability studies by putting its core issues into contact with significant thinkers in cultural studies, literary theory, gender studies and critical race theory.
Jennifer thelen
at UM-Dearborn, Timothy
In his many years as direc-
in chief of the journal Eco-
four years served as editor
the International Society for
2000. He is past-president of
the Council on Botanical and
have on their well-being. He
impact people’s knowledge
anthropological analysis of
“truly distinguished scholar-
entirely new faculty governance
the general shape of an en-
he was able to sketch out
the administration blocked
Faculty Senate in 1993, a tu-
durability. Moerman was the
has been the most stable and
cades to develop. The current
in a number of areas of uni-
iversity life.
Faculty governance on the
in 1993, a tu-
multitudes, time, during which
he went on to administer and
enacted many initiatives, as did sev-
eral senators. Nonetheless, he
was able to sketch out
the outlines of a new faculty governance
system, which continues to
present time.
Moerman was named the
William E. Stortn Profes-
sorship in recognition of his
"truly distinguished scholar-
ship, teaching, and profes-
sional activity." His research
has primarily concerned the
anthropological analysis of
processes of human heal-
ing and, in particular, the
impact people’s knowledge and
understanding of health have
on their well being. He
also has worked extensively with
medicinal plants primarily
of Native American peoples.
He is the author of "Native American Ethno-
obotany," which received the
Annual Literature Award of the
Council on Botanical and
Horticultural Libraries for
2000. He is past-president of the
International Society for
Ethnopharmacology, and for
four years served as editor in
chief of the journal Eco-
nomic Botany.

University Librarian
Achievement Award,
Timothy Richards
In his twenty years as direc-
tor of the Mardigan Library
at U-M-Dearborn, Timothy
Richards always has focused
on how best to position the
library to provide more and
better service in support of
faculty scholarship and stu-
dent learning. Libraries have
changed dramatically over the past 20
years, requiring especially
expert leadership. As library
use changed from the printed
word to broader information
retreival, Richards led the
extraordinary transforma-
tions with apparent ease.
He played a major role in
anticipating the needs of both
sophisticated users of online
resources and the more tra-
tional users of books and
journals.

Included among the ways
in which Richards took a
leadership role and made
meaningful progress are his
highly collaborative work
with colleagues on the Flint
and Ann Arbor campuses
to provide full access to the
library’s holdings for all faculty,
regardless of their campus af-
filiation; his efforts to create a
green roof for the library
to help conserve energy; and
his initiation of a yearlong
project with library staff to
reconceptualize acquisitions
and access practices in light
of what will soon become
widespread use of eBooks
instead of bound copies in
academe.

From the time he ac-
cepted his position at the
Mardigan Library, one of
Richards’ main objectives has
been to find ways to help
and encourage staff to be-
come involved in the campus
community and to pursue
professional development
opportunities. He worked to
create a promotion process
that required and rewarded
professional engagement
both on and off campus. As
a result of his efforts, the li-
mary now is fully integrated
into the decision-making
process on campus. Within
the library, he has created a
safe environment where staff
members can take risks and
try new things without fear
of failure.

In addition to his work in
the library, Richards has been
active in a number of profes-
sional organizations at the
regional, state and national
levels and has served on nu-
merous committees. Among
his accomplishments is one
he championed for many
years and worked hard to
bring to fruition: the state-
wide delivery service among
libraries that enables them
to easily share resources for
patrons. His vision became
reality several years ago
when the Michigan eLibrary
Catalog project was imple-
mented.

University Librarian
Recognition Award,
Jennifer Green
In her eight years as a librar-
ian, Jennifer Green has made
an impact locally, nationally
and internationally. When she
came to U-M in 2000, she
already was known in the so-
cial science data community,
and in subsequent years she
has developed and managed
a new and unique service for
the University Library while
participating, collaborating
and serving actively in the
library and university com-
munities and beyond.

As the spatial and nu-
meric data librarian, Spatial
and Numeric Data Services
(SAND), Harlan Hatcher
Graduate Library, Green
founded and implemented a
new service and university
libraries that has created a
more comprehensive service
for access, collection and
distribution of spatial and
numerical data, and active
scholarly assistance and col-
laboration with geographic
information systems (GIS).
Building on the GIS service
in the Map Library, she
re-conceived the service and
the structure, and SAND was
born.

Green now has successfully
established SAND-North, in
conjunction with the Taub-
man College of Architecture
and Urban Planning as a
second lab, with a growing
North Campus audience that
includes an ever-increasing
diversity of disciplines. She
has provided a programmatic
structure for SAND’s growth
on both campuses that capi-
talizes on the strengths of
librarians and the communi-
ties they serve, by creating
partnerships with experts from
different disciplines, making
SAND a home for interdiscip\n\ninary spatial in-
vestigation.

University Librarian
Recognition Award,
Stephen Bougher
A researcher of international
standing, Stephen Bougher,
Andrew F. Nagy Collegiate
Research Professor, De-
partment of Atmospheric,
Oceanic and Space Sciences,
Col., has greatly advanced
our knowledge of planetary
atmospheres. He is the fore-
mest expert on the chemis-
ty, energetics and dynamics
of the upper atmospheres of
Venus and Mars. Further-
more, he has significantly
promoted and contributed to
the mission of NASA’s Mars
Exploration Program.

In his early research
Bougher successfully ex-
plained the thermal structure
of the upper atmosphere of
Venus. He then extended his
research to the atmospheric
structure of Mars, developing the Mars
Thermospheric General
Circulation Model (TGCM),
which is the benchmark for
all such upper atmosphere
models employed today.

Bougher’s models have
been put to the test in his
collaborations with NASA,
which has relied on them
to perform aerobraking of
Mars spacecraft, including
Mars Global Surveyor, Mars
Odyssey and Mars Recon-
naissance Orbiter. By analyz-
ing the data obtained from
Mars missions that used his
models, Bougher has con-
structed a climatology of the
Mars upper atmosphere.
His work has become central in
addressing key science ques-
tions for Mars and in the
current development of the
Mars program.

He also maintains his in-
terest in Venus, participating in
the Venus Express mission of
the European Space Agency.
Furthermore, he played a key
role in the TGCM modeling framework
that he helped develop has
been modified and extended
to capture the chemistry, en-
ergetics and dynamics of the
upper atmospheres of Jupiter
and Saturn’s moon Titan.

Bougher’s research is pub-
tured in nearly 80 publica-
tions in refereed journals
and he has given countless
collections, regional, state and national
scientific meetings.

He also has served as senior editor for the
standard reference book on the planet
Venus.

As the expert on the
atmosphere of Mars, Bougher
is a regular appointee to the
major advisory committees of
NASA and the National
Research Council. He is
the recipient of numerous
awards within U-M and CoE.

He contributes to the advancement of science
not only through his own
research but through the
direction and mentoring of
students and post-docs, and
through his participation in the
science community’s activi-
ties, including time-con-
suming tasks such as reviews,
panels, advisory groups, in-
ternational commissions and
professional societies.

Research Faculty
Achievement Award,
Robert Schoeni
Robert Schoeni, research
Fellow in Survey Research
Center, Population Studies
Center, ISR; professor of
economics, Department of
Economics, LSA; and profes-
sor of public policy, Gerald

T H E  U N I V E R S I T Y  R E C O R D
October 5, 2009 7
Demographic research.

forward on economic and necessary for an entire gen-

of Income Dynamics has considerable; even more im-

scientific contributions been

Not only have his individual

upward and dissemination of the

Schoeni has worked with a

between health and socio-

expanded scientific inquiries

social sciences.

shaped the survey's content

important and lasting con-

time.

concerned the question of

Schoeni's research has

heritances tend to be divided

less well-off children, in-

transfers in which he demon-

contributions to economics

a variety of problems. His

contributions to economics

began with work on family

which he demonstrated that whereas during their

target transfers to their

parents tend to experience early mortal-

that the tendency for males
to experience early mortal-

of male-male competition as a

core feature of our species
during life stages most asso-

with mate acquisition.

In 2008 and 2009 Kruger published nearly 20 peer-

papers, and he has given numerous invited talks.

As a research scientist with the Prevention Re-

search Center of Michigan, Kruger has worked with

community activists and grassroots leaders to de-

velop research surveys and projects aimed at improving

community health. Using his community-based participa-
tory background and his ex-
pertise in survey design, he

led a university-community partnership in developing the

Racism and Health Dispari-
ties Survey. His contributions

have had a direct impact on the

community in Genesee County.

Kruger serves as an in-

vited board member of the

NorthEastern Evolutionary

Psychology Society (NEEPS)

and its media officer. He

also recently was appointed

as co-editor of the newly

developed Journal of Social,

Evolutionary, and Cultural

Psychology, NEEPS' official

journal.

Research Faculty

Recognition Award,

Daniel Kruger

Daniel Kruger, research assistant professor, Depart-

ment of Health Behaviour and Health Education, SPH, has

very quickly become known as one of the premier minds in the

field of evolutionary psychology. His work spans the spectrum from the purely

abstract or theoretical to highly applied research with relevance to everyday life.

While his research has progressed along several trajectories — addressing issues such as evolutionary themes in Victorian litera-

ture, methodological issues in community research and time perception from an evolutionary perspective —
his work on male propensity for risk from an evolution-

ary perspective may be his best known. It has appeared in many publications, and it has been highly publicized in media outlets such as CNN, NBC, BBC, the New York Times and the Washington Post.

Despite the absence of natural niches for his original kind of research, Kruger has stayed true to his mission of bringing evolutionary biology to bear on human psychology and social issues.

Extending from his initial collaborative research exam-
inining mortality patterns from an evolutionary perspective, he has gone on to look at specific causes of mortality, variations across countries,

changes in patterns over the

past century and, most re-
cently, changes arising from

economic transitions in Eu-

rope. His work demonstrates that the tendency for males to experience early mortal-

ity during young adulthood (at disproportionately higher rates than females) is best explained by an evolution-

ary perspective focusing on

male-male competition as a

core feature of our species
during life stages most asso-

ciated with mate acquisition.

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Psychology, NEEPS' official

journal.

Research Faculty

Recognition Award,

Sooryanarayana Varambally

A cancer researcher at the

Michigan Center for Transla-
tional Pathology and Depart-

ment of Pathology, Sooryana-

rayana Varambally, research assistant professor, Michigan Center for Translational

Pathology, Department of

Pathology, Medical School,

been a team player in the

fight against cancer. He

has contributed his expertise in cell biology to addresses multidisciplinary, clinical

questions in cancer develop-

ment. Currently, he leads and mentors a cancer biology research group whose prima-

ry focus has been to unravel the molecular mechanisms of cancer development, with a special interest in prostate and breast cancer.

Working in association with Arul Chinnaiyan, pro-

fessor of pathology and urol-

ogy, Varambally contributed to a clinically significant study that defined prognostic
gene expression signatures for prostate cancer through the identification of several key biomarkers for prostate cancer progression. Pub-

lished in Nature in 2001 and extensivly cited, it has been well received by the scientific

community and is regarded as a key work in the field. A subsequent follow-up study, also published later in Na-

ture during 2002, focused on characterizing EZH2 as a specific biomarker of ag-
gressive prostate cancer. This work was highlighted in Na-

ture "News and Views."

Varambally also was in-

volved in identifying the role of EZH2 in breast cancer progression, a finding that has potential therapeutic implications. He recently published a paper in Science describing the mechanism of deregulation of this key cancer gene. He was, fur-

thersmore, a member of the U-M team responsible for the discovery of androgen-

regulated, recurrent gene fusions in prostate cancer, which is considered by many in the scientific community to be the causative molecular lesion of this highly preva-
lent disease. This published research, in Science, has had a direct impact on the field of oncology, with particu-

lar importance to the field of solid tumor research. In 2007 the team was awarded the Inaugural American Asso-

ciation for Cancer Research Team Science Award for this discovery.

Varambally has co-au-

thored more than 60 articles, with more than 10 produced in the last four years.

He currently is the princi-

pal investigator on sponsored research grants from Gen-

Probe, Inc. and Glaxo-Smith Kline. He also is co-inves-

tigator for several NIH and

DOD grants.

Beyond his research activi-

ties, Varambally is a member of the Advisory Committee on Primary Research Ap-

pointments, Promotions and Titles.