

Kinney-Sugg Outstanding Professor Award

Professor Kimberly Wieser

Department of English

Established by Sandy Kinney and Mike Sugg, this award is given to an outstanding faculty member who is a model teacher and an outstanding scholar. Dr. Wieser joined the OU family in 2009 as an Assistant Professor for the Department of English and became an Associate Professor in 2017. Her research and teaching interests include American Indian rhetorics, literatures, critical theories and gender studies and anti-racist teaching. She's published two of her own books. First, *Back to Blanket: Recovered Rhetorics and Literacies in American Indian Studies* which won the Native Writers Circle of the Americas Louis Little Coon Oliver First Book Award for Prose 2004. Her second was a poetry manuscript pushed by the Painted Horse Press in 2019, *Texas...to Get Horses*. She has shared her knowledge across many creative platforms, including radio, screenwriting, poetry and short stories. Dr. Wieser has also done novel work for the department in the wake of online teaching. She created the first online classes that parallel with the college's requirements and developed a resource-sharing page for the faculty with details on resource guides and assignments in the wake of Covid-19. Now, she now serves as the Associate Chair for the Department of English and the Undergraduate Director and Assessment Coordinator for her department. She dedicated to her students' success, which can be seen in the countless hours she's put toward one-on-one mentorship. She's led 12 undergraduate independent studies, five of those for honors students, an advisor for a McNair Scholar and led eleven graduate directed readings. Her students describe her as dedicated to seeing them succeed while helping them reach their full potential.

Irene Rothbaum Outstanding Assistant Professor Award

Tyler Ransom

Department of Economics

Established by Julian Rothbaum in his wife's memory, this award annually recognizes an outstanding teacher and researcher in the College of Arts and Sciences at the assistant professor level. Tyler started at OU in 2017 as an Assistant Professor of Economics after receiving his Master's and PhD in Economics at Duke University. He's also been a research affiliate for the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) since 2017. Tyler has published 10 articles in his first four years here, an usually high amount given the short time he's been with the department, surpassing other strong junior faculty. Much of his research centers around labor economics and economics of education as well as urban economics and machine learning applications. Since arriving at OU, he has been published in elite economics journals. One and soon to be three in *Journal of Econometrics* and another in *Journal Labor of Economics*. In the eyes of his students, Dr. Ransom is a fantastic professor and mentor. He consistently receives great student evaluation feedback on his tougher courses and has had a role in placing many students in PhD programs as well as helping four MA students find employment post-grad. He has received many fellowships, his latest being in 2018 for the OU College of Arts & Sciences Junior Faculty Summer Fellowship. In addition to his research, teaching and mentorship, he's also served the university, college and department in several capacities: An ECC test panelist for

the university, served on the Provost's Dissertation Prize Committee and helped develop the DFC data scholarship certificates that were newly introduced.

John H. and Jane M. Patten Teaching Award

Dr. Joshua Frydman

Department of Modern Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics

Established by John and Jane Patten, this award is given to a faculty member in the humanities or social sciences who has made an outstanding contribution as a classroom instructor. Joshua Frydman joined the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Linguistics as an Assistant Professor of Japanese at OU in 2016. He received his Bachelor's, Master's and PhD in East Asian Languages and Literatures from Yale University in 2014. His teachings specialize in the origins of Japanese writing (mokkan) and classical Japanese literature and culture. Dr. Frydman has two books expected to be published at the beginning of next year, *The Japanese Myths* and *Inscribed Objects and the Development of Literature in Early Japan*. His article, "Unearthing Lost Memories: A Reexamination of the Role in Naniwa in Early Japan" was published by an elite journal in his field, *Monumenta Nipponica* in 2019. He has contributed greatly to the growth of the Japanese major, increasing enrollment in courses and creating the new course, MLLL 3693: Traditional Japanese Poetry and Poetics. His knowledge of the field spreads far and wide, teaching anything between premodern (what he specializes in) and modern Japanese literature as well as pop culture. Outside of the classroom, Dr. Frydman has allotted much of his own time to see his students succeed. He frequented the Japanese Club meetings, created an entire new club for kanji conversation and would commute over an hour to attend the meetings. His teaching has inspired students to continue their educational career by studying Japanese literature and culture as well as traveling to Japan to further their knowledge on the subject.

Longmire Prize for Teaching

Dr. Erin Freeman

Department of Psychology

This prize is supported through an estate gift from William and Jane Longmire and is given to a faculty member who holds the rank of assistant professor or higher and exhibits a scholarly and thoughtful approach to innovative thinking. Dr. Freeman began her journey at OU as a graduate teaching assistant from 2006-2010 while working toward her PhD in psychology which she received in 2011. She joined the Department of Psychology in 2017 as the Master Teacher of Statistics as an Associate Professor. As soon as she joined the department, she began completely revamping the curriculum for undergraduate statistics for both online and in-person teaching. Additionally, she changed introductory statistics course to "statistics thinking" which allows students to opportunities to explore different modern challenges that society faces (e.g., climate change and medical diagnoses) and how to separate the obvious connections among the large pool of factors. Erin also played an instrumental role in developing an online version

of PSY 2003: Understanding Statistics. In 2020, she received The Doug Bernstein Award, National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology for my poster *the United States of America. How Politics Can Inspire The Teaching of Undergraduate Statistics*.

James and JoAnn Holden Faculty Award

Constance L. Chapple

Department of Sociology

The James and JoAnn Holden Faculty Award was established through a generous donation by James and JoAnn Holden and given to a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in teaching course and the freshman or sophomore level as well as leadership in research. Dr. Chappel started at OU in 2009 as an assistant professor and became an associate professor in 2011. She received her bachelor's in sociology from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1990 and her master's and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Arizona in 1999. Many of the courses she teaches centers around criminology, ranging from 1000 level classes like SOC 1523 Social Problems all the way up to SOC 4803 Capstone in Criminology. Connie has made major contributions to the department. She adapted her Social Problems Class (SOC 1523) for a more suitable online format in response to Covid-19 that encourages her students to how to identify social problems through the lens of their own experiences. Dr. Chappel's research interests include crime theory, family, peers and delinquency, gender and crime and child maltreatment. Her specialties are crime and deviance and race/ethnicity and gender. She has published 32 articles that have been cited over 1,600 times and has co-authored the book *Readings in Juvenile Delinquency and Juvenile Justice*. Additionally, Connie recently received a \$250,000 Big Idea Challenge grant that examines the many sources of negative childhood experiences and their detrimental effects of substance abuse and early mortality in Oklahoma. Her students describe how they genuinely enjoyed learning from her and how she is always looking to make an impact on the community and state and that she's "always excited to share what she is working on with her students."

James and JoAnn Holden Faculty Award

Nathan Kaib

Homer L. Dodge Department of Physics and Astronomy

Nathan "Nate" Kaib joined the OU family in 2015 as an assistant professor in the physics and astronomy department. He received his bachelor's in physics from Case Western University in 2002 and went on to earn his Ph.D. in astronomy at the University of Washington. He currently teaches ASTR 1505/1514, Exploring the Universe and ASTR 1523, Life in the Universe, ATRA 2513, Introductory Astrophysics for Majors and a course that he designed, ASTR 5900, Planetary Astrophysics. Nate is known for his dedicated mentorship toward his students. This can be seen in his first Ph.D. student being awarded a prestigious post-doctoral fellowship after graduating from OU and a current Ph.D. student at the most successful point in his career securing highly sought-after telescope observation time. His research interests include the formation and evolution of planetary system, those with our Sun and other stars as well. He has

published over 25 peer-reviewed research articles, with six of those including contributions from graduate students as first authors. He's also won over \$1.8 million in external funding. Nate's students describe him as "highly effective" and admire him for how he made such comprehensive topics easier to understand because he "always made a continual effort to keep his students engaged."