Distinguished Faculty of Fredonia
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Raymond Angelo Belliotti</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Allen Benton</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marvin Bjurlin</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Booth</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry John Brown</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mitchell Burkowsky</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. William Chazanof</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Patrick L. Courts</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Jack Croxton</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. James Davis</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Morgan D. Dowd</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Cheryl Drout</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Neil Feit</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kevin Fox</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Maureen Fries</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Richard Gilman</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thomas H. Goetz</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. William T. Hagan</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kanji Haitani</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. James Hurtgen</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Stephen Kershner</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Michael Jabot</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Franklin B. Krohn</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ted Lee</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas W. Loughlin</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Marvin Lunenfeld</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kenneth E. Mantai</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Mockovak</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thomas E. Morrissey</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Malcolm &quot;Mac&quot; Nelson</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Newell</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Piorkowski</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thomas A. Regelski</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Daniel D. Reiff</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberto Rey</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Robert Rogers</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Edward Saveth</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ted Schwalbe</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Robert C. Schweik</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Marion W. Sonnenfeld</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudette Sorel</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Theodore Steinberg</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kay Stonefelt</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thomas A. Storch</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. H. Joseph Straight</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. James F. Symula</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Richard M. Weist</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Andrea Zevenbergen</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Clark M. Zlotchew</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Junaid Zubairi</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction

Inside this brochure you’ll meet “the best of the very best” of the State University of New York at Fredonia, a growing number of faculty who have been elevated to SUNY’s Distinguished Professor ranks. This is highest academic honor conferred by the State University Board of Trustees across the system’s 64 campuses.

The Distinguished promotion is an order above and beyond full professorship and has three co–equal designations: Distinguished Professor, Distinguished Teaching Professor and Distinguished Service Professor.

Claudette Sorel, recognized internationally as a superior concert pianist, chair of the Piano Area, was the first SUNY Fredonia faculty member to be named a Distinguished Professor in 1969. She performed with orchestras around the world and taught in the School of Music from 1964 to 1984.

Dr. Allen Benton, who gained international recognition for his work on the biology and taxonomy of fleas, was SUNY Fredonia’s first faculty member to be promoted to Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1973. Widely conversant in field biology and zoology, he taught in the Department of Biology from 1962 to 1984.

Dr. Thomas A. Storch, a fresh water ecology specialist, was the first SUNY Fredonia faculty member to be promoted to Distinguished Service Professor in 1987. A prolific researcher in molecular sciences, he taught in the Department of Biology from 1973 to 1990.

The Distinguished Professor rank is conferred upon faculty who achieve national or international prominence and a distinguished reputation within the individual’s chosen field through significant contributions to research and scholarship, or through artistic performance or achievement in the fine and performing arts.

The Distinguished Teaching Professorship rank is granted upon instructional faculty for outstanding teaching competence at the graduate, undergraduate or professional levels. Teaching mastery is to be consistently demonstrated over multiple years at the institution where the Distinguished Teaching Professorship is bestowed.

The Distinguished Service Professor rank recognizes faculty members who have built a distinguished reputation for service not only to their campus and the university, but also to the community, New York state or even the nation, through the use of intellectual skills that draw from the candidate’s scholarly research interests to issues of public concern.

On the pages of this brochure you’ll be introduced to these exceptional professors and learn about their academic backgrounds, the contributions they made to Fredonia and how they’ve impacted students. Framed portraits of every Distinguished professor fittingly grace the lobby of Fenton Hall, among the first buildings erected more than 60 years ago on the new Fredonia campus.
Dr. Raymond Angelo Belliotti, a member of the Department of Philosophy from 1984 to 2018, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1999. In a teaching career spanning four decades at Fredonia, Dr. Belliotti has earned praise from students for his stimulating lectures, emphasis on living philosophy and not merely doing it, and instilling life’s lessons.

His extensive service on campus includes chair of the Department of Philosophy, chair of University Senate, Director of General Education and Vice President of Academics of Fredonia’s United University Professions chapter. He advised two undergraduate clubs, Philosophical Society and Il Circolo Italiano, for six years. Also a prolific author, Belliotti has written 20 books and numerous articles and book reviews. His essays have been published in scholarly journals based in Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, South Africa, Sweden, and the United States. Belliotti has given numerous presentations at philosophical conferences, including the 18th World Congress of Philosophy in England, and was honored to be a featured lecturer on the Queen Elizabeth 2 ocean liner.

Belliotti also received the William T. and Charlotte N. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award, the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the SUNY Foundation Research and Scholarship Recognition Award, and was also named a Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer. A native of Dansville, NY, Belliotti earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School, a Ph.D. and M.A., both from the University of Miami, and a B.A. from Union College.
Dr. Allen Benton, who served in the Department of Biology from 1962 to 1984, was the first faculty member at Fredonia, in 1973, to be promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor. Dr. Benton was chair of the Department of Biology from 1966 to 1969. His broad training in biology made him widely conversant in field biology and zoology. While he especially enjoyed teaching courses in ornithology, mammalogy, and field biology, Benton’s special expertise was in insect ecology. He enjoyed international recognition for his work on the biology and taxonomy of fleas.

Benton co-authored several books and over 100 research articles on fleas, birds, and small mammals with research support from the National Science Foundation and the SUNY Research Foundation.

He mentored scores of undergraduate and graduate research students during his career, and many of his former students later earned recognition as research scholars and educators. Benton also supervised M.S. degree candidates in such diverse areas as insect taxonomy and avian ecology.

He was highly regarded as a teacher, excelling as an instructor in the classroom, the laboratory, and in the field. Benton’s field biology course included exciting trips to sites throughout Western New York. He also taught introductory biology courses for both majors and non-majors, and was perhaps best known for his conservation biology course.

Before joining Fredonia, Benton taught at the State University of New York at Buffalo for 13 years. Benton was named a SUNY Faculty Exchange Scholar in 1974 and was named the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 1977. Benton received a Ph.D. in Vertebrate Zoology in 1952, a M.S. in Ornithology in 1949 and a B.S. in Wildlife Management in 1948, all from Cornell University.
Marvin Bjurlin, who joined the Fredonia faculty in 1968 upon earning his M.F.A. at the University of Michigan, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2004. Early in his tenure, Mr. Bjurlin designed and developed the Ceramics major in the then brand-new Michael C. Rockefeller Arts Center. Throughout his nearly 40 years at Fredonia, Bjurlin was highly productive as an artist in his own clay studio. His work was featured in galleries from San Francisco to New York City and was published in the top periodicals in his field.

His personal passion for ceramic art became highly motivating for many young art students striving to find their own creative identity. Numerous students enrolling in Ceramics initially as an elective discovered their own love of the medium in the learning environment established by Bjurlin. As Director of the Rockefeller Arts Center Gallery, Bjurlin planned shows of professional art work from off campus as well as shows featuring student work. He was faculty adviser of Art Forum, a student fine art club.

He was viewed as a primary example of delivering effective teaching demonstrations. As a mentor to all the students surrounding him, Bjurlin was a thorough, patient and involved practitioner, delivering information and method in a way that made students feel it was just for them. Bjurlin, who retired in 2007, received a B.A. in Art from Bethel College.
Robert Booth, who joined the Department of Visual Arts and New Media to teach foundation courses and 3D media and to develop the sculpture curriculum shortly after receiving his M.F.A. from Syracuse University in 1978, and served until his retirement in 2019, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2005. As a teacher, Mr. Booth invested a large part of his life in his students. He is committed to them on many levels, compelled to offer help and guidance whenever possible, and personally take on the challenges that face them as they develop as artists. Booth served as department chair from 1988 to 1996 and again from 2009 to 2016.

In addition to teaching responsibilities, Booth has been instrumental in initiating programs fundamental to the education of his students. Early in his career he founded the department’s Visiting Artist Program and was its coordinator for over 15 years. In 2000, with the cooperation of the Office of the President and help from his colleague Marvin Bjurlin, Booth established In Sight/On Site, the public sculpture program on campus.

Throughout his career he has been an active participant on numerous departmental and campus committees, task forces and groups focused on student achievement and success. Included in his career related activity, tangential to his teaching and professional accomplishments as an artist, are positions as reviewer for the New York State Foundation for the Arts, membership on the board of directors for the Mid-America College Art Association, external reviewer for Program Assessment at SUNY Brockport, and president of the SUNY Council of Art Department Chairs. His sculpture and drawings have been presented in more than 100 solo and group exhibitions at museums and gallery spaces. Booth attended the Art Institute of Boston and the Massachusetts College of Art, where he completed his B.F.A. in 1976.
Harry John Brown, whose achievements as a conductor were already noteworthy at the time of his appointment to the School of Music in 1968, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 1973. Mr. Brown was widely lauded as the founding conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony, developing it from a community organization to the world-class status it holds today.

He was known as a dynamic, personable, energetic young conductor who developed immediate rapport with the major concert artists of the day. He was on the podium with Van Cliburn as soloist, and toured with Metropolitan Opera soprano Helen Traubel for 10 years as her conductor and arranger. He was a familiar face in nationally televised “Voice of Firestone” programs, which today are acknowledged as definitive samples of an entire generation of operatic artists. Brown brought the same vivacity he displayed in his concert life to his work at Fredonia. His 10 years of leadership of the Annapolis Fine Arts Camp brought added attention to his work at Fredonia.

As conductor of all Fredonia orchestras and the Hillman Opera, his high energy and real-world vision significantly influenced the rapid development of both programs and led to Fredonia’s national recognition as a leader in the study of music performance. Among many concert highlights throughout his tenure at Fredonia were a 1982 concert featuring American Metropolitan Opera legend Eleanor Steber singing with the Fredonia College Orchestra, and the 1977 nationally broadcast PBS presentation of Handel’s “Messiah” featuring Fredonia Voice faculty soloists and choirs. Brown, who served the Department (School) of Music until 1991, graduated from Eastman School of Music in 1947 and the University of Chicago in 1948.
Dr. Mitchell Burkowsky, who served in the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology (Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences) from 1972 until 1997, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 1988. Dr. Burkowsky’s career spanned 43 years, including 25 at Fredonia as a teacher, writer, therapist, counselor, administrator, and diagnostician. He was recognized as having special expertise in applying voice therapy to the problems of singers, actors, and radio announcers, as well as to those who had undergone laryngectomies or were studying English as a second language. He wrote “Teaching American Pronunciation to Foreign Students” and co-authored “Contemporary Voice Therapy: Children and Adults.” Burkowsky also edited “Orientation to Learning Disorders” and “Parents’ and Teachers’ Guide to the Care of Autistic Children.”

At workshops in the United States and Canada, Burkowsky trained clinicians in how to deal with communication problems among autistic children and others with learning disorders. Burkowsky was department chair from 1975 to 1983 and interim chair from 1995 to 1996. For 16 years he served as president and an appointed member of the Governor’s Board of Visitors of the J.N. Adam Development Center, Perrysburg, and was a clinician at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Buffalo. Burkowsky also served on the Chautauqua County Community Services Committee and the Medical Advisory Board of the Chautauqua County Chapter of the American Council on Learning Disabilities. His colleagues saluted Burkowsky for being in the truest sense, an advocate for the handicapped. Burkowsky received a Ph.D. from Wayne State University in 1960 and a B.A. in English-Speech from the University of Albany in 1957.
Dr. William Chazanof, who taught American history from 1948 to 1980, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1974. Dr. Chazanof drew praise as an understanding and considerate teacher who managed to bring the drama and excitement of the past to his students, while maintaining high standards of excellence. He gave unstintingly of his time to students, who in turn gave him their very best efforts.

Chazanof received the Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History for his book, “Joseph Elliott and the Holland Land Company.” He also wrote two other books related to the history of Western New York, “Welch’s Grape Juice: From Corporation to Cooperative” and “A Legacy of Faith: The Jews in the Dunkirk-Fredonia Area,” as well as the article, “From Academy to State University; Fredonia’s Story,” in honor of Fredonia’s 175th anniversary in 1967.

Chazanof was named the inaugural Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 1973 and was instrumental in developing the Faculty Council (now University Senate). The local history room at Reed Library was named in his honor. During World War II, Chazanof served in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in the South Pacific. He helped found Temple Beth Shalom and led services there for 15 years. Chazanof received his Ph.D. from Syracuse University, a M.A. in History from Columbia University, and a B.S. in Social Studies from SUNY Albany.
Dr. Patrick L. Courts, who taught English from 1971 to 2001, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1994. Dr. Courts’ work as a teacher and scholar was recognized upon his selection in 1987 as the first recipient of the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. He created the English Education program, which was subsequently rated very highly by The Modern Language Association, to prepare teachers of English.

Additionally, Courts created and taught summer workshops designed to help non-English faculty implement writing across the curriculum. His teaching was closely tied to his scholarship, resulting in presentations being delivered at major conferences, publication of articles in various journals sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English and the writing of two high school textbooks devoted to the teaching of writing.

Courts also wrote “Literacy and Empowerment” in 1991, “Assessment in Higher Education,” 1993, and “Multicultural Literacies,” 1997, as well as several poems. Courts was blessed to spend his career surrounded by an array of fine, devoted colleagues and students.

He received his Ph.D. and M.A., both in English, from Michigan State University, and a B.A., in English and Education, from Chicago State College.
Dr. Jack Croxton, who joined the Department of Psychology in 1979, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 2012. Dr. Croxton’s expertise in the areas of social psychology and attribution processes animate his extensive local and international service.

For 15 years, Croxton taught at a nearby correctional facility while maintaining a full-time teaching load at Fredonia. He also chaired the Department of Psychology for 16 years and served as chair of the Convocation Committee, co-chair of the Middle States Decennial Review, Acting Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences, Founding Director of Campus Assessment, and Founding Director of the Office of Student Creative Activity and Research.

Croxton has served on over 50 college-wide committees, and has chaired or co-chaired many of them. He has supervised over 200 internships and has mentored over 100 students on over 50 undergraduate research projects. He has been a school board member and has been a consultant for school-to-work programs in various school districts. While on Fulbright Fellowships to Bulgaria and Russia, Croxton gave lectures and scholarly presentations and mentored students at various universities. He has also given presentations in Turkey and China, and has conducted a program evaluation at a university in Estonia.

Croxton established a student exchange program between Fredonia and St. Petersburg State University in Russia and he has hosted international students on numerous occasions. He was the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service in 2010 and the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1991. Croxton has a Ph.D. and M.A., both in Social Psychology, and a B.S. in Business, all from Miami University of Ohio.
Dr. Clark M. Zlotchew, a member of the Department of World Languages and Cultures from 1975 through 2016, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2008. His academic specializations are in Jorge Luis Borges and 20th century Latin American, especially Argentine and Uruguayan, fiction and Benito Pérez Galdós and 19th century literature of Spain.

Dr. Zlotchew has been awarded two National Endowment for the Humanities grants, at Princeton University in 1978 and at Santa Cruz in 1987. Zlotchew is the author of 17 books. Fourteen of them consist of literary criticism of Spanish and Latin-American authors; books teaching Spanish at various levels; literary translation of poetry and short fiction (including works by Nobel Laureates Juan Ramón Jiménez and Pablo Neruda); literary interviews with world-renowned Jorge Luis Borges and 10 other Latin American writers. Three of his 17 books are original fiction: an espionage thriller novel; a military/action novel (under the pseudonym of Cliff Garnett), and an award-winning short-story collection set in the 1950s. Zlotchew has written over 70 articles published in learned journals and also delivered papers at international conferences on five continents. He published his own fiction and poetry in literary journals in 2016 and 2017. Zlotchew received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1988 and was named the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 1992.

He served on various committees and was advisor to several student clubs. Zlotchew was inducted into Sigma Delta Pi’s Order of Don Quijote, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society’s highest award that is conferred annually upon only two to three people worldwide each year. Zlotchew has a Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literatures from SUNY Binghamton, a M.A. in Spanish from Middlebury College, and a B.S. in Foreign Trade (Marketing) from New York University.
Dr. Morgan D. Dowd, a member of the Department of Political Science and Business from 1963 to 1998, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 1995. Other positions held included Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, and Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences. Dr. Dowd excelled in giving valuable service to the campus, community, SUNY, the nation, and international governments.

His many accomplishments include forming the first Honors Program and the first Pre-Law program, creating the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture series, and organizing a lecture/seminar for the College of Natural and Social Sciences. He was recognized as an outstanding teacher, researcher, writer of law review articles, and grantsman. Dowd was known as a mentor for students, faculty and administrators. He was elected to Faculty Senate and was appointed to serve on the Faculty Senate Graduate Program review. Dowd had a strong sense of community involvement as a lecturer and moderator, and was active in community and college stage productions. He was a member of the New York Political Science Association and its Executive Committee. He was appointed to the board of directors of the Health System Agency of Western New York and became an evaluator and chairperson of the Middle States Association. Dowd was awarded the President’s Medallion at West Chester University of Pennsylvania and was recognized for extraordinary service to the Commission of Higher Education. Under his leadership, several grants were written and funded by the United States Information Agency as an experiment to overcome the effect of 50 years of Communism in Albania in business management and local government.

His many achievements, recognitions, and awards mark his dedicated service at all levels. Throughout his career, Dowd was an inspiration to students and colleagues. Dowd received a Ph.D. in 1964 and a M.A. in 1962, both from the University of Massachusetts, a J.D. from Catholic University Law School in 1958, and a B.A. from St. Michael’s College in 1955.
Dr. Cheryl Drout, a member of the Department of Psychology since 1989, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 2020. In her over 30 years at Fredonia, Dr. Drout has been an integral part of her department and the campus commitment to serve international students and expand international educational opportunities.

By utilizing her training as a psychologist and interest in cultural studies, Drout has enabled visiting Asian students to receive a full SUNY experience. A member of the executive board of the Western New York/Northwestern Pennsylvania Fulbright Alumni Association, Drout collaborated on a Fulbright Outreach, Mentoring and Enrichment grant which she co-authored with faculty from Niagara University and SUNY Buffalo State. Drout has served two full terms as chair of her department and two years as interim chair. In that leadership role, Drout shepherded, through development, approval and implementation phases, a new B.S. degree in Psychology at Fredonia and SUNY’s first Dual Diploma with Izmir University, Turkey.

She also served as chair of the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences. Drout was a co-chair of the American Psychological Association Division 35 Society for the Psychology of Women 2007 Program and has held leadership positions in the Japan Studies Association and the Western New York/North Western Pennsylvania Fulbright Chapter Board. Drout has a Ph.D. and M.A., both in Psychology (Social), from the University of Delaware and a B.A. in Psychology from Muhlenberg College.
Dr. Neil Feit, a member of the Department of Philosophy since 1999, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2016. Dr. Feit taught courses in logic, ethics, epistemology, philosophy of language and philosophy of mind, among other areas. Many of his former students are professors, attorneys, teachers, writers and knowledge workers in a variety of fields.

Dr. Feit has published influential articles and books on the philosophy of mind, epistemology, ethics and value theory and other sub-fields of philosophy. He has published two books on his main area of focus in the philosophy of mind: the nature of first-person thought. “Attitudes De Se: Linguistics, Epistemology, Metaphysics,” an edited collection of new essays by linguists and philosophers examining this topic, was co-edited with Italian linguist Alessandro Capone and published by Stanford: CSLI Publications in 2013. The other is the monograph “Belief about the Self,” published by Oxford University Press in 2008.

Feit has written over 20 published articles, including a recent series of articles on the concept of harm and its moral significance. These have appeared in leading international journals of philosophy such as Noûs, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, the Australasian Journal of Philosophy and Philosophical Studies.

Academic awards that Feit also received include the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2005, the William T. and Charlotte N. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award in 2009, and the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecture in 2011. Feit has a Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts and a B.A. from Columbia University.
Dr. Kevin Fox, a member of the Department of Biology from 1970 to 2001, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1990. Trained as a zoologist, Dr. Fox’s expertise was in evolution, animal behavior, and reproductive biology. Students remembered him for his rigorous standards, exceptionally interesting lectures, and his unstinting availability to them whenever they needed help or advice.

His early research examined the effects of psychopharmaceutical agents on animal behavior and reproduction and was funded by the National Institutes for Health and the SUNY Research Foundation. Significant numbers of undergraduate and graduate students worked in his research programs, and many shared authorship in publications.

Fox believed that student research was a crucial element of quality science education. Successful research students learn how to “do science” as they master new knowledge and skills independent of their research advisors. Fox was recognized as an exceptional mentor, with many of his students later earning distinction as research scientists, educators, and medical practitioners. His commitment to and understanding of the educational process was well known to many colleagues who sought his advice and guidance.

When called upon, Fox served in various administrative positions, including chair of the Department of Biology, Dean for Special Programs, and Associate Academic Vice President, but he always viewed himself, first and foremost, as a scholar/educator. He was the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1976. Fox earned a Ph.D. in Zoology (Reproductive Physiology) from the University of Vermont in 1967, and a M.S in Zoology in 1962 and a B.A. in Biology in 1960, both from the University of New Hampshire.
Dr. Maureen Fries, who served in the Department of English from 1969 until her retirement in 1997, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1990. A prolific scholar and esteemed teacher, Dr. Fries presented more than 80 professional papers and public lectures at conferences throughout the world as an authority on Arthurian and Medieval literature.

She authored three books during her lifetime and two other books that were published posthumously. Fries was active in the International Congress on Medieval Studies and the Northeastern Modern Language Association. She received a Fulbright Research and Lecturing Award for a senior professorship at the Universität Regensburg in West Germany in 1984. Fries was awarded the Moss Chair of Excellence at Memphis State University in 1985, where she taught for a semester.

As a teacher, Fries was recognized for going well beyond assigned duties by taking on teaching overloads in order to accommodate students desiring to take a course that was not being offered. Many former students became longtime friends. She was admired as a lively person and for her ability to fully combine scholarship, teaching, and social concerns.

Fries earned the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and was named a Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer at Fredonia and SUNY Faculty Exchange Scholar. Fries received a Ph.D., with Highest Distinction, in 1969 from the State University at Buffalo, a M.A. from Cornell University in 1953, and an A.B. from D’Youville College, Magna Cum Laude, in 1952.
Dr. Richard Gilman, the second geologist hired when the sciences division grew to four new departments in 1963, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1975. Bringing the story of a rock to vivid and picturesque life symbolized Dr. Gilman’s mission in geology. His vast collection of rock, minerals and maps added a greater dimension to his instruction.

Over the course of three decades at Fredonia, Gilman taught 16 undergraduate and graduate courses, established the three-week field course, “Geology of the National Parks,” and was chairman of the Department of Geology in the 1970s and 1980s. Gilman directed eight student field trips to national parks and his students became field assistants during summer research that he conducted in Maine.

Gilman served on committees that included Student Affairs, Academic Standards, Restructuring Campus Governance, and Faculty/Staff Scholarship. He was also a member of the Geological Society of America, Society of Sigma Xi, National Association of Geology Teachers, Geological Society of Maine, and Geoscientists for International Development. Gilman gave illustrated lectures on the geology of Chautauqua County, talks on geologic topics for local adult education groups and conducted a six-week continuing education course in geology of Chautauqua County.

Gilman was the Commencement speaker for the Class of 1993. An experienced field geologist, Gilman also did work for the U.S. Geological Survey and for private companies and engaged in summer research, in addition to Maine, in Alaska, New Brunswick and southern France. Gilman received a Ph.D. and M.S., both in Geology, from the University of Illinois, and an A.B., also in Geology, from Dartmouth College.
Dr. Thomas H. Goetz, a member of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures from 1967 to 2008, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 1991. His expertise in the areas of 19th century French literature and related fields animates the service he rendered to the profession as founder and editor of the scholarly journal Nineteenth-Century French Studies.

As a journal editor and founder of the annual Colloquium on Nineteenth-Century French Studies, his impact on his discipline has been enormous. As chair of Foreign Languages and Literatures for 10 years, he was a skillful administrator, an innovative and energetic leader, and an encouraging and supportive colleague. During his tenure he created a foreign language contest for local school districts.

To support his research, the SUNY Research Foundation awarded him three Faculty Research Fellowships and he was invited to participate in three National Endowment for the Humanities seminars for college teachers and two post-doctoral institutes. He was a recipient of a New York State/United University Professions Excellence Award.

The Prime Minister of France named him a “Chevalier” (Knight) in the Order of Academic Palms and later promoted him to the rank of Officer for his eminent service to French culture. The SUNY Research Foundation recognized him as one of New York’s most important and innovative scholars for his research and scholarship in French literature. Goetz received a Ph.D. in 1967 and a M.A. in 1963, both from Syracuse University, and a B.A. from La Salle College.
Dr. William T. Hagan, who held teaching and administrative positions at Fredonia from 1965 to 1989, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 1975. A scholar of Native American history, Dr. Hagan was chair of the Department of History, served as Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs, and helped to develop the campus chapter of the Phi Alpha Theta history honor society.

After retiring from Fredonia, Hagan taught history at the University of Oklahoma until 1995. Southern and Western Native American tribes were the focus of Hagan’s research. “The Sac and Fox Indians,” his first book, published in 1958, was followed by “American Indians,” “Indian Police and Judges,” “The Indian in American History,” “United States-Comanche Relations,” “The Indian Rights Association,” and “Quanah Parker, Comanche Chief.”

Hagan wrote more than 25 articles published in scholarly book journals, including Western History Quarterly, and book chapters on American Indian history. He received the WHO Prize in 1989 and was inducted into the Oklahoma Historical Society Hall of Fame in 2003. Hagan served on editorial boards of the Western Historical Quarterly and other respected journals and was a member, from 1972 to 1986, of the advisory committee of the Newberry Library’s Center for the History of the American Indian.

The William T. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award, later re-named the William T. and Charlotte Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award, for outstanding achievement in research and creativity was created in 1987. Hagan received a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in 1950 and a B.A. from Marshall University in 1941.
Dr. Kanji Haitani

| Distinguished Teaching Professor |

1986

Dr. Kanji Haitani, a native of Japan who joined the Department of Economics and Business in 1970, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1986. His areas of academic expertise were international trade and finance, comparative economic systems, and the Japanese economic and business system.

Dr. Haitani was appointed chair of the Department of Economics and Business in 1973. When teaching and writing about world economic systems, Haitani covered more than just the grand “isms” of economics. He included cultural details that would become understood by the student if he or she was living abroad.

Haitani saw economics as a social science closely related to and dependent on cultural insights, politics, ideologies, ethics, and corporate and government organization.


Haitani was a Phi Beta Kappa and member of the American Economic Association, Omicron Delta Epsilon, and Beta Gamma Sigma.

Before joining the faculty at Fredonia, Haitani taught at Southern Illinois University and Ohio State University. He received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University and A.B. from Ohio Wesleyan University.
Dr. James Hurtgen, a member of the Department of Political Science from 1971 to 2014, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2007. Dr. Hurtgen dedicated his career to teaching courses in political philosophy and American politics. He is the author of published articles on Thomas Hobbes, American political thought, the American presidency, and Herman Melville, as well as “The Divided Mind of American Liberalism,” a book-length study of American liberal thought in the 20th century.

In 1978, Hurtgen was appointed Founding Director and Professor-in-Residence of the SUNY-wide Albany Semester Intern program.

In 1999, he established Fredonia’s Mock Trial Association. Hurtgen held a number of administrative positions at Fredonia that included chair of the Department of Political Science, Dean of Liberal and Continuing Education, and Founding Director of Fredonia’s School of Business.

Former students created the Hurtgen Endowment in 2004 to provide scholarships for students enrolled in the Washington Semester program.

Hurtgen received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1976 and was the recipient of two grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and several grants for research at the Library of Congress.

Hurtgen received his Ph.D. in Political Theory in 1974 and a M.A. in 1970, both from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and a B.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University in 1968.
Dr. Stephen Kershnar, who joined the Department of Philosophy in 1998, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2014. Dr. Kershnar’s expertise in the areas of philosophy of law, ethics, and political philosophy animate his teaching and scholarship.

He earns exceptional evaluations from his students and many of those with whom he has worked closely have achieved great success in business, law, and philosophy after graduation. Kershnar is renowned for his unique, effective style of teaching that combines the Socratic method of questioning employed by law school instructors and a philosophical technique of vigorously defending conflicting conclusions.

Kershnar is also generous with his time outside of the classroom, overseeing several student clubs and working independently with students who seek his assistance. He has high expectations of students and by levying rigorous standards brings out the best in them.

His professional development, as judged by scholarly activity, has been ongoing and robust. Kershnar has written nine books, 75 articles, 15 book chapters and 10 book reviews and has given 92 professional presentations. He is a recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities and Fredonia’s William T. Hagen Young Scholar/Artist Award, and was named the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 2008.

Kershnar received his doctoral degree from the University of Nebraska, a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law, and undergraduate degree from Cornell University.
Dr. Michael Jabot, a member in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction since 2001, was promoted to the rank of SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2019. Dr. Jabot has made outstanding contributions in teaching, research and service. His caring and engaging classroom environment has fostered valuable relationships and mentorships with students who consistently report that his passion for science education is infectious.

Jabot’s leadership in helping to integrate science programs into Fredonia’s College of Education is highly regarded by his colleagues. He has worked tirelessly to provide science professional development for the state’s elementary and middle school teachers. Jabot has served on the statewide science steering committee and the science learning standards development committee.

He has served as a statewide Director for Professional Development for the Science Teachers Association of New York, a member of the New York State Science Advisory Committee for the New York State Department of Education, a member of the National NASA Data Advisory Board, a member of NASA’s International Education team and a NASA Earth Ambassador and represents the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states on the U.S. Partner Forum for the NASA/GLOBE.

Jabot is the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities and Fredonia’s William T. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award. Jabot received his Ph.D. in Science Education at Syracuse University, a M.S. in Geology at the State University of New York at Cortland and a B.S. in Education at St. Bonaventure University.
Dr. Franklin B. Krohn, a member of the Department of Business Administration from 1978 to 2007, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 1993. Dr. Krohn spent 20 years in the private sector before joining Fredonia. He was chair of the Department of Business Administration and served on numerous departmental committees, including long range planning, assessment, and curriculum committees. He also served on many college-wide committees, including Faculty Council, various awards committees, and the Professional Development Committee.

Krohn was a longtime advisor to SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise), which teaches business ethics and entrepreneurship through free-market student projects. His students won numerous awards at regional and national SIFE competitions. Krohn was also an advisor to the American Marketing Association collegiate chapter and Fredonia Business Club. He served on editorial review boards for a variety of scholarly journals and wrote more than 100 scholarly papers and articles. Krohn supervised various projects for organizations in Chautauqua County and engaged in many other community service activities. He was also a consultant to local businesses and offered a variety of training and development workshops.

Krohn received numerous awards, including the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1999 and the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1987, and was also named a Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow. Krohn was very active in United University Professions (UUP) and held a number of leadership positions. Krohn received a Ph.D. in Interpersonal Communication in 1977, a M.A. in Organizational/Industrial Communication in 1974 and a B.A. in Speech Communication, all from the State University of New York at Buffalo.
Dr. Ted Lee, who was promoted to SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2022, has become an integral part of the Department of Biology since 1999 through his passion for science, teaching and giving opportunities for students to grow.

He is dedicated to providing meaningful and high-quality learning experiences for students. Dr. Lee has designed several courses for majors and non-majors, including Honors courses, and has taught introductory and upper-level courses in biology, genetics and the history of medicine, and also developed instructional manuals for laboratories.

Lee has been a driving force in the advancement of the Health Professions Advising Program and also developed a Study Abroad program in Honduras that prepares students to serve on medical brigades in the Central American country during the J-Term. He has taken the initiative to develop meaningful research projects for students and obtain funding for those projects. Lee has also been a principal investigator or co-investigator on research grants totaling over $350,000 for SUNY Fredonia.

Leadership positions held by Lee include chair of the Department of Biology, 2005–2008 and 2020–2022, and chair of the Health Professions Advising Committee, since 2008.

Lee has served on many departmental committees and as advisor to the Biology Club, Pre-Health Professions and Fredonia for Global Health student clubs, and has been a member of more than 20 university committees.

Awards received by Lee include the President’s Award for Excellence at SUNY Fredonia, 2014; the Doctoral Prize at Syracuse University, 1992; and the Goerovitch Memorial Award for outstanding research in the Department of Biology at Syracuse University, 1991.

Lee has a Ph.D. from Syracuse University and a B.S. from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He conducted postdoctoral research at The Ohio State University and Duke University Medical Center.
Thomas W. Loughlin, a member of the theatre faculty from 1988 to 2017, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2010. From multiple perspectives, Mr. Loughlin is an unusually talented teacher-scholar. Across a variety of pedagogical environments, his students gave him the highest ratings possible, and in some classes it was a unanimous rating of excellent.

Loughlin taught a broad range of topics, reaching out to students and faculty alike. His main areas were acting and directing, but he was also an innovator in media arts. Hence, his pedagogical expertise ranges from the theatrical stage to cutting-edge computer technology.

Loughlin acted in and/or directed more than one play or musical or opera per year for some 25 years at Fredonia in his roles as a professional and teacher. While his personal performances have received praise from reviewers, more pertinent was his students knew him to be “concerned,” “committed,” “available,” and even, the best of “the best.” Yet, he was known to evaluate his students with candor, treating them like professionals.

Loughlin served as chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, chair of the Department of Visual Arts and New Media and Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities. Loughlin is also a veteran performer in the Shakespeare in Delaware Park series in Buffalo.

He received a M.F.A. in Theatre Arts/Acting at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in 1982 and a B.A. in English and Theatre at SUNY College at Oswego in 1974.
Dr. Marvin Lunenfeld, who served in the Department of History from 1970 to 1996, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1992. A Renaissance historian and scholar of Spanish and Italian history, Lunenfeld taught general courses in Western Civilization and specialized courses on Spain, the Reformation, and the Renaissance.

During his tenure he directed the Urban and Community Studies program for 10 years. Lunenfeld wrote six books on Spain's Renaissance and Reformation in addition to 22 peer-reviewed articles and 44 book reviews. Two additional areas of scholarship were urban governance in the United States, Canada, and Europe, and university pedagogy, where he published two books and several articles.

Lunenfeld was editor of the Bulletin of the former Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies and a manuscript reader for Harper & Row Publishers, National Endowment for the Humanities, American Historical Review, University of California Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, and Holt, Reinhart & Winston. He was awarded several fellowships by the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as others by the Rockefeller Foundation, Duke University, University of California at San Diego, Aston Magna Academy on Baroque Spain and Latin America, and National Council on U.S.–Arab Relations. Lunenfeld also received several grants from the Canadian Government Council and Spain's Ministry of Culture.

Lunenfeld shared his expertise off campus through lectureships at Princeton University, Colby College, Bucknell University, Columbia University, Marshall University, and Gadjah Mada University, Yogakarta, Indonesia. He received a Ph.D. in 1968 and a M.A. in 1963, both from New York University, and a B.B.A. from Baruch College in 1957.
Dr. Kenneth E. Mantai, who taught biology from 1971 to 2002, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1995. An internationally known aquatic biologist and a former chair of the Department of Biology, Dr. Mantai advised all Biology Adolescence Education majors and taught courses in biology, environmental science, plant physiology, botany, and tropical biology.

Students who studied tropical biology visited Trinidad, Jamaica, Costa Rica, and Panama. Mantai used his research to complement his teaching. His students participated in Eastern Colleges Science Conferences, an event the campus hosted twice. Mantai’s graduate students researched freshwater algae and aquatic plants.

Articles compiled by Mantai and his students were published in many top journals. One of the most significant articles showed that aquatic plants get most of their nutrients from bottom sediments, not water. That research changed how lake managers all over the world approached nuisance aquatic plant problems.

The National Science Foundation funded his research into algae in Lake Erie. Mantai received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1978. Mantai received a Ph.D. in Plant Physiology/Biochemistry from Oregon State University in 1968 and a B.S. in Botany from the University of Maine in 1964.

Prior to his appointment at Fredonia, Mantai was a Post-Doctoral Fellow at Brookhaven National Laboratory and a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Stanford University.
Paul Mockovak, who was promoted to SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2023, has close ties to faculty with the revered SUNY-wide distinction. He has served in the Department of Theatre and Dance since 1999.

As an undergraduate and graduate student at SUNY Fredonia, Mr. Mockovak learned from two faculty members who were named SUNY Distinguished Professor (Harry John Brown and Claudette Sorel) and, as a faculty member himself, has worked alongside four SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professors (Dr. Marion Sonnenfeld, Dr. James Davis, Julie Newell and Thomas Loughlin).

Mockovak has demonstrated outstanding teaching in nearly 30 different courses, a trait that precisely fulfills the overarching criteria for promotion to the Distinguished Teaching Professorship.

Mockovak received a B.M. in Music Education in 1977 and an M.M. in Orchestral Conducting in 1981. He also has an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre from the University of Miami, where he served as instructor, lecturer, assistant professor and associate professor, before returning to his alma mater.

The formidable number of different courses Mockovak has taught indicates his versatility as well as his willingness to step in when there’s a need. He’s also widely known as a role model of collegiality.

Mockovak has achieved success teaching at all levels — from first-year students to seniors to graduate students. Younger students remark how welcoming and supportive he is, while those approaching the final semesters of their baccalaureate education praise and value his mentorship. His teaching also demonstrates excellence with non-majors.

Even with a substantial teaching load, Mockovak has maintained an active and varied performance career for more than four decades. What’s most impressive is his demonstrated success in multiple aspects of the craft — as a dancer, actor, choreographer and director on the SUNY Fredonia campus, throughout Western New York, and beyond.
Dr. Thomas E. Morrissey, who was a member of the Department of History from 1972 to 2007, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2006. Courses taught by Dr. Morrissey were devoted to ancient Greece and Rome and the European Middle Ages.

During his career he published numerous articles in journals in the United States, England, Italy, and Germany, contributed to collected studies in the United States and Europe, and presented papers at conferences. In 2014, Ashgate Press published a selection from these studies in “Conciliarism and Church Law in the Fifteenth Century: Studies on Franciscus Zabarella and the Council of Constance.”

In addition to teaching and research, Morrissey was chair of the Department of History, director of the Social Studies Adolescence Education program, and a supervisor of a number of students in their student-teaching experience.

United University Professions presented Morrissey with its highest honor, the Nina Mitchell Award, for distinguished service for his accomplishments on behalf of the union and as an advocate for the State University of New York.

He was the recipient of the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2002. Morrissey received his Ph.D. from Cornell University in 1973, a M.Div. from Woodstock College in 1968, and a M.A. in 1966, a Lic. Phil in 1962, and a B.A. in 1961, all from Fordham University.
Dr. Malcolm “Mac” Nelson, a member of the Department of English from 1968 to 2008, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1984. Known as an outstanding educator at both the undergraduate and graduate level, Dr. Nelson specialized in Shakespeare and literature of the English Renaissance, popular music and poetry of the 16th to 18th centuries, gravestone studies, the American West, and Mari Sandoz, an acclaimed writer of books devoted to pioneer life and the Plains Indians.

Nelson wrote or edited books about Robin Hood, New England graveyards and epitaphs, 18th century catches (choral music), and Native American literature. His “Twenty West: The Great Road Across America” won a 2009 Gold Medal in the Travel Essay category in the 13th annual Independent Publisher Book Awards. He also compiled “A Collection of Catches, Canons and Glees,” a four-volume set containing some 650 songs written in England in the last half of the 18th century.

Nelson received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1975 and was named a Danforth Associate, which recognizes educators who humanize the educational process and promote better student-faculty relationships, in 1974. Nelson received an American Philosophical Society Research Fellowship in 1971, SUNY Research Foundation Fellowships in 1969, 1971, and 1980, and a Tyng Foundation Fellowship, 1951-1955.

Nelson helped found and direct the campus United University Professions (UUP) chapter and received UUP’s Nina Mitchell Award for distinguished service in 1995. Nelson received a Ph.D. in 1961 and a M.A. in 1957, both from Northwestern University, and a B.A. with highest honors in 1955 from Williams College.
Julie Newell, who joined the School of Music faculty in 1990, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2012. Ms. Newell, a soprano, serves as a professor of voice and coordinator of the opera program and also the longtime producer of the annual Hillman Opera. Her excellence as a classroom instructor is evidenced by outstanding teaching evaluations, highly favorable peer observations, and the uncommon success of her students.

Newell has consistently gone beyond the call of duty in providing services to students in venues such as the Hillman Opera, Student Opera Theatre Association, and the Western New York Chamber Orchestra. Known for her exacting academic standards and profound concern for individual instruction, Newell has developed a host of innovative programs for students, including international studies in Japan and Italy. Newell holds a significant performance resume including appearances in major operatic and concert soprano roles with opera companies and orchestras throughout the United States, as well as multiple critically acclaimed appearances at New York’s Lincoln Center, most notably in world premiere works including contemporary works by Gian-Carlo Menotti and modern performance premieres of operatic works of Antonio Vivaldi.

She is the recipient of performance awards from OPERA America and the William Matheus Sullivan Foundation. Newell received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities in its inaugural year (2002), the William T. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award in 1997, the Fredonia Alumni Association’s Outstanding Achievement Award in 1996, and a SUNY Research Foundation Award for Scholarship. Newell received a M.M. in performance from Syracuse University, where she was a Graduate Fellow, in 1985, and a Mus. B., in Voice Performance and Music Education, from the State University of New York at Fredonia in 1982.
James Piorkowski, who has directed the Guitar Studies program in the School of Music since 1983, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 2010. The nomination was based on Mr. Piorkowski’s internationally lauded contributions to the disciplines of music composing, performing, recording, and teaching.

He has added numerous works of consequence to the classical guitar repertoire, with many of his compositions published in the United States and abroad. His recordings, which significantly feature his original compositions, have been critically acclaimed in leading music journals. As a concert artist, Piorkowski has performed in prestigious venues and noteworthy music festivals in North America, South America, Europe, Russia, and the Caribbean, with numerous world premiere performances to his credit.

As a leader of the distinguished Buffalo Guitar Quartet, Piorkowski successfully commissioned and solicited new works by important composers, which helped make the Buffalo Guitar Quartet preeminent in its day. Remarkably and historically, the Buffalo Guitar Quartet released the first ever all-new music recording for four guitars. This impressive expansion of the guitar repertoire subsequently helped establish the medium as an accepted format in the musical world.

Piorkowski received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2006, the William T. and Charlotte N. Hagan Young Scholar/Artist Award in 1998, and was the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 2006. He also received the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) Award numerous times. Piorkowski received a M.M. in Music Theory/Composition in 1987 at the State University of New York at Fredonia and a B.A. in Music Performance, Cum Laude, in 1978 at SUNY Buffalo State.
Dr. Thomas A. Regelski, who taught choral conducting and music education courses to undergraduate and graduate students in the School of Music from 1970 to 2000, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1983.

Dr. Regelski was awarded a teaching fellowship in 1985–1986 at Aichi University in Nagoya, Japan. In 1997, he was invited by the Sibelius Academy of Finland to participate in a lecture tour to discuss his praxial theory of music. That experience resulted in a Fulbright award to the same institution in 2000.

In addition to Finland, he has given lectures in Estonia, Sweden, Denmark, Scotland, Poland and England. Regelski was also a research fellow at the Philosophy of Education Research Center at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education in 1991.

He is a co-founder of the MayDay Group, an international/interdisciplinary society of over 500 scholars interested in music, music education and cultural studies, and was the creator and first editor of its journal, Action, Criticism, and Theory for Music Education.

Regelski has written over 130 articles and chapters and is the author of many books. Regelski was selected as the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 1999 for his research in the praxial theory of music in the sociology and philosophy of music and music education. He lives in Helsinki, Finland, and continues to teach as a docent at Helsinki University.

Regelski received a Ph.D. in Comparative Arts from Ohio University in 1970, a M.A. in Choral and Vocal music from Columbia University in 1963, and a Mus.B. from the State University of New York at Fredonia in 1962.
**Dr. Daniel D. Reiff**, a member of the Department of Art (Visual Arts and New Media) from 1970 to 2004, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 2003. During his 34 years in the department, Dr. Reiff taught (in rotation) 15 courses in art and architectural history, ranging from Ancient, and Italian Renaissance Art, to Oriental Art, Baroque Art, American Architecture and American Painting and Sculpture. In all these he emphasized that students could take the lessons of content, analysis and history from the works of Giotto, Bernini or Wren to inform their understanding of the art they saw around them, in their hometown or abroad. But Reiff’s special avocation was architectural historic preservation.

He has been widely recognized for his published scholarship and professional advocacy of American architecture and its preservation. Reiff advanced this cause locally, regionally and nationally. He was a frequent participant at national conferences and his book, “Houses from Books;” was awarded The Historic Preservation Book Prize from the Mary Washington College Center for Historic Preservation for its “significant contribution to the intellectual vitality of the historic preservation movement in the United States.” Another of his books, “Architecture in Fredonia, 1811-1972,” helped readers view architecture, both contemporary and historic, in its broadest artistic and historic context, and to aid in the then new movement of historic preservation. Reiff’s understanding of architecture has been shared with a national audience both through his lectures at Society of Architectural Historians conferences and his articles in scholarly journals.

Through his commitment to historic preservation and his appreciation of historic buildings and their ongoing use in a community he has helped assure their existence and preserve what they tell us about architectural design and style, craftsmanship, technology, social and cultural conventions, and the sense of place of a community. Reiff was the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 1973. Reiff received a Ph.D. and a M.A., both from Harvard University, and a B.A. from Harvard College.
Alberto Rey, who joined the Department of Visual Arts and New Media in 1989, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 2007. As a professor, Mr. Rey sets high expectations for his painting and drawing students, instilling professional habits, a strong work ethic and promoting social activism through art.

Rey’s artwork has been influenced by his Cuban background and his attempt to find a sense of identity in our complex contemporary society. This lifelong search has provided him a perspective from which to produce interdisciplinary presentations that attempt to connect regional audiences to global environmental concerns.

As an active member of the Fredonia community, Rey is the founder and director of the Stream Fly Fishing Program for children, formerly the S.A.R.E.P. Youth Fly Fishing Program, which nurtures future environmental stewards while initiating community-based conservation projects. Rey has served on the New York State Council on the Arts and the Artist’s Advisory Panel of the New York Foundation for the Arts.

His artwork has been included in over 200 exhibitions and is in the permanent collections of over 20 museums in the United States and Europe. Prior honors received by Rey include: William T. Hagan Scholar/Young Artist Award in 1994, Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 2001, SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activity in 2003, Chancellor’s Research Recognition Award in 2005, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania Distinguished Alumni Award in 2008.

Rey has a M.F.A. in Painting and Drawing from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a B.F.A. in Painting and Drawing from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
Dr. Robert Rogers, a member of the Department of Mathematical Sciences since 1987, was promoted to Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2015. His interests are in analysis, the history of mathematics, especially as it applies to teaching, and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education.

Dr. Rogers was the Fredonia Senator for the SUNY University Faculty Senate, a Fredonia University Senator and a former editor of the New York State Mathematics Teachers’ Journal and co-author of the SUNY Open Textbook “How We Got from There to Here: A Story of Real Analysis.” Rogers is a long-time advisor for the SUNY Fredonia Math Club (Chi Tau Omega) and an advisor for the SUNY Fredonia Problem Solving Group. He has been a faculty mentor for numerous individual student research projects.

Rogers is a recipient of the Fredonia President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Mathematical Association of America — Seaway Section Clarence F. Stephen’s Distinguished Teaching Award and the MAA Distinguished Service Award — Seaway Section. He is a member of the N.Y.S. Mathematics Educators’ Hall of Fame and is an Executive Board member of the N.Y.S. STEM Education Collaborative. Rogers is one of the founders of Fredonia’s Project PRIME (Professional Resources in Mathematics Education). He is a former chair and governor of the MAA — Seaway Section and is a past president of the Association of Mathematics Teachers of N.Y.S. Rogers received his B.S. in Mathematics with certification in Secondary Education from SUNY Buffalo State.

He earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics at the State University of New York at Buffalo, specializing in functional analysis, a M.S. in Mathematics from Syracuse University and a B.S. in Mathematics with certification in Secondary Education from SUNY Buffalo State.
Dr. Edward Saveth, a member of the Department of History from 1967 to 1985, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 1973. A prominent American historian, Dr. Saveth was scholar, teacher and author whose focus was on the role patricians played in American politics.

He published a large number of books, including “The American Patrician,” which firmly established his reputation in historical sociology, as well as “American History and the Social Sciences,” which was reviewed in The New York Times Book Review, “Henry Adams,” “Understanding the American Past,” and “American Historians and European Immigrants.”

A public intellectual, Saveth wrote numerous articles in periodicals, including The New York Times Book Review, Commentary, Forbes, American Quarterly, and American Historical Review. He was also a member of the American Historical Association, American Studies Association, and Phi Alpha Theta.

Saveth reviewed articles on American history and civilization for a large-scale revision of Encyclopedia Americana. He previously taught at The New School and Dartmouth College and served as a Fulbright Professor at Kyoto University, Japan, and at Hebrew University, Israel. Saveth received a Ph.D. and M.A., both from Columbia University, and a B.S.S. from City College of New York.
Dr. Ted Schwalbe, a member of the Department of Communication from 1980 to 2020, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 2011. His expertise in the area of international media forms the core of his extensive service roles. While serving as chair of the Department of Communication for 19 years, Schwalbe created new majors in Public Relations and Journalism.

As coordinator of International Learning, Schwalbe is credited with unsurpassed accomplishments in improving international learning opportunities for students and faculty that include international partnerships with universities in Turkey, India, and Bulgaria.

Schwalbe was on the founding faculty of the SUNY Model EU press corps. He served as president of the WNY/NP Fulbright Association Chapter (1993–2003), and as a board member.

Schwalbe’s international impact is highlighted by five Fulbright awards (Bulgaria, Swaziland, Hungary, Namibia and Albania), a U.S. State Department Turkish film grant (2008–2010), and three United States Information Agency service grants. The focus of these grants was on Albanian independent video journalism (1984), Southern Africa radio station development (1996), and Bulgarian radio management (1997).

Schwalbe received a SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1986. He has a Ph.D. in Communication Theory and Research, a M.A. in Communications and a M.P.A., all from the University of Southern California, and a B.S. in Computer Science, Summa Cum Laude, from Ohio University.
Dr. Robert C. Schweik, who had a reputation for rigorous scholarship and outstanding teaching in the Department of English from 1969 to 1990, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1978. Prior to joining Fredonia, Dr. Schweik taught 15 years at Marquette University.

His scholarship on Thomas Hardy led to him being invited to make a presentation at the first Thomas Hardy conference held in Dorchester, England, in 1968. While his scholarship focused primarily on Hardy’s novels and poetry, Schweik also wrote extensively on John Stuart Mill, Robert Browning, and the interrelationship of literature, art, and music.

A prolific writer of books, articles, reviews, and professional papers, Schweik was the first English faculty member to integrate the use of microcomputers in composition classes. Always generous with his time, Schweik often conducted weekly record concerts and frequent supplementary lectures on history, music, art, and architecture to help students relate to their study of literature. Schweik devoted a great deal of time and energy to the development of Reed Library.

A group of students gave him a plaque inscribed with the following: “a sincere and true professor, who grappled face to face, heart to heart, with the naked truth of things.” Schweik was cherished by faculty as a friend and colleague. Schweik received a Ph.D. in Literature from the University of Notre Dame and a B.A. in English Literature from Loyola University.
Dr. Marion W. Sonnenfeld, who taught in the Department of Foreign Languages from 1967 to 1992, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1977.

Her accomplishments as a teacher specializing in the German language and culture are legendary. Dr. Sonnenfeld set high standards and consistently volunteered for course overloads and for supervising independent studies in order to accommodate student needs. She was available to students during regular working days, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Sonnenfeld’s scholarly publications included “The Complete Narrative Prose of Conrad Ferdinand Meyer,” the translation of Stefan Zweig’s “Farewell to Rilke,” and her book translation of “Three Plays by Hebbel.” Her active efforts in the coordination of the Stefan Zweig Symposium led to the publication of “The World of Yesterday’s Humanist Today: Proceedings of Stefan Zweig Symposium” and the collection of Zweig’s writings held in the special collection in Reed Library.

In addition to exemplary teaching and scholarship, Sonnenfeld served as Acting Dean of Arts and Humanities and Acting Director of International Education.

She received a Ph.D. and M.A. from Yale University and a B.A., with highest honors, from Swarthmore College.
Claudette Sorel, who was recognized internationally as a superior concert pianist when she joined the Department of Music in 1964, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 1969.

Ms. Sorel was chair of the Piano Area at Fredonia and performed with orchestras around the world, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Boston Symphony, and the London Philharmonic, and had numerous appearances with the New York Philharmonic.

She was an active recording artist for both RCA Victor and Monitor Records, and appeared on all three major United States television networks in nationally televised live performances. Sorel gave over 1,500 recitals internationally, with her final performance in 1973 at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall.

She taught in the School of Music until 1984 and continued an active performance career and served as an adjudicator for many prestigious piano competitions, including the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. She served as director of the National Association of Music Clubs and hosted many notable musicians at Fredonia.

Her world-class performance skills together with a fiery personality left an inextinguishable legacy in the Fredonia community. A child piano prodigy, she was the youngest student, at the age of 9, to graduate from The Juilliard School.

Sorel continued her studies at the Curtis Institute of Music, where earned an Artist Diploma, with highest honors, while simultaneously completing a B.A. in Mathematics, Cum Laude, from Columbia University. Sorel made her New York City Town Hall recital debut at the age of 10 and performed with the New York Philharmonic in Carnegie Hall the following year.
Dr. Theodore Steinberg, who taught in the Department of English from 1971 to 2015, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2001. Although his major areas of interest were Medieval and Renaissance literatures, Dr. Steinberg taught over 50 different courses that included Composition, Bible as Literature and Greek and Roman Literatures, among many others.

He is the author of six books and scores of articles, reviews and sketches. For seven years, Steinberg served as associate dean, and for 22 years he was director of the Honors Program. He was instrumental in the founding of the International Porlock Society and also helped to organize programs for the Edmund Spenser Society.

On campus, Steinberg spent many years on the Reed Library Advisory Committee and on the Committee for Research and Creativity. Above all else, Steinberg was committed to his students, who repaid his efforts with outstanding work of their own. Steinberg also received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. He was also recognized for outstanding research and scholarship by the SUNY Research Foundation.

Steinberg has made over 50 presentations at academic conferences throughout the United States.

Steinberg received a Ph.D. and M.A., both from the University of Illinois, and a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University.
Dr. Kay Stonefelt, chair of the Percussion Area in the School of Music, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 2014. Dr. Stonefelt was the recipient of a Fulbright Senior Scholar Research Grant to Ghana, West Africa, when she joined the School of Music in 1993. She studied xylophone styles of the Dagara people and various indigenous drumming patterns of Ghana.

Stonefelt has performed with orchestral ensembles throughout the United States and, as a member of the Baltimore Symphony percussion section, was the first full-time female percussionist under contract with a major symphony orchestra. She built a reputation in New York City as a Broadway show, studio and cabaret musician and has performed with leading U.S. symphonies and in major avant-garde premieres and performances.

Stonefelt has also continued her work as a solo percussionist. For many years, Stonefelt was the percussionist and hammered dulcimer player for Fioretto, an ensemble based in Finland that is dedicated to the performance of Medieval and Renaissance music. Stonefelt has directed ethnic music ensembles on campus and around the world and led the initiative to offer African drumming styles and world mallet instruction in the School of Music.

In addition to teaching, Stonefelt is the timpanist with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra and percussionist with the Erie (Pa.) Chamber Orchestra. Stonefelt is a member of the Percussive Arts Society, which honored her with the Lifetime Achievement in Education award, and the Society for Ethnomusicology. She is a recipient of the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Stonefelt received degrees in Percussion Performance from Indiana University (D.M.), Indiana University (M.M.) and Baldwin-Wallace College (B.M.). She has been chosen to receive a Conservatory Alumni Achievement Award from Baldwin-Wallace, and in 2017 School of Music alumni established the Dr. Kay Stonefelt Distinguished Professor Percussion Scholarship in her honor.
Dr. Thomas A. Storch, a freshwater ecology specialist who taught at Fredonia from 1973 to 1990, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 1987.

Throughout his career, Dr. Storch was an active researcher whose work in molecular sciences was funded by grants totaling nearly $4 million. He compiled an extensive publication record that focused on water quality and nitrogen metabolism.

Storch taught courses in biology, biotechnology, botany, environmental science, limnology, and zoology. Positions that Storch held at Fredonia included: director of the Environmental Resources Center (1978–1990), coordinator of the Recombinant Gene Technology program (1985–1987), and associate dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences (1987–1990). He was also a faculty member in the Lake Erie Environmental Studies program at Fredonia and a research scientist in West Germany (1971–1973).

After leaving Fredonia, Storch served as a professor and Dean of the College of Science at Marshall University. At Western Washington University, he was Interim Dean of the Huxley College of Environmental Studies (1992–1994). Storch also served on the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission and the BASF Community Action Panel.

Storch received a Ph.D. in Zoology and a M.S., both from the University of Michigan, and a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University.
Dr. H. Joseph Straight, who joined the Department of Mathematical Sciences in 1977, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 2009.

Dr. Straight’s expertise is in the area of combinatorial mathematics and graph theory, and he has co-authored two books and over 20 journal articles. He has taught a wide range of courses at Fredonia, from computer science to non-Euclidean geometry.

During his tenure with SUNY, Straight’s service roles have been extensive, varied, and impressive. Furthermore, his service has extended from the campus to the state and national levels. He has made significant service contributions at every level.

Straight was recognized for his accomplishments at the state level with the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service in 2008, and at the national level, he was the 2008 recipient of the Mathematical Association of America’s Meritorious Service Award.

Straight received a Ph.D., in Mathematics (graph theory) and a M.A., in Mathematics, with a concentration in Statistics, both from Western Michigan University, and a B.A. in Mathematics from the State University of New York at Fredonia.
Dr. James F. Symula, who taught courses in English and English education from 1969 to 1995, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Service Professor in 1994. Dr. Symula’s work had a profound effect on migrant families and other rural populations.

He was responsible for the establishment of 13 migrant tutorial centers across New York state, and he drew praise from the dean of Human Services at Longwood College for the impact he had on the community and Western New York. During his tenure at Fredonia, Symula not only developed tutorial programs of excellence for Western New York schools, he also spearheaded migrant parent family networks, parent advisory groups, academic programs for inmates in jails and prisons, and numerous funded programs that reached out to the community at large.

In recognition of his wide-ranging community service, Symula was appointed to the New York State Advisory Sub-Committee on Child Care and Education, the Governor’s Committee on Interagency Coordination of Migrant and Rural Poor, the Coalition of Farmworkers’ Rights, and the New York State Migrant Exemplary Projects Committee. He was one of the founders and charter members of rural America’s New York State chapter—Rural and Farmlife Development, Inc. Symula’s contributions to migrant education were widely praised for having extremely positive effects on migrant children and their families.

Symula received his Ed.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and a M.S. and B.S., both from State University of New York College at Cortland.
Dr. Richard M. Weist, a member of the Department of Psychology from 1973 to 2011, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor in 2000. Dr. Weist, whose field is cognitive development focusing on the relationship between language and thought, was convinced that a cross-linguistic perspective would be required to study the important issues of language acquisition.

From 1978 to 1980, with the assistance of a Fulbright fellowship in Poland, he launched a research project on the language of young Polish children. Discovering the relatively rapid development of the children’s temporal system, featuring past time reference, the research showed that the young toddler’s memory processes outstrip the conventional wisdom of the then popular Piagetian framework. With the continuing support of the National Science Foundation and a 1989 Fulbright in Finland, Weist extended the cross-linguistic scope of the child language project. In fact, languages code the components of their temporal and spatial systems differently, and these systems can be relatively transparent or opaque to the child’s capacity to process linguistic information. Weist hypothesized that the spatial system of Finnish children would be relatively transparent for the Finnish child just as the temporal system is to the Polish child.

The research, which also included a comparison to the English child, supported this developmental language–thought hypothesis. Further research concerning the morphology and syntax of the child’s verb system demonstrated the fundamental importance of semantic relationships challenging the widely held assumptions of Chomsky’s theory of innate syntax. The most important findings were published in the Journal of Child Language, First Language, and Linguistics, as well as numerous chapters in books on language acquisition. Weist received a Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky, a M.A. from the University of Connecticut, and a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University.
Dr. Andrea Zevenbergen, who joined the Department of Psychology in 2001, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2018. Dr. Zevenbergen utilizes assessment to continuously refine her courses to maximize the student learning experience. She teaches courses in multicultural counseling and theories of psychotherapy and conducts research in the broad area of parent-child interactions.

Zevenbergen exemplifies the teacher-scholar model through lessons informed by her scholarship, as well as the provision of countless hands-on opportunities for her students outside of the classroom. She is committed to faculty-student collaborations and has supervised more than 50 independent study students, three McNair students and one undergraduate research fellow. Additionally, Zevenbergen has co-authored paper presentations with 35 students and supervised more than 150 student internships, engaging students in her research on child language acquisition and emergent literacy. She has more than 25 widely cited publications and nearly 70 research presentations and has served on and led many committees, including those relating to athletics, diversity, curriculum and student success, and also has mentored colleagues on how to be more effective in advising. As the Faculty Athletic Representative from 2003 to 2013, Zevenbergen provided sound academic support and advocacy for student athletes, chaired the Intercollegiate Athletic Board and led the SUNYAC FAR organization.

Evidence of her noteworthy teaching can be seen in extremely high teaching evaluations, extensive and very effective mentoring and numerous teaching awards, as well as enthusiastic student reviews. Zevenbergen has received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching, was named an honorary member of the Golden Key International Honour Society and is a nine-time recipient of the Psychology Club’s “Teacher of the Year” award. Zevenbergen, who was promoted to Professor of Psychology in 2011, previously served at the University of North Dakota. She was awarded a doctorate in clinical psychology and master’s in psychology, both from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and a B.A in Psychology and a certificate of African Studies, both from Northwestern University.
Dr. Clark M. Zlotchew, a member of the Department of World Languages and Cultures from 1975 through 2016, was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2008. His academic specializations are in Jorge Luis Borges and 20th century Latin American, especially Argentine and Uruguayan, fiction and Benito Pérez Galdós and 19th century literature of Spain.

Dr. Zlotchew has been awarded two National Endowment for the Humanities grants, at Princeton University in 1978 and at Santa Cruz in 1987. Zlotchew is the author of 17 books. Fourteen of them consist of literary criticism of Spanish and Latin-American authors; books teaching Spanish at various levels; literary translation of poetry and short fiction (including works by Nobel Laureates Juan Ramón Jiménez and Pablo Neruda); literary interviews with world-renowned Jorge Luis Borges and 10 other Latin American writers. Three of his 17 books are original fiction: an espionage thriller novel; a military/action novel (under the pseudonym of Cliff Garnett), and an award-winning short-story collection set in the 1950s.

Zlotchew has written over 70 articles published in learned journals and also delivered papers at international conferences on five continents. He published his own fiction and poetry in literary journals in 2016 and 2017. Zlotchew received the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1988 and was named the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 1992.

He served on various committees and was advisor to several student clubs. Zlotchew was inducted into Sigma Delta Pi’s Order of Don Quijote, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society’s highest award that is conferred annually upon only two to three people worldwide each year. Zlotchew has a Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literatures from SUNY Binghamton, a M.A. in Spanish from Middlebury College, and a B.S. in Foreign Trade (Marketing) from New York University.
Dr. Junaid Zubairi, who was promoted to SUNY Distinguished Professor in 2022, has demonstrated exceptional scholarship through notable achievements and valuable research while carrying a substantial teaching load and providing significant institutional and professional service since joining the Department of Computer and Information Sciences in 1999.

His contributions to the fields of flight data tracking, network traffic engineering, emergency medical data monitoring and disaster management, along with smart city planning, have the capacity to make a global impact. His work on the flight data tracker earned a U.S. non-provisional patent that recognizes it as a useful invention. Dr. Zubairi’s team was awarded a prestigious National Science Foundation Innovation-Corps grant to promote the work on the flight data tracker.

As chair of the department, Zubairi planned and coordinated its relocation to the renovated Houghton Hall that included six new labs. He established strong links with industry and worked to establish a graduate level Advanced Certificate for Cybersecurity.

Numerous honors Zubairi has received since arriving at SUNY Fredonia include: named the Robert W. Kasling Memorial Lecturer in 2019; State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities, 2018; High Achievement Award, WNY Muslims, 2017; and the Presidential Award for Exceptional Academic Service, American University of Ras al Khaimah, UAE, 2015.

Zubairi is a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, a member of the Association of Computing Machinery and of the advising boards of DiscoverSTEM, TEKNOLOGIX journal, Indus Journal of Management & Social Sciences and the Asian Journal of Engineering, Sciences and Technology. He is a member of the Alpha Sigma chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the honor society for international scholars.

Zubairi has a Ph.D. and M.S. in Computer Engineering from Syracuse University, and a B.E. in Electrical Engineering from NED University, Pakistan.