

**Symposium of University Research
and
Creative Endeavors**

Awards Ceremony
Wednesday, April 21, 2026
1:00 p.m.
Bovee University Center – Rotunda

Hosted by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the
Office of the President

Introduction

Welcome Dr. Bradley J. Swanson
Interim Vice President for Research and Innovation

Student Awards

Student President’s Awards

*“In recognition of research and creative
accomplishments, the successful conduct of scholarly
communication, and demonstrated leadership.”*

Presented by Dr. Neil MacKinnon
President

Carolina Hernandez Ruiz
College of Business Administration

Daniel Thanasiu
College of Science and Engineering

Student Provost’s Awards

*“In recognition of research and creative
accomplishments, the successful conduct of scholarly
communication, and demonstrated leadership.”*

Presented by Dr. Paula Lancaster
Provost and Executive Vice President

Trevor Carnovsky
College of Business Administration

Holly Ireton
College of Business Administration

Distinguished Thesis Award

“In recognition of distinguished scholarship and research at the master’s level.”

Presented by Dr. Jennifer Schisa
Interim Director of Graduate Studies

Robert Stuart
College of Science and Engineering

Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Award

“In recognition of research communication skills demonstrated by engaging audiences and effectively translating complex ideas for non-specialists.”

Presented by Kara Owens
Assistant Director of Research and Graduate Studies

Nadia Allahyarzadeh Khiabani
College of Science and Engineering

Henry Menendez Ramos
College of Science and Engineering

Faculty Awards

Faculty Distinguished Service Award

“In recognition of faculty members with a record of sustained and distinguished service at Central Michigan University.”

Presented by Dr. Paula Lancaster
Provost and Executive Vice President

Dr. Larry Lemke
College of Science and Engineering

Lorrie Ryan Memorial Excellence in Teaching Award

“Presented each year to one Central Michigan University faculty member who inspires students through an exemplary commitment to building a sense of community within the learning environment. Additionally, the recipient demonstrates profound mentorship and respect for others.”

Presented by Allison Arnekrans
Excellence in Teaching Award Committee Chair

Dr. Brandi Ansley
College of Education and Human Services

Excellence in Teaching Awards

“Presented for outstanding teaching efforts by faculty. Awardees are selected from a list of faculty members nominated and supported by their peers and students, who then undergo a rigorous selection process via members of the Excellence in Teaching Committee.”

Presented by Dr. Paula Lancaster
Provost and Executive Vice President

Dr. Kelly Murphy
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Dr. Christopher Hamlyn
College of Health Professions

Dr. Jared Halter
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Dr. Kyle Scherr
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Erika Zambarano
College of Health Professions

Student Choice Award

“In recognition of a faculty member for creative excellence in overall instructional effectiveness.”

Presented by Angad Singh Wasu
Student member of the ETA Committee

Audry Shaw

College of Health Professions

Faculty Provost’s Awards for Research & Creative Endeavors

“In recognition of excellent scholarship, creativity, and promise. The award is presented to faculty members who are in the early stage of their academic careers.”

Presented by Dr. Paula Lancaster
Provost and Executive Vice President

Elaine DiFalco Daugherty

College of Arts and Media

Dr. Eric Petersen

College of Medicine

Faculty President’s Awards for Research & Creative Endeavors

“In recognition of outstanding senior faculty members for scholarships of national and international merit.”

Presented by Dr. Neil MacKinnon
President

Dr. John Allen

College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Darrin Doyle

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Faculty and Staff Recognition Recipients of External Funding During Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Dr. Sanjeev Aggarwal, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. John Allen, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Elizabeth Alm, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Preshit Ambade, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Alison Arnold, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Beth Bailey, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Jesse Bakke, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Veronica Barone, College of Science and Engineering

AnnMarie Bates, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Martin Baxter, College of Science and Engineering

Andrea Beatty, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Danielle Bell, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Joshua Card, Academic Division

Dr. Kristen Cares, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Hunter Carrick, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Sanjay Chawla, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Chin-I Cheng, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Meera Chitlur, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Raju Chowdhary, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Roland Chu, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Matthew Collins, Government & External Relations Division

Dr. Michael Conway, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Lynn Curry, Student Recruitment & Retention Division

Symantha Dattilo, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Jillian Davidson, College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Alexandre David-Uraz, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Amy Delaroche, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Goksel Demirer, College of Science and Engineering

Tanya Domina, College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Daniel Drevon, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Gary Dunbar, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Robert Dvorak, College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Jesse Eickholt, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Bradley Fahlman, College of Science and Engineering

Megan Farrell, Academic Division

Dr. Peter Fattal, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Nicole Ferguson, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Kathleen Flannery, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Daniel Gaken, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Alexander Glaros, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Cheryl Gonzalez, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Erin Goode, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Susan Grettenberger, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Sarah Grinn, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Mina Hafzalah, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Samantha Hahn, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Meret Henry, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Ute Hochgeschwender, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Kathleen Hodgkins, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Jenny Huang, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Jon Humiston, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Koblar Jackson, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Chanseok Jeong, College of Science and Engineering

John Jervinsky, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Primavera Jimeniz, Student Recruitment & Retention Division

Nirupama Kannikeswaran, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Safwan Kassas, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Jason Keeler, College of Science and Engineering

Beth Kennedy, College of Education and Human Services

Vipin Khetarpal, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Daria Kluver, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Su Kyoung An, College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Roderick Lammers, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Paula Lancaster, Academic Division

Dr. Joseph Langenderfer, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Choon Lee, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Seung-Eun Lee, College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Brianne Lewis, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Matthew Liesch, College of Science and Engineering

Teresea Looman, College of Education and Human Services

Dr. Aimee Luat, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Renee Mahon, Government & External Relations Division

Dr. Itzel Marquez, College of Science and Engineering

Carrie Marsh, Academic Division

Dr. Sarah Marshall, Academic Division

Dr. Alissa Martin, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Kathleen Meert, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Axel Mellinger, College of Science and Engineering

Kori Molter-Burlager, Student Recruitment & Retention Division

Dr. Evan Montague, Student Recruitment & Retention Division

Dr. Anja Mueller, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Girija Natarajan, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Rachael Nelson, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

April Osburn, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Shannon Palmer, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Kevin Pangle, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Kaleb Patrick, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Christa Paull, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Allison Peart, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Juan Peralta, College of Science and Engineering

Kasey Perez, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Juliette Perzhinsky, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Eric Petersen, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Valeri Petkov, College of Science and Engineering

Joseph Pomerville, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Pavadee Poowuttikul, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Andrew Prout, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Neli Ragina, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Madhvi Rajpukar, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Leela Rakesh, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Sethu Reddy, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Matthew Redshaw, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Katherine Regling, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Benjamin Ritter, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Wendy Robertson, College of Science and Engineering

Andrea Roggenbuck, University Engagement & Student Affairs Division

Dr. Julien Rossignol, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Yamuna Sanil, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Sureyya Savasan, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Swati Sehgal, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Rene Shingles, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Gautam Singh, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Monaliza Sirbescu, College of Science and Engineering

Keeley Stanley, College of Arts and Media

Dr. Michelle Steinhilb, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. David Stockton, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Douglas Swanson, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Benjamin Swarts, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Stephanie Toll, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Heather Trommer Beardslee, College of Arts and Media

Dr. Ksenia Ustinova, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Dr. Donald Uzarski, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Rebecca Uzarski, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Steven Vance, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Cameron Wassman, Finance & Administrative Services Division

Jacquelyn Weller, College of Education and Human Services

Richard Westover, Government & External Relations Division

Bryan Whitledge, Academic Division

Dr. Maggie Williams, College of Science and Engineering

Stephanie Williams, Finance & Administrative Services Division

Dr. Daelyn Woolnough, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Lauren Yagiela, Covenant Healthcare College of Medicine

Dr. Natalia Zakharova, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. David Zanatta, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Tao Zheng, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Xiaoming Zheng, College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Gregory Zimmerman, The HH &GA Dow College of Health Professions

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our students and faculty for their outstanding achievements in research and scholarly activity! Your work, dedication, and innovative spirit have earned well-deserved recognition, and these awards are a testament to the exceptional talent you bring to your work. For our students, your curiosity and commitment to exploring new ideas, solving complex problems, and making a real-world impact are inspiring, laying the foundation for future discoveries that will shape the world. For our faculty, your unwavering dedication to advancing your field, mentoring students, and producing impactful research strengthens our institution and sets a standard for excellence. These accolades reflect not only your individual success but also the collective strength of CMU.