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ANS Day Newsletter

College of Applied and Natural Science

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2021 ANS Day Newsletter

Gary Kennedy

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ANS DAY
APRIL 15, 2021



Every spring, the College of Applied & Natural Sciences gathers to celebrate achievements in research by faculty and students in each of the five ANS units. Traditionally, ANS Day has included oral and poster presentations; a lunch; and the distribution of awards to our outstanding students, faculty, and staff. Last year, COVID-19 prevented us from gathering in-person for this event, and though we were still able to share these accolades via email, we missed the camaraderie that makes ANS a “home” for so many of us. This year, despite the challenges and the difference in venue, we were grateful to gather again for this cherished tradition. On April 15, 2021, more than 30 faculty members and students, representing nearly every unit of the College, shared their research with colleagues, family, friends, and alumni.

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Program and
Research Abstracts



LETTER FROM DEAN KENNEDY

Our college spans a range of disciplines, and our academic units occupy several different buildings across main campus and south campus. However, ANS Day brings us together and provides a rare opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to interact with each other across disciplines.



Like so many of our events, our ANS Day 2021 was modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Jamie Newman, our Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, worked tirelessly to develop an online format that featured presentations of the research and scholarly activity of our faculty, undergraduate students, and graduate students in four sessions on the morning of April 15. Each of these sessions was judged, and a \$250 gift card and certificate was awarded to the highest-placing presentations.

In this newsletter, I am pleased to share with you the winners of our faculty, undergraduate student, and graduate student presentations, in addition to recognizing and honoring our outstanding students for the 2020-21 academic year, and our outstanding faculty and staff award winners in the College of Applied & Natural Sciences. Please join me in congratulating all on their well-earned achievements!

Gary A. Kennedy, Dean
College of Applied & Natural Sciences

PRESENTATION AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2021 faculty, graduate student, and undergraduate student presentation awards!

Presenters were evaluated on their ability to share their research with a nonexpert audience in an informative and engaging manner. Each presenter gave an eight-minute PowerPoint presentation, which was judged by faculty from various units in the College. Winners received a gift card from the Dean.

FACULTY WINNERS

**Tanya Sims,
Sarah McVay, and
Dr. Patti McFadden**
Division of Nursing

GRADUATE STUDENT WINNER

Caroline Rinderle
School of Biological Sciences

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT WINNERS

SESSION 1
Peyton Franklin
School of Biological Sciences

SESSION 2
Annabeth Rawls
School of Biological Sciences

FEATURED STUDENTS

We are proud to honor these 25 Featured Students who, in blazing their own trails through the College of Applied & Natural Sciences, embody the dreams of so many who study with us.

Click below to read more about their journeys and goals, the mentors who provided them guidance, and the advice they have to share. We applaud their accomplishments and those yet to come!

Click to read about these 25 students!



FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS

The College of Applied & Natural Sciences is pleased to recognize the outstanding contributions of the following faculty and staff:

ANS JOHN D. GRIFFIN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

DR. PAUL JACKSON, School of Agricultural Sciences & Forestry

The ANS John D. Griffin Award—open to unclassified employees such as laboratory supervisors, instructors, lecturers, assistant professors, associate professors, professors and research professors—recognizes meritorious service activities directly related to the recipient's area of professional expertise. ANS faculty and staff provide nominations, and the recipient is selected by the ANS Faculty Advisory Council to the Dean.

ANS TEACHING AWARDS

JOANNA WARD, Department of Health Informatics & Information Management, 100/200-level

DR. LAURA GENTRY, School of Agricultural Sciences & Forestry, 300/above

The ANS Teaching Awards—open to instructors, lecturers, assistant professors, associate professors, and professors—recognize exemplary instruction in undergraduate or graduate-level courses. One award is granted to a faculty member who teaches 100 and 200-level courses, and one award is granted to a faculty member who teaches courses at or above the 300-level. ANS faculty provide nominations, and the recipient is selected by the ANS Faculty Advisory Council to the Dean.

ANS DEBRA L. MARTIN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

JENNIFER HOLLIS, Office of the Dean

The ANS Debra L. Martin Award recognizes exemplary service to an ANS academic unit or to the College through exceptional contributions in areas such as creating a positive work environment, providing research or creativity support, and developing innovative techniques in the workplace. ANS faculty and staff provide nominations, and the recipient is selected by the ANS Faculty Advisory Council to the Dean.

ANS RESEARCH AWARD

DR. GERGANA NESTOROVA, School of Biological Sciences

The ANS Research Award—open to faculty or staff—recognizes outstanding research and the contribution of new information to the knowledge base of a professional discipline. ANS faculty provide nominations, and the recipient is selected by the ANS Research Committee.

ANS SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY AWARD

DR. JULIE RUTLEDGE, School of Human Ecology

The ANS Scholarly Activity Award—open to faculty and staff—recognizes exemplary scholarly activity, specifically accomplishments in outreach and/or service learning projects, enhancement of Louisiana Tech University programs, and/or creative productions related to one’s profession. ANS faculty and staff provide nominations, and the recipient is selected by the ANS Research Committee.

ANS OUTSTANDING ADVISOR AWARD

DR. DON SHEPARD, School of Biological Sciences

The ANS Outstanding Advisor Award—open to current faculty members completing their fifth full academic year and who have not previously received the award—recognizes exemplary collaborative student engagement through exploring and creating a rich, challenging undergraduate education, thereby significantly impacting students’ undergraduate experiences.

ANS PROFESSORSHIP AWARD

DR. PRERNA DUA, Department of Health Informatics & Information Management

The ANS Professorship Award—open to any member of the tenured faculty holding the rank of assistant professor, associate professor, or professor—recognizes extraordinary service and performance in one or more of the following areas: teaching, research, and service to the campus community and the public sector.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

The College of Applied & Natural Sciences is a community that succeeds together. If you would like to contribute to helping our students achieve their academic goals through scholarship funding, contact Penny Humphries.

PENNY@latechalumni.org
(318) 257-5479
(318) 245-2013

ANS NEWS

Keep up to date with what is happening in the College and follow your favorite ANS units on social:

College of Applied & Natural Sciences



School of Agricultural Sciences & Forestry



School of Biological Sciences



Department of Health Informatics & Information Management



School of Human Ecology



Division of Nursing

