



2017

ALLIANT ENERGY
FOUNDATION AWARD
CEREMONY

Alliant Energy/Erroll B. Davis, Jr.
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Alliant Energy/Underkofler
EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Friday, October 27, 2017
Gordon Dining and Event Center, Symphony Room
770 W Dayton Street, Madison, Wisconsin



Program Highlights

Ceremony will be held from 2 – 4 p.m.

Award presentation commences at 2:30 p.m.

WELCOME

James P. Henderson, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,
UW System

REMARKS

Robert Durian, Chief Financial Officer, Alliant Energy Foundation

ALLIANT ENERGY/ERROLL B. DAVIS, JR. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTATION

AWARD HISTORY

Robert Durian, Chief Financial Officer, Alliant Energy Foundation

AWARD PRESENTATION WITH REMARKS BY RECIPIENTS

James P. Henderson, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,
UW System

STUDENT RECIPIENTS

David Ababio, College of Engineering, Mathematics and
Science, UW-Platteville

Avamarie (Ava) Brueggeman, College of Engineering, Mathematics and
Science, UW-Platteville

Kevin Hernandez, College of Engineering, UW-Madison

Ariana Saffold, College of Engineering, UW-Madison

ALLIANT ENERGY/UNDERKOFER EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD PRESENTATION

AWARD HISTORY

Robert Durian, Chief Financial Officer, Alliant Energy Foundation

AWARD PRESENTATION WITH REMARKS BY RECIPIENTS

James P. Henderson, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs,
UW System

FACULTY RECIPIENTS

Russ Castronovo, English Department, UW-Madison

Kayoung Kim, Department of Psychology and Education, UW-Fond du Lac

Evan Larson, Department of Geography, UW-Platteville

ALLIANT ENERGY/ERROLL B. DAVIS, JR. ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

In 2006, the Alliant Energy Foundation established an endowed fund, the Alliant Energy/Erroll B. Davis, Jr. Academic Achievement Award. This award annually honors outstanding scholarship and community service of undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented minority groups pursuing a degree in Business or Engineering at UW-Madison and UW-Platteville. The award is presented annually to up to four students who are nominated by their home institutions during the fall of their final year. The students receive the award upon graduation.

Alliant Energy established the award to recognize and honor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., former CEO of the Alliant Corporation. Mr. Davis was the first African American to head a "Business Week 1000" company. He was also named one of the "50 Most Powerful Black Executives in America" by Fortune magazine in 2002. From 1987 to 1994, Mr. Davis served as a member of the Board of Regents for the University of Wisconsin System.

ALLIANT ENERGY/UNDERKOFLE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

In 1990, the Wisconsin Power and Light Foundation (Alliant Energy's Wisconsin Utility) established an endowed fund, the Alliant Energy/Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Award. This award honors outstanding faculty and academic staff whose dedication to teaching and ability to inspire students exemplify the best values of the University of Wisconsin (UW) System. The award is presented annually to up to four recipients who teach at UW System institutions within the company's service area. Candidates are nominated by their home institutions.

This award was established to recognize and honor the late James R. Underkofler (1923–2015), who served Wisconsin Power and Light for more than 48 years – retiring as Chairman of the Board in 1990.

Mr. Underkofler was a staunch supporter of teaching excellence and believed in the importance of connecting public and private educational systems to enhance learning and motivate young minds. The Underkofler Award reflects Alliant Energy's strong historical dedication to education and supports UW System's longstanding commitment to excellence in teaching and providing high-quality education to people from throughout Wisconsin and the world.

2017

Alliant Energy/Erroll B. Davis, Jr.
Academic Achievement Award



RECIPIENT BIOGRAPHIES



DAVID ABABIO

David Ababio, a Platteville native, is an undergraduate student enrolled in UW-Platteville's College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science. He plans to graduate with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in May 2018, with a minor in microsystems and nanotechnology.

David has been the lead counselor for several years for the Exploring Engineering Summer Program, where he helps train other counselors and leads about 60 high school students in weeklong activities. He became a student mentor for FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics and has held executive positions in the organization, which works directly with high school students to inspire interest in engineering. David is an active member of the Engineers Without Borders chapter on campus, participating in fundraising and traveling to Ghana to study the culture and language, as well as applying engineering skills to help solve problems there. He has visited over seven countries thanks to his participation in the International Center on campus.

David's career goal is to become an electronic engineer with a specialization in nanotechnology. As an engineer, he would like to use his skills to develop innovative ideas that help people.



AVAMARIE (AVA) BRUEGGEMAN

Ava Brueggeman, a native of Reedsburg, Wis., is an undergraduate student enrolled in UW-Platteville's College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science. She plans to graduate with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering in May 2018, with minors in mathematics and computer science.

Ava is the president of Eta Kappa Nu, UW-Platteville's engineering honor society, and a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Tau Beta Pi, two additional honor societies at UW-Platteville. She is a member of the UW-Platteville Chancellor Scholars, a group dedicated to showing leadership throughout the campus and local community. During her freshman and sophomore years, Ava played clarinet in UW-Platteville's Symphonic Wind Ensemble and lived in the Women in STEM Living Learning Community. Last spring, she successfully applied for a summer research position in a graduate laboratory, the Center for Robust Speech Systems, at the University of Texas at Dallas.

After graduation, Ava plans to pursue her doctorate degree in electrical engineering and conduct research on medical devices. She is interested in becoming a professor at a large research university and dedicating her research to improving the quality of life of cochlear implant users.



KEVIN HERNANDEZ

Kevin Hernandez is an undergraduate student enrolled in UW-Madison's College of Engineering. He plans to graduate with bachelor's degrees in geological engineering and geoscience in May 2018, with a certificate in energy sustainability.

Kevin has taken leadership roles as the treasurer of two student organizations, Energy-Hub and the UW-Madison chapter of the Society of Hispanic

Professional Engineers. He is actively engaged in the Leaders in Engineering Excellence and Diversity (LEED) Scholars Program, composed of a community of diverse scholars pursuing degrees in engineering. The scholars meet monthly to learn about professional development opportunities and engage in social justice and leadership programming. Kevin was selected for the LEED Links Mentor Program, which links successful upper-class engineering students with first-year students to provide a yearlong mentorship.

Kevin participated in a summer internship at the National Office of Energy Efficacy and Renewable Energy. There he conducted a cost-to-benefit analysis for the conversion of traditional energy methods to geothermal. The experience led to a publication and an invitation from Stanford University to present his findings at its national geothermal conference.

After graduation, Kevin would like to pursue graduate school and a career promoting sustainable and domestic sources of energy with a focus on geothermal energy.



ARIANA SAFFOLD

Ariana Saffold is an undergraduate student enrolled in UW-Madison's College of Engineering. She plans to graduate with bachelor's degrees in chemical engineering and chemistry. Inspired to merge chemistry and engineering to create an exciting new career path for herself, she is eager to study in more depth what healthy eating means to the body and brain on a molecular level.

Most of her leadership and service activities involve tutoring and outreach programs that aim to increase diversity in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. She works with the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program to prepare high school students from underrepresented backgrounds for the rigors of college by instilling good habits and critical thinking skills. Ariana has served as a tutor and mentor for groups of four to seven students. She has volunteered with the Greater University Tutoring Service, a student-run program in which college students tutor peers. She has also volunteered with Expanding Your Horizons, a one-day conference that encourages middle school students to pursue STEM careers.

Ariana plans to enter a PhD program for food science after completing her undergraduate degree. Her ultimate career goal is to become a chemical engineering consultant specializing in food science.

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Alliant Energy/Underkofler
Excellence in Teaching Award



RECIPIENT BIOGRAPHIES



RUSS CASTRONOVO

Russ Castronovo joined the faculty of UW-Madison's English Department in 2002 and became chair of the department in 2016. He teaches and researches American literature, with interests spanning African American literature, American Studies, cultural theory, and popular culture. He earned his PhD at University of California, Santa Cruz, and his undergraduate degree at University of California, Berkeley.

A highly respected teacher, mentor, scholar, and author, Dr. Castronovo asks himself and his students how literature can lead to new, unexpected ways of thinking. Over his three decades of teaching, he has prioritized three strategies to reconsider what we think we know about social identities, democracy, and literary expression. These include reactivating the central conflicts of literary texts within a classroom setting to inspire students to encounter old texts in new ways; creating a space for discussion driven by student participation; and working intently on student writing.

Dr. Castronovo has collaborated with the Center for Academic Excellence to win a grant to help underrepresented minority students secure internships. In 2015, the Center for Education Opportunity awarded him the Dr. Brenda Pfaehler Award of Excellence for providing support to first-generation and low-income students. He has been the faculty advisor for MUSE, the Madison Undergraduate Society for English, and has served on multiple tenure committees.



KAYOUNG KIM

Kayoung Kim joined the UW-Fond du Lac faculty in 2015 as an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and Education. Born and raised in South Korea, she obtained her BA from Yonsei University. She came to the United States in 2009, where she earned her MS in Human Development and Psychology from Harvard University and her PhD in Cognitive Psychology from Texas A&M University. She specializes in

experimental psycholinguistics, and her research examines the relationship between literacy experiences and human cognition.

Dr. Kim has long taught at the high school and college level. She holds a teaching certification in Spanish linguistics, directorship of psychodrama, and CIRTL (Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning) certification in university instruction. During her years in higher education, she has taught a number of courses in psychology and has received numerous awards for her excellence in teaching and mentorship. From live-streaming classroom debates to animated film adaptation of life stories, Dr. Kim has crafted meaningful, creative assignments to enhance student learning. She has partnered with the Fond du Lac Children's Museum under a National Science Foundation grant to create a Living Laboratory research program, a community collaboration that also provides opportunities for her students to develop their own research projects.



EVAN LARSON

Evan Larson joined the faculty at UW-Platteville in 2009 and became an associate professor in the Department of Geography in 2015. He is also a research associate with the Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey, part of UW-Extension. Dr. Larson earned his Ph.D. in Geography with a minor in Natural Resource Sciences and Management from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. He holds an M.S. in Geography

with a minor in Environmental Policy from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and a B.A. in Environmental Sciences from Willamette University.

Dr. Larson co-founded the Tree-Ring, Earth, and Environmental Sciences (TREES) Lab at UW-Platteville, where he serves as a supervisor and mentor. The TREES Lab provides undergraduate students with hands-on research opportunities. Dr. Larson has had over 50 students present their research at professional meetings. He has received 44 grants totaling more than \$600,000, all stipulating undergraduate involvement as a major component. He has used the grant money to fund undergraduate research fellowships, as well as to set up service-learning class projects.

Dr. Larson has held several workshops with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, including one workshop to improve mentoring skills to underrepresented undergraduate students who are considering graduate school.

