

April 25, 2019

MacEwan University announces the Distinguished Teaching Award recipients

Edmonton – MacEwan University is pleased to announce the Distinguished Teaching Award recipients for 2019. The award recognizes outstanding teaching at the undergraduate level and commitment to educational leadership by furthering the university's educational goals.

"So many of our career milestones at MacEwan reflect our ongoing commitment to students, but none so much so as our Distinguished Teaching Awards, where student initiative in nominating instructors provides the foundation for the milestone," says Dr. Craig Monk, provost and vice-president, Academic.

Jacqueline Baker, assistant professor, English

Baker joined MacEwan University's Department of English in 2013 as a specialist in creative writing. Her areas of expertise include European and Southern Gothic, the ghost story, horror (film and literature), contemporary literature and Canadian literature. She is an accomplished writer who served as MacEwan's Writer-In-Residence in 2006.

Dr. Susan Mills, associate professor, Philosophy

Mills' main area of interest is in early modern philosophy, in particular the metaphysics and epistemology of the early modern period. She has a special interest in the philosophy of René Descartes, and in her principal research pursuits she examines Descartes's medical philosophy in light of his claims regarding teleology and health. She earned her PhD in philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Rod Schmaltz, associate professor, Psychology

Schmaltz's research focuses on pseudoscientific thinking, with an emphasis on strategies to promote and teach scientific skepticism. He wants to better understand why people believe in strange things like ghosts, aliens or psychic powers and find strategies to help combat these beliefs. His research extends to workplace productivity and self-control, with a focus on evidence-based approaches to improve performance and reduce common workplace and student stressors.

Dr. Ion Bica, associate professor, Mathematics and Statistics

Bica has been at MacEwan University since 2000. His teaching areas and research interests include differential equations, nonlinear waves and applications of differential equations in biology, conservation biology and population ecology. He received his PhD at the University of Alberta.

The Distinguished Teaching Awards will be presented at the university's spring convocation ceremonies in June.

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.

For more information, please contact:

David Beharry, Media Relations Advisor

780-497-5586

Cell: 780-231-5954

Email: beharryd@macewan.ca

Get MacEwan University news delivered to your inbox. [Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter.](#)