

2026 College of Engineering Employee Awards

FACULTY TEACHING AWARDS

Henry Y. Kleinkauf Family Distinguished New Faculty Teaching Award

General teaching award open to the rank of assistant professor; \$2,500 each

- **Nitesha Nama**, Assistant Professor, Mechanical & Materials Engineering
- **Logan Perry**, Assistant Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Holling Family Distinguished Teaching/Advising/Mentoring Award

Recognizes faculty for effectiveness as an adviser and mentor, as well as effectiveness as a classroom teacher; chosen by eSAB/NESCO, \$2,500 each

- **Bonita Sharif**, Associate Professor, School of Computing

Holling Family Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring

Recognizes faculty for outstanding proficiency in graduate student mentoring; \$2,500 each

- **Hamid Sharif**, Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering

Holling Family Excellence in Inclusive Teaching

Recognizes faculty member who has demonstrated an approach to teaching that considers the diverse needs and backgrounds of all students to create a learning environment where all students feel valued and where all students have equal access to learn; \$2,500 each

- **Tony Roebuck II**, Assistant Professor of Practice, Durham School of Architectural Engineering & Construction

UNO Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching Award

General teaching award open to all faculty ranks on Scott Campus; recipient is also recognized at the UNO Faculty and Staff Recognition Reception; \$2,000 from UNO and \$500 from COE

- **Iason Konstantzos**, Assistant Professor, Durham School of Architectural Engineering & Construction

FACULTY RESEARCH AWARDS

Edgerton Rising Faculty Research Award

Recognizes Assistant Professors who have shown remarkable promise and accomplishments in their early research endeavors, \$2500 each

- **Yanan (Laura) Wang**, Assistant Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering
- **Lucia Fernandez-Ballester**, Assistant Professor, Mechanical & Materials Engineering

Distinguished Researcher Award

Recognizes faculty members of Associate and above who have made exceptional and sustained contributions to their field of research, \$2500 each

- **Rajib Saha**, Richard L. and Carol S. McNeel Associate Professor, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
- **Nirupam Aich**, Richard L. and Carol S. McNeel Associate Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering
- **Chun-Hsing Ho**, Associate Professor, Durham School of Architectural Engineering & Construction
- **Tirthankar Roy**, Associate Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

FACULTY ENGAGEMENT AWARDS

College Faculty Engagement Award

Recognizes outstanding accomplishments in "engagement in research, teaching and/or service" related to work with an external partner; \$2,500 each

- **Jamilla Teixeira**, Assistant Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

FACULTY SERVICE AWARDS

College of Engineering Faculty Service Award

Recognizes outstanding individuals for service to their department, college and university, as well as to their profession and community; \$2,500 each

- **Hamid Vakilzadian**, Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering

COLLEGE STAFF AWARDS

Celebrates staff members in the College of Engineering for exemplary performance towards achieving the vision and mission of the college in the categories including: leadership, service to students, service to faculty and staff, engagement, Complete Engineer[®], and outstanding performance; \$2,500 each

Leadership

- **Cathy Norquest**, Human Resources Specialist - Lead, Dean's Office

Service to Students

- **Stacy Riley**, Director, Peter Kiewit Foundation Engineering Academy, Engineering Student Services

Outstanding Performance

- **Yaoling Wang**, Instructional Designer, Engineering & Computing Education Core

Service to Faculty and Staff

- **Blake Anderson**, Research Engineer, Dean's Office
- **Ashley Dohe**, Administrative Coordinator, Electrical & Computer Engineering
- **Nicole Franta**, Director of Advising, Engineering Student Services
- **Melissa Garfield**, Administrative Coordinator, Civil & Environmental Engineering
- **Emili Jones**, Operations Coordinator-Student Programs, Engineering Student Services