Florida A&M University

Fourth Annual Principal Investigators’ Appreciation and 2013 Researchers of the Year Awards Luncheon

Theme: “In Recognition of Research Excellence With Caring”

Foster-Tanner Band Rehearsal Hall * 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 19, 2013

Dr. Larry Robinson
Interim President
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Oghenekome U. Onokpise

Dr. Kalayu Belay

Dr. R. Renee Reams (right)

Dr. Mehboob B. Sheikh

Dr. Selina F. Darling-Reed
Florida A&M University

Honors ALL Principal Investigators (PIs) for your innumerable contributions to the research, education, service, training and development achievements of our institution!

We proudly and purposefully Salute the 2013 Researchers of the Year Awardees!!

Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Oghenekome U. Onokpise, Ph.D.
College of Agriculture and Food Sciences

Research Excellence Award Recipients

Kalayu Belay, Ph.D.
College of Science and Technology

R. Renee Reams, Ph.D.
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Mehboob B. Sheikh, Ph.D.
College of Agriculture and Food Sciences

Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Selina F. Darling-Reed, Ph.D.
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Florida A&M University

In Recognition of Research Excellence With Caring
Fourth Annual Principal Investigators’ Appreciation and 2013 Researchers of the Year Awards Luncheon Program

Presiding: Dr. Narayan B. Persaud
Professor of Sociology and President of the Faculty Senate

Opening Remarks
Dr. K. Ken Redda
Professor and Acting Vice President, Division of Research

Musical Selection
Dr. James L. Moran, Jr. (“No Weapon” Fred Hammond)
Assistant Director, Advancement and Alumni Affairs
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Occasion
Dr. Lewis Elgin Johnson
2012 Research Excellence Award Recipient
Associate Professor, Department of Physics

Invocation and Grace
Minister Ola Sylvia Lamar Sheffield
Research Communications Director, Division of Research

LUNCH IS SERVED

Musical Selection
Soloist Agnes D. Coppin (“You’ll Never Walk Alone” R. Rodgers/ O. Hammerstein)
Student Affairs Coordinator, Graduate Studies and Research

Introduction of Speaker
Interim Provost and Vice President Rodner B. Wright
Office of Academic Affairs

Speaker
Dr. Larry Robinson
Interim President

Presentation of Awards
Dr. Bettye A. Grable
Associate Professor, School of Journalism and Graphic Communication
Recording Secretary, 2013 Faculty Senate Research Awards Selection Committee

Closing Remarks
Dr. Narayan B. Persaud
Dr. Onokpise recently released his new book entitled, *Rubber Seed: An African Scientist in the Amazon Basin*, at a Book-Signing and Reception in his honor, and he is co-inventor (with James Muchovej, Ph.D.) of the U.S. Patent #8,278,248, *Mycoherbicide for Controlling Cogongrass*, issued Fall 2012 semester. In 2008, Onokpise received the Stephen Spurr Award from the Florida Division of the Society of American Foresters for technical contributions to forestry in Florida. His photo by Stephanie Lambert, Office of Communications.

**EDUCATION:** Ph.D., Iowa State University (Ames), Tree Breeding and Forest Genetics, 1984

**RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE:** Tree Improvement, Plant Breeding and Genetics; Germplasm Collection, Evaluation and Utilization; Invasive Species Management, Feedstock Development for Biofuels, Agroforestry Systems, Ecological Restoration and Gene Flow Patterns; Biotechnology and International Development with Emphasis in Sub-Saharan Africa

**REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS:**
The 2013 Researcher of the Year Award Recipients

Research Excellence Award Recipient

Kalayu Belay, Ph.D.
Professor of Physics
College of Science and Technology, Department of Physics

EDUCATION: Ph.D., University of Delaware (Newark); Condensed Matter Physics, 1994

RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Dr. Belay’s group’s research involves the synthesis, characterization and integration of carbon nanotubes for potential applications as nanocomposite materials. Their effort is focused onto infusing carbon nanotubes into polymers so as to create a sensory network that can detect damage in the polymer matrix. The main objective of this research activity is to develop highly sensitive distributed sensor systems to monitor strains and to detect initiating damage in polymeric and composite materials at a microscopic level without altering the integrity of the structure.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS:
1. “Rapid Growth of Long, Vertically Aligned Carbon Nanotubes through Efficient Catalyst Optimization Using Metal Film Gradients.” NANOLETTERS, Vol.4, No.10, 1939-1942 (2004). This article was cited 71 times on related articles.

Dr. Belay is mounting and securing an end cap onto quartz inside a furnace which is used for growing new carbon based materials.
R. Renee Reams, Ph.D.
Professor of Biochemistry and Chair, Medicinal Chemistry Section
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

EDUCATION: Ph.D., Brigham Young University (Provo, Utah), Biochemistry, 1984

RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE:
Global Health emphasizing transnational approach studying prostate cancer health disparity with African researchers; Genomics of Prostate Cancer Health Disparity using genomics and proteomics to look for genes/protein signatures in human prostate tumors that explain aggressive prostate cancers in African American Males and in men of African descent; Metal Neurotoxicity research focus is to determine if a common molecular mechanism exists by which di-valent metals (such as Pb and Mn) cause death of neurons. Dr. Reams' laboratory has studied metal mixtures (Pb, Mn) and the effect of individual metals (Pb) on neurite outgrowth and effect of Mn on DNA damage in neurons.

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS:
2. Clinical Cultural Competency and Health Disparities Knowledge among Pharmacy Students in Florida Public Institutions, ON Okoro1, FT Odedina1, RR Reams American Journal Pharm Educ., Department of Pharmaceutical Outcomes & Policy, College of Pharmacy, University of Florida (Gainesville) and 2College of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, Florida A&M University (Tallahassee).

The 2013 Researcher of the Year Award Recipients

Dr. Reams (left) and former graduate student, Mark Higginbotham, Ph.D., strike a pose in front of his “Genomics of Pb_Induced Neurite Outgrowth in PC12.”
The 2013 Researcher of the Year Award Recipients

Research Excellence Award Recipient

Mehboob B. Sheikh, Ph.D.
Professor of Plant Biotechnology, Center for Viticulture and Small Fruit Research
College of Agriculture and Food Sciences

EDUCATION: Ph.D., University of Oklahoma (Norman), Botany, 1974

RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Developmental Biology, Biotic and abiotic stresses, Plant based nutraceutical components, Genomics, Proteomics and Metabolomics

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS:


Dr. Sheikh uses High Performance Liquid Chromatography for fractionation of sugars, amino acids.

Dr. Sheikh evaluates food products prepared from muscadine grapes.
Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Selina F. Darling-Reed, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Pharmacology/Toxicology
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences Division

EDUCATION: Ph.D., Pharmaceutical Sciences, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL 2001

RESEARCH INTERESTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

- Prevention of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon induced breast cancer using natural products, in particular the organosulfur components of garlic, i.e., breast cancer as a health disparity, breast cancer initiation and metastasis;
- Natural products as chemopreventive agents;
- Role of the AhR Receptor in prostate cancer cell cycle regulation in cancer; and
- Elucidating the mechanisms involved in the neurotoxic effects of cocaine, especially related to cocaine’s effects on fetal brain development

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS:


Dr. Karam F.A. Soliman, Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Seth Ablordeppey, Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Gokhan Hacisalihoglu, Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. David H. Jackson, Jr., Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Mandip S. Sachdeva, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Barack O. Abonyo, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient
Dr. Karunya K. Kandimalla, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient
Dr. Nelly N. Mateeva, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Charles A. Weatherford, Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Lamberth H. B. Kanga, Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Nazarius S. Lamango, Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Jiang Lu, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Musiliyu R. Musa, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient
Dr. Subramanian Ramakrishnan, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Bidhan C. Saha, Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Dr. Violetka Colova, Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Lewis Elgin Johnson, Research Excellence Award Recipient
Dr. Hong Xiao, Research Excellence Award Recipient

Dr. Ramesh Katam, Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Failure is just another opportunity to more intelligently begin again. Henry Ford

If you don't like something, change it; if you can't change it, change your attitude. Maya Angelou
Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient

Some of Dr. Oghenekome U. Onokpise’s Shared Collaborations:

University of Florida, Florida State University, Tuskegee University, Alabama A&M University, USDA-Forest Service, USDA-PMC-NRCS, Mosaic Fertilizer and Food Producing Company, Coastal Plywood Company, and the International Paper Company

Research Excellence Award Recipient

Some of Dr. R. Renee Reams’ Shared Collaborations:

African Caribbean Consortium, Camille Ragin, Ph.D., Fox Chase Cancer Center; Federal Medical Center, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria (Titilola Akinremi, Medical Pathologist); Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN (Krishna Kalari, Ph.D., Medical Informatics); MD Anderson Orlando Health (Charles J. Rosser, M.D.; MBA, Urologist and Academic Physician); Moffitt Cancer Center, Jong Y. Park, Ph.D., Cancer Epidemiology; National Institute of Standards and Technology, Bryant Nelson, Ph.D., NanoGenotoxicology Project Leader; Scott & White Medical Center, Temple, Texas/Alexzander Asea, Ph.D., Immunologist, Cancer Researcher; Tuskegee University (Clayton Yates, Ph.D., Cancer Biologist); Vanderbilt University, Michael Aschner, Ph.D., Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Department

Research Excellence Award Recipient

Some of Dr. Mehboob B. Sheikh’s Shared Collaborations:

Sixue Chen (University of Florida), Barbara Smith (USDA, ARS, Poplaville, MS), Stephen Stringer (USDA, ARS, Poplaville, MS), Frank Matta (Mississippi State University), Clyde T. Young (N.C. State University), John P. Cherry (USDA-ARS), S. Palanki (Florida State University), Umesh Reddy (West Virginia State University), Anand Yadava (Fort Valley State University), K. Prakash (Tuskegee University), Corley Holbrook (USDA-ARS), Marc Burow (Texas Tech University), Joe Dorner (USDA-ARS), Roy Pittman (USDA-ARS), Wayne Hunter (USDA-ARS), Tim Sanders (NC State University), S.P. Tallury, He (Tuskegee University)

Research Excellence Award Recipient

Some of Dr. Kalayu Belay’s Shared Collaborations:

Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Oak Ridge, TN collaboration began in the summer of 2004. The following two years graduate student (Jeremy Jackson) accompanied as they worked in the ORNL condensed matter division, supervised by Dr. David Geohegan. Jeremy Jackson, Ph.D., was hired as a post doc at ORNL; mentor-protégé maintain a close collaboration, and their friends at ORNL share substrates for processing new materials for research at FAMU. Relationship building with the Catholic University of America (CUA), stems from our point effort on work we have been doing for the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR). CUA was a subcontractor of the AFOSR grant, with contact person is Dr. Jando About in mechanical engineering. The University of Delaware was also through a subcontract on the AFOSR during the first term of the year. University of Delaware took my undergraduate student (Kevin Jones) for graduate school. Kevin is progressing towards his doctorate in mechanical engineering, with contact Dr. Robert Opila.

Emerging Researcher Award Recipient

Some of Dr. Selina F. Darling-Reed’s Shared Collaborations:

Dr. Agnes Day, Microbiology Department Chair and Associate Professor, Microbiology, Howard University; Dr. Marti Jett, Molecular Pathologist, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Fort Detrick, Virginia; Dr. Lekan Latinwo, Biology Department Chair and Professor, Biology, Florida A&M University; Dr. Gokhan Hacisalihoglu, Associate Professor, Biology, Florida A&M University; Dr. Deanna Burney, Associate Professor, Psychology, Florida A&M University; Dr. Sally Williams, Professor, Animal Science Department, University of Florida; Dr. Jayne S. Reuben, Associate Professor, University of South Carolina Medical Center at Greenville, Greenville, South Carolina; Dr. Karam Soliman, Distinguished Professor, Pharmacology/Toxicology, Florida A&M University; Dr. Carl Goodman, Professor, Pharmacology, Florida A&M University; Dr. Hernan Flores-Rosas, Assistant Professor, Pharmacology/Toxicology, Florida A&M University
**Florida A&M University** appreciates the 2013 Faculty Senate Research Awards Selection Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Academic Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Narayan Persaud (Advisory Capacity)</td>
<td>Faculty Senate President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Lekan Latinwo</td>
<td>College of Arts &amp; Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Co-Chair</td>
<td>Department of Biological Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Martha Perryman</td>
<td>School of Allied Health Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Co-Chair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Michael Campbell</td>
<td>School of Business and Industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Wanda Ford</td>
<td>Division of Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Office of Sponsored Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Maurice Edington</td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Gokhan Hacisalihoglu</td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Biological Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Bettye Grable</td>
<td>School of Journalism and Graphic Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. David Jackson</td>
<td>College of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Department of History)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Elijah Johnson</td>
<td>School of the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Lambert Kanga</td>
<td>College of Agriculture and Food Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Nazarius Lamango</td>
<td>College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ivette Lopez</td>
<td>College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Institute of Public Health)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Marcia Owens</td>
<td>School of the Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Subramanian Ramakrishnan</td>
<td>FAMU-FSU College of Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Elizabeth Davenport</td>
<td>College of Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pharmacophore Alignment of 26 Tetrahydro Isoquinolines of Model ADHRR.4 from the Medicinal Chemistry laboratory of K. Ken Redda, Ph.D., professor, CoPPS and Acting Vice President for Research.
GRATITUDE TENDERED

Office of the President
Administrators, Faculty, Staff, Students, Researchers and Scholars
Faculty Senate
Division of Research
Office of Academic Affairs
Office of Communications
Department of Music
Physical Plant
University Copy Center
Sodexho
All Collaborators and Contributors
All Stakeholders and Supporters