



ANNUAL FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNITION CEREMONY 2022

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT ROCKWELL HALL



FACULTY AND STAFF RECOGNITION CEREMONY 2022

WELCOME

James Mayrose, Ph.D.
*Provost and Vice President for
Academic Affairs*

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
President, Buffalo State College

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC ADVISEMENT

Elizabeth A. Stevens, M.S.Ed.
Senior Academic Adviser, Muriel A.
Howard Honors Program

James Mayrose, Ph.D.
Presenter

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND CREATIVITY

Arjun K. Pathak, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Physics

Christopher M. Pennuto, Ph.D.
Professor, Biology

Brian C. Cronk, Ph.D.
Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences
Presenter

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE AS AN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH MENTOR

Robert J. Warren II, Ph.D.
Professor, Biology

Brian C. Cronk, Ph.D.
Presenter

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE TO THE COLLEGE

Mark A. Norris, B.A.
Web Administration Associate
Director and Editor, Marketing and
Communications

Randyll P. Bowen, Ed.D.
Vice President of Enrollment Management
Presenter

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Andrew I. Hashey, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Exceptional
Education

Wendy A. Paterson, Ph.D.
Dean of the School of Education
Presenter

Arlesa J. Shephard, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Fashion and
Textile Technology

Carol A. DeNysschen, Ph.D.
Dean of the School of the Professions
Presenter

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
James Mayrose, Ph.D.
Presenters

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLASSIFIED SERVICE

Samuel DeJesus
Facility Operations Assistant 2,
Events Management

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ADJUNCT TEACHING

Brian S. Meyer, B.A.
Lecturer, Communication

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY SERVICE

Bhakti Sharma, M.S.
Associate Professor, Art and Design

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Susan A. McCartney, Ph.D.
Director, Small Business
Development Center

Laura Hill Rao, M.S.
Director, Civic and Community
Engagement

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

David N. Ben-Merre, Ph.D.
Professor, English

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

S. Marlon Gayadeen, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Criminal Justice

Patricia D. George, Ed.M.
Lecturer, Elementary Education,
Literacy, and Educational Leadership

SUNY DISTINGUISHED TEACHING PROFESSOR

Ilya Y. Grinberg, Ph.D.
Distinguished Teaching Professor,
Engineering Technology

SUNY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

Valentin E. Brimkov, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor, Mathematics

CLOSING

James Mayrose, Ph.D.

Please gather for a reception in the auditorium lobby of Rockwell Hall.



SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY SERVICE

BHAKTI SHARMA, M.S.

Bhakti Sharma, associate professor of art and design, has a long history of commitment, creative initiative, and dedication to Buffalo State and its students as well as to the greater Western New York community. She is a consummate professional and academic role model whose credentials, work ethic, energy, and vision sustain her work and bring prestige to Buffalo State and the SUNY system.

Sharma has been recognized for her tireless involvement on a local level by Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown, '83, and is noted for her deep and citywide impact on the community. She also is recognized for her fundraising work with the Buffalo State College Foundation and for her work on substance abuse and mental health initiatives by a major health services provider. She has significant local involvement with the Buffalo Public Schools and more than a decade of volunteer service and board memberships to her credit. Her dynamic leadership as chair of the College Senate during the pandemic years of 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 set the tone for committees to accomplish meaningful goals in challenging times. She also served as the campus governance leader for the 2021–2022 SUNY University Faculty Senate. At Buffalo State, she has served on the Middle States Commission for Higher Education Steering Committee, as chair of the governance group, and participated in the institutional planning process as an active member of that committee.

As an administrative leader, Sharma has been an advocate for efficient management of budgets in her department, for the development of a minor program in interior design studies and drafting technologies, and for the revision and implementation of the bachelor of fine arts program. She has been active in recruitment of high school students and transfer students and serves as the reaccreditation coordinator for the program.

Sharma has a stellar academic record. She is a much-loved instructor and conscientious and thorough adviser to her students. Her teaching skill is strengthened by a long list of certificates for effective teaching and participation in leadership programs, professional development programs, applied learning experiences, and research into institutional effectiveness.

Nominator: Laura Hill Rao, M.S., Director, Civic and Community Engagement



MISSION

Buffalo State is a diverse and inclusive college committed to the intellectual, personal, and professional growth of its students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Our mission is to empower students to succeed and to inspire a lifelong passion for learning. Buffalo State is dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, service, scholarship, creative activity, and cultural enrichment.

Buffalo State is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution that subscribes to all federal, state, and SUNY legal requirements and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees on the basis of race, sex, ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, disability, or marital or veteran status. Any violation of this policy should be reported to the Equity and Campus Diversity Office, Cleveland Hall 415, (716) 878-6210. It is the policy of Buffalo State that no otherwise qualified person with a disability shall, solely by reason of the disability, be excluded from participation in employment or access to programs of the college.

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BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York