

# Order of Exercises

## COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Sunday, May 22, 2016

### ***Procession***

Yale School of Music Brass Ensemble

### ***Welcome***

Lynn Cooley

*Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences*

*and the C.N.H. Long Professor of Genetics*

*Professor, Cell Biology and Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology*

### ***Student Prizes***

Presented by Richard Sleight

*Associate Dean of the Graduate School*

### ***Public Service Awards***

Presented by Dean Richard Sleight

### ***Prize Teaching Fellows***

Presented by Dean Richard Sleight

### ***Graduate Mentor Awards***

Presented by Elizabeth Salm

*Chair of the Graduate Student Assembly*

A reception will follow immediately after Convocation in the Hall of Graduate Studies Common Room.

# Graduate School Student Prizes

## *Departmental Awards*

The **Marston Anderson Prize** is awarded on an occasional basis to truly outstanding dissertations in the field of East Asian Languages and Literatures in memory of Professor Anderson for his contribution to the intellectual and pedagogical mission of the department.

CHEOW THIA CHAN

*East Asian Languages and Literatures*

“Styles of Connection: Place-based Imaginaries and Identities in Modern Malaysian Chinese Fiction”

*This thesis is a new intervention into the field of Sinophone literary studies. Drawing together the works and archival materials of four writers who intersect the literary histories of China, Southeast Asia, and North America, Cheow Thia Chan departs from the customary reliance on China as the center that defines and moves the peripheries. He argues, instead, that peripheries—“Literary Malaysia”—can produce their own cosmopolitanisms and become a new site for generating world visions.*

The **Henry Prentiss Becton Prize** for exceptional achievement in research is awarded to a graduate student within the Council of Engineering.

XUFENG ZHANG

*Electrical Engineering*

“Magnon-based Information Transduction in Ferrimagnetic Insulators”

*The contents of this thesis define a new research direction in mesodynamic system—magnonics. The results presented in this thesis have already attracted much attention in the field. A number of international theoretical and experimental groups have started their own investigations based on these results.*

The **Frederick W. Beinecke Prize** is awarded upon the recommendation of the History Department for an outstanding doctoral dissertation in the field of Western American History.

ISAIAH WILNER

*History*

“Raven Cried For Me: Narratives of Transformation on the Northwest Coast of America”

*This dissertation is an exceptional achievement and deserves all possible accolades for its originality, virtuosity, and sheer depth of research. This is a truly distinguished piece of work, revisionist in its findings, pathbreaking in its argument.*

The **Frances Blanshard Fellowship Prize** is awarded annually for the outstanding doctoral dissertations submitted to the History of Art Department.

SARA ANN RYU

*History of Art*

“Calendar, Column, Crucifix: Material Reuse in the Early Modern Transatlantic World”

*Moving across cultures and through times, this dissertation explores the multiple lives of shaped artifacts in the sixteenth century. Drawing on a wealth of documentary sources and nuanced interpretations of art and architecture, Ryu demonstrates how deeply the past informed the present and, conversely, how present needs reconfigured the past at a time of intense cultural confrontations, conflicts, and transformations.*

HOLLY SHAFFER

*History of Art*

“Of Men and Gods, and Things’: The Making of Maratha Art in India and Britain, 1700-1900”

*This richly ambitious dissertation identifies a vital but previously unrecognized aesthetic moment in the long history of Indian art. Through intricate analyses of artists, collectors, and patrons, and the movements of people and artworks through India and the British Empire, Shaffer illuminates how eclecticism, with its appeal to transregional tastes, emerged as a defining aspect of a distinctive Maratha style.*

The **Harding Bliss Prize for Excellence** in Engineering and Applied Science is awarded annually to the outstanding student who has completed his or her Ph.D. thesis during the current academic year and who has done the most to further the intellectual life of the department.

THIBAULT BERTRAND

*Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science*

“Shaking the Sandbox: Energy Transport, Shear Jamming and Protocol Dependence in Model Jammed Solids”

*This thesis focused on computational studies of jamming of frictionless packings. This work has made a significant impact in the field with many researchers now focusing on contact breaking in particulate systems near jamming. In addition, this work developed a possible approach for understanding protocol dependence in athermal systems as a high-dimensional search for jammed packings in configuration space.*

The **Sylvia Ardyn Boone Prize** is awarded annually in memory of Sylvia Boone, a noted scholar of African art, who was the first tenured African-American woman on the Yale faculty. In her memory, Vera Wells, Yale '71, has established a prize to honor Sylvia Boone's life and work.

JESSICA MATUOZZI

*English Language and Literature; African American Studies*

“Double Agency: A Multimedia History of the War on Drugs”

*Jessica's dissertation chronicles this long-standing political battle through interdisciplinary analysis of legal, psychological, and medical treatises; newspapers and now-forgotten memoirs, novels, and stage plays; bootlegged oral folklore and sound recordings; massively popular television series and documentary films. The formal complexities of these print, visual, oral, and aural sources uncover what conventional sources cannot: the contradictory ideas of “agency” that fostered the policy's failure from the 1970s to the present day.*

The **Dirk Brouwer Memorial Prize** was established in 1966 by friends of Professor Dirk Brouwer, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy and Director of the Yale Observatory from 1941 to 1966. It is awarded to a student in the department for a contribution of unusual merit to any branch of astronomy.

RACHEL BEZANSON

*Astronomy*

“Ten Billion Years of Growth: Massive Galaxy Evolution from Structures and Dynamics”

*The most massive galaxies today are old, seemingly relics of a much earlier epoch of formation. In stark contrast with this picture, recent observations reveal that these galaxies were much more compact at early times. This dissertation provides strong evidence for inside-out growth, minimal dynamical evolution, and efficient quenching of massive galaxies over the last ten billion years.*

The **Anthony DiGuida Delta Mu Research Prize** was established in memory of a doctoral student from the School of Nursing. It is given to a graduating student whose love of clinical scholarship has resulted in a dissertation that advances nursing knowledge and demonstrates creative conceptualization of a complex clinical problem, methodologic and analytic excellence, and superb writing.

KARL MINGES  
*Nursing*

“Clinical, Behavioral, and Socio-demographic Correlates of Overweight and Obesity in Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes”

*Karl's dissertation work focused on the factors that influence overweight and obesity in youth with type 1 diabetes, an understudied clinical problem with high morbidity. Through this work, he identified several factors that highlight high-risk subgroups (e.g. girls with type 1 diabetes who are overweight or obese) and modifiable factors (e.g. physical activity).*

The **George Washington Egleston Historical Prize**, established in 1901, is awarded annually to a research student who discovers new facts of importance for American history or gathers information or reaches conclusions which are useful from a historical, literary, and critical point of view.

JENNA HEALEY

*History*

“Sooner or Later: Age, Pregnancy, and the Reproductive Revolution in Late Twentieth-Century America”

*Jenna has seized upon a very important topic that has persisted too long without any sustained historical treatment. This historically engaging and historiographically powerful dissertation will make a first rate publication.*

The **English Department Dissertation Prize** is awarded for the best dissertation in the current year.

JORDAN BROWER

*English Language and Literature; Film Studies*

“A Literary History of the Studio System, 1911-1950”

*Jordan's dissertation is a deeply researched and elegantly argued new account of how movies and the movie business decisively transformed American literature in the twentieth century.*

The **Estwing Hammer Prize** is awarded by the Estwing Manufacturing company to outstanding geology or geophysics graduate students.

DEVON COLE

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Oxygenation of the Earth through Time”

ZHEN LIU

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Interrogations on Earth Structures Using Receiver Functions”

EMMA LOCATELLI

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Leaves in Stone: An Analysis of Plant Taphonomy Using Integrative Experimental and Fossil-based Methods”

The **Excellence in Teaching Prize** is given in recognition of a student's outstanding contribution to the teaching process at the Department of Geology and Geophysics.

ROSS ANDERSON  
*Geology and Geophysics*

JENNIFER AXLER  
*Geology and Geophysics*

The **Miguel Ferreyros Memorial Award** is awarded to the joint-degree student in Global Affairs with the highest academic achievement.

SARAH TOLBERT  
*Global Affairs; Forestry & Environmental Studies*

The **Harry Burr Ferris Prize** is awarded to a doctoral candidate in Cell Biology for a distinguished record of academic accomplishments. A distinguished record is evidenced by many of the following criteria: publications, a scholarly and well-written dissertation, fellowships and other awards, leadership and service activities that benefit the Department or the University.

JEEYUN CHUNG  
*Cell Biology*

“PI4P Regulation and Its Role in Phospholipid Dynamics at Endoplasmic Reticulum-Plasma Membrane Contacts”

*Jeeyun's thesis focused on the elucidation of the dynamics of the phosphoinositide PI4P in the plasma membrane. She demonstrated a role of two proteins of the ORP family, ORP5 and ORP8, in mediating the countertransport of PI4P and PtdSer between the ER and the plasma membrane. She also contributed to the*

*characterization of the enzyme complex that generates PI4P at the plasma membrane. As plasma membrane PI4P is the precursor of several other messenger molecules, her studies have provided new insight into mechanisms of fundamental importance in cell biology.*

ELISE JEFFERY  
*Cell Biology*  
“Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Adipogenesis in Obesity”

*Elise identified a novel, obesity-specific mechanism that drives the increased number of fat cells during weight gain. Her studies of this mechanism also showed that the patterning of fat cell formation in obesity is different in males and females, and that it is the tissue microenvironment in the different fat depots that potentiates fat cell formation.*

The **William Ebenezer Ford Prize** was established in 1963 by a gift from Mary Ford in memory of her husband, Professor William E. Ford, Ph.B. 1899, Ph.D. 1903. It is awarded to students who have distinguished themselves in study or research in mineralogy.

JENNIFER AXLER  
*Geology and Geophysics*  
“Ultrahigh Temperature Metamorphism in the Acadian Orogen”

ANWAR MOHIUDDIN  
*Geology and Geophysics*  
“Microstructure and Grain-size Evolution During Olivine-Wadsleyite Phase Transformation”

The **Hans Gatzke Prize** is awarded upon the recommendation of the History Department for the outstanding dissertation or dissertations in a field of European history

GREY ANDERSON

*History*

“The Civil War in France, 1958-1962”

*This is in every respect a distinguished performance that manages to accomplish far more than most theses at this level. Anderson makes an important contribution.*

ANNE RUDERMAN

*History*

“Supplying the Slave Trade: How Europeans Met African Demand for European Manufactured Products, Commodities and Re-exports, 1670-1790”

*Ruderman’s dissertation breaks new ground in the slave trade historiography. This is an original and important dissertation that challenges conventional notions of the Atlanticization of the European economy in the eighteenth century.*

The **Award for Academic Excellence in Global Affairs** is given to the master’s student in Global Affairs with the highest academic achievement.

ANDREW REEVES

*Global Affairs*

The **James B. Grossman Dissertation Prize** was established in memory of a doctoral student in Psychology. It is given to the author of an outstanding Ph.D. dissertation in Psychology, with preference for research embodying some of the characteristics of James Grossman’s scholarship, such as creativity, use of other disciplines, and clinical work with children.

MATTHEW LEBOWITZ

*Psychology*

“Effects of Biological Explanations of Psychopathology among Mental Health Clinicians and Consumers”

*Mental disorders are increasingly construed as biomedical illnesses. Lebowitz’s studies demonstrate that biomedical conceptions of psychopathology reduce mental-health clinicians’ empathy for patients, lead laypeople to view clinicians as less warm, and cause people to lose confidence in their ability to regulate their symptoms. However, his studies also demonstrate interventions that counteract these negative effects.*

The **William J. Horwitz Prize** is awarded for continuous excellence and distinction in a chosen discipline within the field of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations.

MARY EMMA FRAZER

*Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations*

“Akkadian Royal Letters in Later Mesopotamian Tradition”

*Mary Frazer’s dissertation examines several dozens of royal letters inscribed in cuneiform on clay tablets during the second and first millennium BCE and studied by Mesopotamian scholars and scribes long after the time in which the correspondents lived. The study casts new light on Mesopotamian ideas about the past and the historiography of the ancient world in general.*

The **Mary Ellen Jones (Ph.D. 1951, Biochemistry) Prize** is awarded to the most distinguished dissertation in Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry submitted during the academic year. Dr. Jones was a leading scientist and a pioneer in the advancement of women in academia.

CURTIS SCHAUDER

*Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry*

“Structural Studies in Lipid Homeostasis”

*Membrane contact sites are widely believed critical for lipid homeostasis, but what this process entails at the molecular level has not been well understood. Using structural techniques, Curtis showed that a group of proteins that localize only to contact sites most likely function in non-vesicular lipid transfer between membranes, strongly suggesting that this is one of the processes that takes place at these sites.*

The **Annie Le Fellowship** is awarded each year to one or more Ph.D. students in the biological and biomedical sciences whose demonstrated commitment to bettering the world around them and outstanding record in research exemplify the life and career of Annie Marie Le, a Yale graduate student between 2007 and 2009.

MARY BURKE

*Neuroscience*

ERIN HEIM

*Genetics*

The **Elias Loomis Prize** is awarded for excellence in studies of physics of the earth. Elias Loomis was a professor of natural philosophy and astronomy in Yale College.

AZUSA TAKEISHI

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Impacts of Increased Aerosols on Deep Convective Clouds”

The **John Spangler Nicholas (Ph.D. 1921)**

**Prize** was established in 1972 by bequest of Helen Brown Nicholas in memory of her husband. The prize is awarded annually to outstanding doctoral candidates in experimental zoology.

PETER KIM

*Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology*

“Catalysis and Molecular Recognition by Bacterial Noncoding RNAs”

*Research advances in RNA continue to reveal diverse roles and capabilities noncoding RNAs serve in modern cells. This work led to discovery of new classes of ribozymes and riboswitches, which are noncoding RNAs that can carry out chemical catalysis and molecular recognition, respectively.*

NIKKI LARTER

*Neuroscience*

“Organization and Function of Drosophila Odorant Binding Proteins”

*Odorant binding proteins (Obps) are believed to be required to transport odorants to olfactory receptors. Nikki constructed a map of Obps in an insect antenna and identified neurons associated with only one Obp. Surprisingly, deletion of this Obp did not reduce the responses in these neurons. Instead, the Obp may act as a buffer against changes in the odor environment.*

ANDREW MOELLER

*Ecology and Evolutionary Biology*

“The Evolution of the Great-Ape Gut Microbiome”

*Andrew Moeller investigated how the communities of bacteria that inhabit the human body have diverged from those that resided within our ape-like ancestors. By comparing the gut microbiomes of humans, chimpanzees, bonobos, and gorillas, he and his collaborators showed*

*that humans have experienced massive losses of symbiotic microbial diversity since diverging from wild-living apes.*

JACOB MUSSER

*Ecology & Evolutionary Biology*

“Genomic Innovation in the Evolution of Feathers”

*Jacob found that dinosaur ancestors of birds evolved feathers from the scales on their body, yet retained the scales on their feet, which are still found in modern birds. This revealed that genetic information for one trait can split into two, creating new animal features.*

NATHAN PIRAKITIKULR

*Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology; M.D./Ph.D.*

“The Search and Characterization of Large Structured RNAs”

*RNA is a carrier of genetic information that in certain instances also catalyzes and regulates biological processes. By searching for regions where the RNA folds into unique shapes, Pirakitikulr discovered that the hepatitis C virus RNA simultaneously acts as the code for protein synthesis and a regulator of viral replication and infectivity.*

VICTOR WONG

*Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology*

“Discovering Mechanisms of Gene Activation through Single-cell Analysis of HIV Expression”

*To function properly, cells must execute specific gene expression programs in response to extracellular signals; yet the biological processes that transmit these signals from the cell surface to the gene can often be noisy. Wong used the HIV promoter as a model to investigate the mechanisms that enable gene promoters to distinguish real activating signals from non-specific signaling noise.*

The **Philip M. Orville Prize** was established in 1981 in memory of Philip M. Orville. The prize is awarded to graduate students in geology and geophysics in recognition of outstanding research and scholarship in the earth sciences.

XU CHU

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Metamorphic Phase Equilibria and Diffusion Kinetics, with Applications to the Taconic-Caledonide Orogenic Belt”

DANIEL FIELD

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Macroevolutionary Patterns in Total-Clade Avialae: The Complex Evolution of Avian Biogeography, and the Origin of Avian Flight”

The **George Gaylord Simpson Prize** was established in 1984 in honor of Professor Simpson and is awarded to graduate students and recent Ph.D. recipients for an exceptional paper concerning evolution and the fossil record.

SIMON DARROCH

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Biotic replacement and mass extinction of the Ediacara biota”

*The history of life has been punctuated by 5 devastating mass extinctions. Simon’s research finds evidence for an additional, earlier event - the ‘first mass extinction of complex life’. Unlike other mass extinction events linked to volcanism or meteorite impact, this event was likely caused by evolution, innovation, and biotic interactions, providing a parallel for human-driven extinctions in the present day.*

SARAH FEDERMAN

*Ecology and Evolutionary Biology*

“Implications of lemuriform extinctions  
for the Malagasy flora”

*Understanding how past extinction events affect ecosystems can inform conservation initiatives. This study outlines how, in Madagascar, the extinction of 17 lemur species likely had a substantial impact on forest ecosystems by leaving many large seeded plants without living seed dispersers.*

ALLISON HSIANG

*Geology and Geophysics*

“The origin of snakes: revealing the ecology, behavior, and evolutionary history of early snakes using genomics, phenomics, and the fossil record”

*Fossils represent a uniquely indispensable source of data for understanding the evolutionary history of life on Earth. By combining data from early fossil snakes with data from living snakes (including DNA sequence, anatomical, and behavioral data), this study sheds new light on the diet, behavior, habitat, provenance, and temporal origin of the earliest ancestors of snakes.*

The **Carolyn Slayman Prize** in Genetics recognizes the remarkable achievements of our best students in the Department of Genetics, based on their body of work, the impact of their findings in the field of Genetics and their commitment to the Genetics Graduate Program and graduate education at Yale.

CAROLYN W. SLAYMAN, PH.D.

An outstanding teacher and scientist, she became a member of the Department of Human Genetics when it was established in 1972, and the first woman to become department chair at the Yale School of Medicine, leading the Department of Human Genetics in 1984. Dr. Slayman is currently

Deputy Dean for Academic & Scientific Affairs and Sterling Professor of Genetics.

HANWEN BAI

*Genetics*

“Integrated genomic characterization of IDH1-mutant glioma malignant progression”

*For his seminal work in the identification of genetic mutations leading to the development of recurrent Glioma. This work helps elucidate the mechanisms of brain tumor recurrence and provides an important basis to understand and cure in the future this devastating disease.*

ASHLEY BONNEAU

*Genetics*

“Development reprogramming in the early embryo: The roles of Nanog, Pou5f3, and SoxB1 on zygotic gene activation”

*For her outstanding work in the identification of factors that initiate the activation of the genome in an embryo after fertilization. This work provides the basis to understand the beginning of a new life from a molecular standpoint, and links this universal process to the basic process of cellular reprogramming.*

The **Edwin W. Small Prize** was established in memory of Edwin W. Small (B.A. 1930, M.A. 1934) and is awarded in recognition and furtherance of outstanding work in the field of American history.

MICHAEL BLAAKMAN

*History*

“Speculation Nation: Land and Mania in the Revolutionary American Republic, 1776-1803”

*Beautifully written, creatively researched, and persuasively argued, this dissertation is firmly anchored in impressive research.*

JOSEPH YANNIELLI

*History*

“The Mendi Mission: Africa and the American Abolition of Slavery”

*His descriptions and analysis ring true. On the level of research, this dissertation is a genuine achievement and makes a significant contribution to the growing historiography on the transatlantic dimensions of American abolitionism.*

The **George Trimis Prize** was established in May 2003 in memory of a doctoral student in Economics who succumbed to cancer. In recognition of the extraordinary example that Trimis set, the prize is awarded to students whose dissertations demonstrate exceptional and distinguished achievement.

SHAMEEL T. AHMAD

*Economics*

“Demographic and Economic Development in Colonial South Asia”

*Thomas Malthus proposed in 1798 that population growth responds so strongly to increases in per capita income food consumption as sharply to limit its growth. Shameel Ahmad tests this theory using data from India covering the period 1871-1931. He finds that deaths and births respond to changes in monsoon rainfall in a manner consistent with the Malthusian theory.*

ADAM JOSHUA KAPOR

*Economics*

“Educational Impacts of Admissions Mechanisms”

*The Texas Top Ten Bill guarantees Texas high school students ranking in the top 10 percent of their class admission to each public university in the state. Adam Kapor uses survey and administrative data to estimate the impact of this law on underrepresented minority enrollment in the best state universities, academic performance, and earnings after college.*

The **Richard Wolfgang Prize** was established in 1971 in memory of Richard Leopold Wolfgang, M.A. Hon. 1962, and member of the faculty from 1956 to 1971. It is awarded each year for the best doctoral theses of graduating chemistry students.

SAHR KHAN

*Chemistry*

“Elucidating the Mechanism of Photosynthetic Water Splitting”

*By modifying the reaction conditions to make the water oxidation reaction rate limiting, Sahr Khan has unveiled the oxygen kinetic isotope effect for the evolution of oxygen in photosynthesis. This is a very significant result that provides new information on the mechanism of photosynthetic water oxidation.*

STAFFORD SHEEHAN

*Chemistry*

“Photon Management and Water Oxidation Catalysts for Artificial Photosynthesis”

*Stafford Sheehan's thesis describes his research in two areas of artificial photosynthesis for use as a renewable energy. One area was using plasmonic nanoparticles to enhance the photon capture efficiency of photoanodes, and the other was to develop a new water oxidation catalyst that has the highest efficiency ever reported at low voltages. These two developments represent significant progress in the advancement of renewable energy strategies.*

The *Arthur and Mary Wright Prize* is awarded upon the recommendation of the History Department for the outstanding dissertation or dissertations in the field of history outside the United States or Europe.

RICHARD ANDERSON

*History*

“Recaptives: Community and Identity in Colonial Sierra Leone, 1808-1863”

*This dissertation fills one of the most surprising gaps in 19th century African historiography and marks a major advance in our understanding of the history of Sierra Leone. Anderson has made a critical contribution to the debate on the formation of African identities in a diasporic setting.*

ERIKA HELGEN

*History*

“Holy Wars: Protestants, Catholics, and the Struggle for Brazilian National Identity, 1916-1945”

*A thoroughly impressive achievement distinguished by its exhaustive primary research. The research is original and exemplary. The analysis is thorough and convincing. The writing style is clear and elegant.*

## *University Awards*

The *Theron Rockwell Field Prize* was established in 1957 by Emilia R. Field in memory of her husband, Theron Rockwell Field, Ph.B. 1889. It is awarded for poetic, literary, or religious works by any students enrolled in the University for a degree. This prize is awarded by the Office of the Secretary of Yale University.

ESTHER CHADWICK

*History of Art*

“The Radical Print: British Art and Graphic Experiment in the Paper Age”

ISAIAH WILNER

*History*

“Raven Cried for Me: Narratives of Transformation on the Northwest Coast of America”

The *John Addison Porter Prize*, named in honor of Professor John Addison Porter, B.A. 1842, is awarded for a work of scholarship in any field where it is possible, through original effort, to gather and relate facts or principles, or both, and to present the results in such a literary form as to make the project of general human interest. This prize is awarded by the Office of the Secretary of Yale University.

GERARDO CON DIAZ

*History*

“Intangible Inventions: A History of Software Patenting in the United States, 1945-1985”

TALYA ZEMACH-BERSIN

*American Studies*

“Imperial Pedagogies: Education for American Globalism, 1898-1950”

## *Public Service Awards*

The ***Graduate School Community Service Award*** honors a graduate student's volunteer work in the local community while enrolled at Yale.

BRIDGET HEGARTY

*Chemical and Environmental Engineering*

Bridget is dedicated to the support and encouragement of women in engineering. She founded and is currently co-president of a women in engineering group for graduate students. Additionally, she facilitated the chartering of Yale's section of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). Through mentoring socials, gender bias workshops, and more, she works to build community and support engineering students at Yale. Beyond Yale, she encourages the next generation of engineers through STEM outreach. Most recently, SWE and the Pathways to Science Program co-hosted an Engineering Day to encourage middle schoolers to pursue engineering.

The ***Disciplinary Outreach Service Award*** recognizes a student who has applied specific knowledge of his or her own field in performing voluntary service within the local community.

SARA MARIE KATRANCHA

*Neuroscience*

Sara is a leader in many Yale programs, including the Neuroscience Outreach Program, Brain Education Day, and STARS Program, through which she seeks to improve the community's understanding of how the brain functions and to support students who wish to pursue a STEM degree. By creating dialogues between students and scientists,

her efforts have helped to create and foster a neuroscience community in New Haven spanning everyone from 5th grade students to tenured professors.

The ***Public Scholar Award*** recognizes research and activism pursued by a Yale graduate student that engages and better the world at large.

ELISABETH BECKER

*Sociology*

Elisabeth's doctoral research focuses on ethnographic research in European mosque communities, centering on the responses of diverse Muslim populaces to stigmatization on account of their religion. She has written on this and related topics for *Global Dialogue*, *UN Dispatch*, *Discover Society*, *First Things* and the *Global Scholars Blog*. She has also published multiple Letters to the Editor regarding religion and discrimination in *The New York Times*. Elisabeth further collaborates with civil society organizations in Europe, such as a representative of the Kreuzberg Initiative Against Anti-Semitism in Berlin, with whom she has begun to develop a Police Handbook aimed at improving the handling of large minority populations in Germany.

# Graduating Winners of Prize Teaching Fellowships

JOSEPH FAUCHER

*Electrical Engineering*

2014-2015

MATTHEW HERDIECH

*Chemical and Environmental Engineering*

2012-2013

LAUREN JACKS GAMBLE

*History of Art*

2009-2010

MIHO KANEKO

*Chemistry*

2013-2014

MATTHEW LINDAUER

*Philosophy*

2012-2013

CAROLYN SINSKY

*Comparative Literature*

2013-2014

TALYA ZEMACH-BERSIN

*American Studies*

2012-2013

# Graduate Mentor Awards

This year, for the eighteenth time, the Graduate School honors faculty members at Convocation for their exemplary qualities as mentors. Many dissertation advisors were nominated, and the honorees were chosen by a committee of students and faculty. All letters of nomination were anonymous.

## *In the Humanities*

ROBERTA FRANK

*Marie Borroff Professor of English  
and Professor of Linguistics*

“Roberta cares deeply about her students and expresses this through warm and continuous intellectual exchange, generous written feedback, and an eagle eye for professional opportunities for students.”

“Roberta has a deep appreciation for the interdependence of personal and professional lives, and her thoughtfulness for the well-being of her students does not stop at the gates of literary scholarship.”

“Anglo-Saxonists at other institutions say that you can always pick out Roberta’s students not by the kind of work they do but instead by the generosity of spirit that she models for us.”

“Roberta proves that you can be a giant in your field and still be approachable, kind, and sympathetic to the struggles of graduate school.”

“If a mentor is someone who fosters and encourages a student to pursue their interests and not only leads but also joins side by side with the student in exploring an area, then no one can do better than Roberta Frank.”

## *In the Natural Sciences*

CHINEDUM OSUJI

*Associate Professor of Chemical  
and Environmental Engineering*

“Professor Osuji cares deeply about each student and wants to see each one succeed. He sees the potential in each student and helps him or her to see and reach that potential. He pushes us beyond our limits, helping us grow as scientists and individuals.”

“Professor Osuji is a bright light in the Chemical Engineering department. In addition to conducting excellent research, he is approachable, highly intelligent, and always helpful.”

“He has cultivated an environment where student and postdocs, even those outside of his group, feel welcome to stop by his office to talk.”

“Dr. Osuji encourages us to see how we can take what we have learned in the classroom and apply it to our own interests and research projects. He makes it a priority. Educating the next generation of scientists, preparing them for the exciting problems and challenges they will encounter in their careers both at Yale and beyond, is truly a source of great joy and pride for Dr. Osuji.”

*In the Social Sciences*

JACK DOVIDIO

*Carl I. Hovland Professor of Psychology  
and Professor in the Institute for Social  
and Policy Studies and Public Health*

“Professor Dovidio strikes a perfect balance between being hands-on while giving students space to develop their own identities as researchers. He pushes students to think critically about their hypotheses, assists with statistical analyses, and is willing to send manuscript drafts back and forth with thorough edits on weekend mornings. He provides concrete guidance, but also treats students as colleagues and shares astute insights that shape, rather than dictate, the progression of their research and development as social scientists.”

“Jack works tirelessly to give his students the best graduate education possible and to help his students achieve their career goals. Despite his heavy involvement in various committees and in other departments, his students always come first.”

“Jack knows his knowledge is not complete and seems just as eager to learn new information from his students as we are to learn from him. Whether reading/writing articles or pursuing new projects, Jack’s enthusiasm for Psychology rubs off on everyone he speaks to.”

“He listens to and deeply considers what everybody has to say. He makes it abundantly clear that the merit of an idea matters more than the academic status of its source, and he conveys just as much respect for new graduate students as for the most eminent leaders in our field.”

