

# MUSTANG OVATIONS

A salute to academic excellence, distinctiveness and meaningful engagement.



**THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023**

**SMSU Upper Conference Center**

## ORDER OF EVENTS

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 4:00 p.m. | Social Time and Hors d'oeuvres<br>Music by SMSU student Samantha Moeller   |
| 4:25 p.m. | SMSU Land Acknowledgement  |
| 4:30 p.m. | Welcome from President Kumara Jayasuriya   |
| 4:35 p.m. | Opening Remarks and Highlights of the Year's Successes from Provost Ross Wastvedt  |
| Interlude | (if time allows)   |
| 5:00 p.m. | "Remembering Cathy Cowan" Film   |
| 5:05 p.m. | Recognition of 2023 Cathy Cowan Award Recipient<br>Sheila Tabaka, Professor of Theatre<br>Acceptance on her behalf by Nadine Schmidt |
| 5:15 p.m. | Closing Comments from Academic Deans<br>Lori Baker and Raphael Onyeaghala  |

Please enjoy visiting and the refreshments

## COWAN AWARD 2023: SHEILA TABAKA

When it comes to professors' impact on students, it's not a single moment with one student, but the cumulative effect that one person can have on hundreds of students as they go about their work.

Among those quietly and steadily doing good for others is Professor Sheila Tabaka, the 2023 recipient of the Cathy Cowan Award.

Recipients of the Cowan Award are selected for their service to SMSU, Marshall, and the region. The award is presented to a faculty or staff member and is the most prestigious annual award given at Southwest Minnesota State University. It is named for the late Cathy Cowan, a Psychology professor who died in an auto accident in December 2001. Cowan's example of service to SMSU students and the community was the inspiration for the award. A big criterion is 'doing good for others.'

Tabaka is in her 25th year at SMSU, starting in her role in 1998. She's a professor in the Theatre Program and the costumer for all the SMSU theatre productions.

Tabaka grew up in Merrill, Wisconsin, a small town not much different from Marshall. She attended UW-Marathon County Center, a two-year school that was part of the University of Wisconsin system but is no longer open. She transferred to UW-Stevens Point to enroll in the Bachelor of Arts program in theatre. She began the Master of Arts program at Southwest Texas State University for one semester, but the area didn't click for her. She went on to earn an MFA from Minnesota State University—Mankato.

Tabaka started her path in theatre while at the UW-Marathon campus. She had done mostly acting but liked the idea of directing too. The school did a production of two one-act plays that are presented together. They didn't have a costumer, so she was asked to do the costumes. At the time she didn't know how costumes and clothing went together, but she learned a lot. By the time she went to graduate school, she was working with classmates in the costume shop.

"Esther Iverson was the shop manager there and she was just a godsend. She was so patient with all of us, and she really knew how to work both with eager beginners and reluctant learners," said Tabaka. "I loved being part of the creative process and, in grad school, we did so many shows, which isn't great for actors, but for designers and technicians you had to learn to work fast and think on your feet. So, coming to SMSU where I'm the one, I'm the costumer, I knew, 'I totally got this.'"

Tabaka recalls the first production she worked on at Southwest was *Arsenic and Old Lace*. A great show for jumping into her new role as costumer. She recalled some other fun productions from the costuming side including *Sense and Sensibility*, *The Heiress*, and *Pinkalicious*.

"Coming here in 1998, I was able to work with Ray Oster and Bill Hezlep. They were both incredible. Ray was a hoot, and Bill had a way of nurturing actors with that old-school tough love," said Tabaka. "And then he would get these amazing performances out of these students. He saw their potential. He knew they could do better and pushed them to achieve it."

Tabaka appreciates that she can have interactions with so many students from the intro to theatre students who are learning to sew buttons for the first time, to students who come in looking for a suit from the Professional Dress Closet that Tabaka launched with Career Services and SMSU Forensics to make available to students who need clothes for job interviews and speech competitions. She sees the transformation that students undergo, the confidence and pride they find in themselves.

"I know how it feels to send your kids off to college hoping that someone is taking care of them," Tabaka said. "These parents gave their child to us, to take care of, in all the things, right?"

Tabaka appreciates that she can have interactions with so many students from the intro to theatre students who are learning to sew buttons for the first time, to students who come in looking for a suit from the Professional Dress Closet that Tabaka launched with Career Services and SMSU Forensics to make available to students who need clothes for job interviews and speech competitions. She sees the transformation that students undergo, the confidence and pride they find in themselves.

"I know how it feels to send your kids off to college hoping that someone is taking care of them," Tabaka said. "These parents gave their child to us, to take care of, in all the things, right? We're supposed to feed them. We're supposed to teach them. We're supposed to care for them and nurture them so they can leave here and be successful adults. It's a big responsibility, but it's also a big honor."

Tabaka is always amazed when former students, even students who took one class, tell her about something she did that made a difference, something as simple as asking if they were okay.

"You realize that the little things can make a big difference."

Adding to the honor of the award, Tabaka reflected her early years at SMSU, when Cathy Cowan invited her, her husband, and their baby to a gathering of faculty friends at her home. Cowan was warm and welcoming, 110-percent in all things. Tabaka remembered that Cathy didn't do anything halfway.

"She didn't yell at you halfway and she didn't hug you halfway," she said, and that left an impression on Tabaka as a young faculty member.

"I am so humbled by this award," she continued. "I don't really know what to say because I feel like I didn't do anything special. So many people I feel are more deserving, and I'm just doing my job. I feel so lucky and blessed to be able to do it."

Tabaka is involved across campus and the community serving on boards, teaching workshops, volunteering at church and various non-profit groups, and leading the SMSU Children's Theatre Workshop every summer. She has also held leadership positions in Region 5 of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF). She regularly gives presentations on historical fashion and other topics.

"Her service to the university and the community over the last twenty-five years has been exemplary and a model for us all," said a colleague in just one of the nomination letters.

Tabaka and her husband, Jim — an adjunct music instructor at SMSU — are the parents of five children: Eukariah, Sally, Margaret, Lillian, and Jedidiah.



## All Cowan Award Winners

2003 – Gerald Toland, Professor of Economics and Agribusiness  
2004 - Mary Hickerson, Professor of English  
2005 - Dr. Betsy Desy, Professor of Biology  
2006 - Marilyn Leach, Director of Academic and Diversity Resources  
2007 - Sandy Nelson, Coordinator of International Student Services  
2008 - Daniel Snobl, Director of Student Development and Physical Therapy  
2009 - Dr. Jan Loft, Professor of Speech Communication  
2010 - Dr. Emily Deaver, Professor of Environmental Science  
2011 - Dr. Daniel Kaiser, Professor of Computer Science  
2012 - Dr. Sharon Kabes, Professor of Education  
2013 - Brent Jeffers, Professor of Exercise Science  
2014 - Dr. James Zarzana, Professor of English  
2015 - Dr. Michael Rich, Professor of Marketing  
2016 - Mark Fokken, Professor of Communication Studies  
2017 - Pat Carmody, Registrar  
2018 – Dr. Christine Olson, Professor of Applied Psychology  
2019 – Michele Knife Sterner, Associate Director of Access Opportunity Success  
2020 – Pam Gladis, Associate Professor, Librarian  
2021 – Glenn Bayerkohler, Professor of Accounting  
2022 – Jefferson Lee IV, Director of Access Opportunity Success  
2023 – Sheila Tabaka, Professor of Theatre

## 2023 Campus Compact Award Recipients

Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact President's Civic Engagement Leadership Award:

**SMSU Exercise Science Advisory Council**

Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact President's Community Partner Award:

**Schwan's Company (Norma Streich), Exercise Science Program partnership**

Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact President's Student Leadership Award:

**Valerie Messner, Enactus**

## 2022 Inaugural Equity Teaching Fellows

SMSU initiated a special faculty development opportunity in support of the SMSU Vision to be recognized throughout Minnesota and beyond for being an inclusive and student-centered university. The program provides recognition and support for faculty who engage in a series of designated, ongoing equity-oriented professional development activities and reflection. The following faculty who completed one or more Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) courses during the 2021-22 academic year and submitted documentation identifying and reflecting on implemented changes are recognized as the first group of Equity Teaching Fellows:

**Dr. Eric Doise**  
**Dr. Maria Kingsbury**  
**Dr. Stephen Kingsbury**  
**Dr. George Taylor**

**Dr. Laurie Johansen**  
**Dr. Donna Pettit**  
**Dr. Sonya Vierstraete**  
**Dr. Stephen Davis**

# Academic Year 2022-2023

## PUBLICATIONS AND CREATIVE WORKS

### **Benjamin Anderson: Associate Professor of Psychology**

Anderson, B.A. & Peterson, S.A. (2022). Concreteness and levels of processing: a test of the dual-coding hypothesis using dynamic visual noise, *Memory*, 30:10, 1405-1420, DOI: 10.1080/09658211.2022.2120622

### **Morgan Betker: Assistant Professor of Exercise Science**

McGuirk, E., Snyder, E., Betker, M., Rourk, Z.T., Uithoven, K.E., Lee, E.J., & Lundstrom, C. (2023). The relationship between climatic condition, sex, and degree of slowing in the marathon. *Science & Sports*. 10.1016/j.scispo.2022.02.009.

### **Corey Butler: Professor of Psychology**

Butler, J. C. (2023). The psychology of cheating: It's just a game, isn't it? *American Chess Magazine* 32.

### **Kris Cleveland: Associate Professor of Exercise Science**

Cleveland, K., & Peterson, S.A., (2022). Service Learning and Self-Efficacy in Exercise Science: Outcomes of a community fitness-training program involving undergraduate exercise science students, *Advances in Physiology Education*, Volume 46, Issue 4; pg 517-762.

### **John Ginocchio: Professor of Music**

Conductor for the SWMBDA 11-12 Honor Band and for the Eastern Coteau Conference Band Festival (2023).

### **Rick Herder: Professor of Communication Studies**

Herder, R., Boje, D. & Rosile, G. (2023). Using Antenarrative Process Methodology to Understand How the Coalition of Immokalee Workers Overcame Enslavement in Corporate Supply Chains, *SAGE Research Methods Cases: Business & Management* (online publication).

### **Stephen Kingsbury: Professor of Music**

Hosted over 250 area high school students at SMSU's annual SingFest recruitment event (2022).

### **Erin Kline: Associate Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Associate Director of Mustang Pathway Program**

Kline, E., & Lee, J. (2022). "From Denied to the Dean's List: Program Design that Makes a Difference." *Developing and Implementing Promising Practices and Programs for First-Generation College Students*, Ed. Charmaine Troy, Karen Jackson, Ben Pearce, and Diana Rowe; Routledge; p. 64-82.

### **Jefferson Lee IV: Director of Access Opportunity Success, Mustang Pathways & Intercultural Services**

Kline, E., & Lee, J. (2022). "From Denied to the Dean's List: Program Design that Makes a Difference." *Developing and Implementing Promising Practices and Programs for First-Generation College Students*, Ed. Charmaine Troy, Karen Jackson, Ben Pearce, and Diana Rowe; Routledge; p. 64-82.

### **Nancyruth Leibold: Professor of Nursing**

Leibold, L. (2022). Student perceptions of teacher online feedback: An integrative review. *Journal of Effective Teaching in Higher Education*, 5(2), 22-42.

### **Scott Peterson: Professor of Psychology**

Anderson, B.A. & Peterson, S.A. (2022). Concreteness and levels of processing: a test of the dual-coding hypothesis using dynamic visual noise, *Memory*, 30:10, 1405-1420, DOI: 10.1080/09658211.2022.2120622

Cleveland, K., & Peterson, S.A. (2022). Service Learning and Self-Efficacy in Exercise Science: Outcomes of a community fitness-training program involving undergraduate exercise science students, *Advances in Physiology Education*, Volume 46, Issue 4; pg 517-762.

Peterson, S.A. (2022). Further Validation of the Realness Scale: Are Celebrity Worshipers Unreal?, *Advances in Physiology Education*, Volume 46, Issue 4; pg 517-762.

**Saara Raappana: Adjunct Instructor of English**

Chamber After Chamber manuscript has been awarded the Juniper Prize for Poetry: First Book, to be published by the University of Massachusetts Press.

**Nadine Schmidt: Professor of Theatre**

Performed the role of Prospero in the Bare Bodkins Theatre Company's production of the Tempest by William Shakespeare. July 2022.

**Ben Walker: Associate Professor of Communication Studies**

Wahl, J. & Walker, B. (2022). Communication apprehension in high school students with professional practices. Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota Journal, 45, 34-44.

**PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS****Adam Alford: Assistant Professor of Agronomy**

"Utilization of Drone Technology as a Tool to Enhance the Agricultural Learning of Future Agriculture Professionals." Presentation at the Minnesota Ag Expo, Mankato, MN. 2023.

"Measuring the Effects of Tillage and Crop Type on Soil Respiration in Southwestern Minnesota Using DIY Low-Cost Sensors." Poster presentation American Geophysical Union, Chicago, IL. 2022.

**Marta Almeyda-Ibañez: Associate Professor of Marketing**

"Preferred Teaching Deliver Methods for Generation Z." Presentation with Heather Rickgarn, Lei Huang and Denise Gochenouer at the Marketing Management Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. September 21, 2022.

"Teaching Effectiveness Using Hyflex Delivery Methodology During the 2020 Covid Pandemic." Presentation with Denise Gochenouer, Lei Huang, and Heather Rickgarn at the International Society of Marketing Conference. Chicago, IL. March 23, 2023.

"An Exploration of Students' Overall Learning Styles and Preferences for Different Teaching Methods." Presentation with Chidinma Ikwunze, Denise Gochenouer and Heather Rickgarn at American Marketing Science. New Orleans, LA. May 18, 2023.

**Eric Doise: Associate Professor of English**

"Learning to Read Testimony through Testimony Fiction: William Demby's 'The Catacombs' as a Case Study." Presented at the Chaired the panel "Trauma in the Age of Trauma." Presented at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Conference. November 17, 2022.

"Trauma in the Age of Trauma." Chaired the panel "at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Conference. November 17, 2022.

**John Ginocchio: Professor of Music**

"Sound Use of Space: Ensemble Seating." Presentation at the North Carolina Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference. Winston-Salem, NC. November 5, 2022.

**Denise Gochenouer: Professor of Marketing**

"Preferred Teaching Delivery Methods for Generation Z." Presentation with Heather Rickgarn, Lei Huang and Marta Almeyda-Ibañez at the Marketing Management Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. September 21, 2022.

"Teaching Effectiveness Using Hyflex Deliver Methodology During the 2020 Covid Pandemic." Presentation with Marta Almeyda-Ibañez, Lei Huang, and Heather Rickgarn at the International Society of Marketing Conference. Chicago, IL. March 23, 2023.

"An Exploration of Students' Overall Learning Styles and Preferences for Different Teaching Methods." Presentation with Chidinma Ikwunze, Marta Almeyda-Ibañez and Heather Rickgarn at American Marketing Science. New Orleans, LA. May 18, 2023.

**Marcia Grimes-Rose: Assistant Professor of Business Administration**

“The State of the Supply Chain.” Presented at Utah Child Nutrition Program Spring Conference. San Diego, CA. Layton, UT. March 23, 2023.

“Paradigm Shift within Your Supply Chain.” Presented at the Utah Child Nutrition Spring Conference. Layton, UT. March 23, 2023

“Fresh Perspectives on the Supply Chain.” Presented at the School Nutrition Industry Conference. January 12-16, 2023.

**Rick Herder: Professor of Communication Studies**

“Storytelling for Transformation: Teaching Marshall Ganz’s ‘Public Narrative’ to First Year College Students.” Presented at Quantum Storytelling Conference. Las Cruces, NM. December 17, 2022.

“Communal Voice and the Prophetic Gesture: Fasting and Communion in the Coalition of Immokalee Worker’s Taco Bell Campaign.” Presented at the Rhetoric Society of America. Baltimore, MD. May 27, 2022.

**Laurie Johansen: Professor of Nursing**

“Rural Nursing Through the COVID-19 Pandemic.” Presented at Nurse Educator’s Conference in the Rockies 2022 Conference. Breckenridge, CO. July 21, 2022.

**Stephen Kingsbury: Professor of Music**

Coordinated the annual Student Conducting Workshop at American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota Summer Dialogue. St. John’s University, Collegeville, MN. August 2-3, 2022.

Coordinated the annual Student Symposium at the Coordinated the annual Student Symposium. Mahtomedi, MN. November 18, 2022.

Conductor of the 2023 Tri-Metro Conference Honor Choir at the Tri-Metro Arts Festival. Richfield, MN. January 30, 2023.

Conductor of the Gopher Conference Honor Choir at the Gopher Conference Arts Festival. Maple River, MN. February 10-11, 2023.

Conductor and clinician at the Murray County Central Choral Festival. Slayton, MN. March 24, 2023.

Adjudicated four Minnesota State High School League Solo and Ensemble Festivals, and five Minnesota State High School League Large Ensemble Festivals.

Guest conductor at Tracy Area High School and Andover High School.

**Laura Koenig: Assistant Professor of Psychology**

“Threatening Meaning in Life: Are Compensation Effects Moderated by Religious Identity?” Presentation at Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention. February 25, 2023.

**Heather Rickgarn: Assistant Professor of Management**

“Preferred Teaching Delivery Methods for Generation Z.” Presentation with Denise Gochenouer, Lei Huang and Marta Almeyda-Ibañez at the Marketing Management Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. September 21, 2022.

“Teaching Effectiveness Using Hyflex Deliver Methodology During the 2020 Covid Pandemic.” Presentation with Marta Almeyda-Ibañez, Lei Huang, and Denise Gochenouer at the International Society of Marketing Conference. Chicago, IL. March 23, 2023.

“An Exploration of Students’ Overall Learning Styles and Preferences for Different Teaching Methods.” Presentation with Chidinma Ikwunze, Marta Almeyda-Ibañez and Denise Gochenouer at American Marketing Science. New Orleans, LA. May 18, 2023.

**Will Thomas: Professor of Accounting**

“Environmental Accounting at SMSU.” Presented at Sustainability, ESG, and Accounting: Implications for the Academy and the Profession hosted by the American Accounting Association. February 18, 2023.

**Ben Walker: Associate Professor of Communication Studies**

“Recruiting Post-COVID: Broadening the PLACES Where We Find Our People.” With J. Walker. National Communication Association, November 2022.

**Julie Walker: Assistant Professor of Communication Studies**

“Centering on the Students: Locating the Focus on Student Health and Well-being.” National Communication Association, November 2022.

“‘The Way You’re Holding Your Book Looks Awkward’: Reflecting on Black Book Barriers and Other Accessibility Concerns in Interpretation Categories.” National Communication Association, November 2022.

“Recruiting Post-COVID: Broadening the PLACES Where We Find Our People.” With B. Walker. National Communication Association, November 2022.

**AWARDS AND ACCOLADES**

**Bailey Bouman: Head Women’s Softball Coach**

Represents SMSU and the NSIC on the NCAA Coaches Connection for softball.

**Kris Cleveland: Associate Professor of Exercise Science**

The SMSU Exercise Science Program earned the CAAHEP - Commission on Accreditation of Health Education Programs. SMSU Exercise Science is the first MinnState institution to earn this accreditation and only the second University in the State of Minnesota. May 20, 2022.

Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact Civic Engagement Leadership Award - Exercise Science Advisory Council. St Paul MN. April 13, 2023.

**Kaitlyn Giles: Assistant Director of Student Success**

Developed a D2L course for students on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to assist with their success. Will present at the annual system-wide testing director’s meeting on “Best Practices and Advancements in ACCUPLACER.”

Assisted with the Advancing Academic Success in Math system-wide project.

Conducted a lunch and learn professional development series for academic advisors at SMSU.

Serves as the ASF representative on the system-wide Assessment for Course Placement Committee.

**Rick Herder: Professor of Communication Studies**

MLK Humanitarian Award, from the SMSU office of Diversity and Inclusion. Marshall, MN. January 16, 2023.

**Kelly Loft: Assistant Athletic Director, Communications and Marketing**

Earned College Sports Communicators recognition for 25 years of service.

Serves as chairperson for the Conference Commissioners Association D2 Baseball All-American committee.

**Allison Monson: Associate Director of Athletics**

Participated in D2 Athletic Directors Association Mentor/Mentee program.

Served on the NCAA Regional Advisory Committee for softball.

**Kirk Nauman: Cross Country/Track & Field Coach**

Represents SMSU and the NSIC on the NCAA Coaches Connection for track and field.

**Jon Parker: Head Women’s Tennis Coach**

Served on the NCAA Regional Advisory Committee for tennis.

**Jeet Sausen: SUCCESS Program Coordinator**

Completed training to become a Gallup-Certified Strengths Coach.

Serves on the ASF State Board as the Equity and Inclusion Chair

Participant in the Teach Together Minnesota Conference, sharing information about the SUCCESS program on May 16, 2023.

**Nadine Schmidt: Professor of Theatre**

Kennedy Center Gold Medallion from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) Region 5. Des Moines, IA. January 26, 2023.

**Tom Webb: Head Women's Basketball Coach**

Represented SMSU and the NSIC on the NCAA Coaches Connection for women's basketball.

**Julie Walker: Assistant Professor of Communication Studies**

Larry Schnoor District IV Distinguished Service Award for contributions to the American Forensics Association

**EXTERNAL GRANTS**

**Adam Alford: Assistant Professor of Agronomy**

MN Corn Research and Promotion Council. Weed suppressive cover crop incorporation in organic corn educational plot. Allen P. Deutz, Adam M. Alford (Primary Grant Writer). Innovation Grant (\$13,800 Funded). Spring 2023.

MN Wheat Research and Promotion Council Utilization of wheat fertility trials to enhance educational opportunities for future Ag professionals. Adam M. Alford, Elliot Vaughan, Emeka Nwafor. (\$12,000 Funded). 2023.

MN Soybean Research and Promotion Council. Explorations in soybean growth habits under different planting populations and with simulated hail damage in order to enhance the agricultural learning of future agriculture professionals. Adam M. Alford. (\$12,000 Funded). 2023.

MN Soybean Research and Promotion Council. Phase IV: Inviting, encouraging and training SMSU agriculture students to integrate CCA certification into their curricula and career preparation. Adam M. Alford, Gerald Toland Jr (Primary Grant Writer). (\$5,000 Funded). 2023.

**Tetta Askeland, Mary Ellen Daniloff-Merrill and Eric Doise, with consultation from May Lee Moua-Vue**

Art Project Grant for Worldfest. (\$7,000) Southwest Minnesota Arts Council. January 31, 2023.

**John Ginocchio: Professor of Music**

Southwest Minnesota Arts Council. Arts in the Schools Grant for the Tom "Bones" Malone Jazz Residency, \$4,000.

Community Tourism Support Grant. (\$1,000 in cash, \$1,000 in marketing). Visit Marshall. January 13, 2023.

To support celebrating local cultures and diversity. Southwest Initiative Foundation. March 6, 2023.

**Laura Koenig: Assistant Professor of Psychology**

Teacher Scholar Travel Award grant, with \$500 to assist with travel to the organization's Annual Convention. Society for Personality and Social Psychology. October 7, 2022.

*Congratulations on your accomplishments!*

