

INTRODUCING THE 2022 DISTINGUISHED FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Nancy Fitzsimons, PhD, MSW, LISW is a Professor in the Department of Social Work. She joined the faculty in 2001. Nancy led the effort to develop an accredited MSW Program. She primarily teaches macro-focused social work courses in the MSW Program, including social welfare policy and services, community practice, and policy advocacy. Nancy has spent more than 30 years working with and connected to people with disabilities, disability services, and disability advocacy. She is a former Chair of the Minnesota Council on Disability. She currently serves as Board Secretary at The Arc Minnesota. Her scholarship centers on reframing the causes and solutions of sexual and other forms of violence perpetrated against people with intellectual and other disabilities. Her scholarly endeavors include a book, book chapter, several journal articles, several training curriculum, and 50 plus local, state, national and international presentations connected to disability and sexual violence prevention. She co-chaired the committee responsible for developing Minnesota's comprehensive plan for prevention of abuse and neglect of people with disabilities. Nancy's expertise in the disability services system has led to her serving as an expert witness in civil lawsuits involving sexual and other violence perpetrated against people with disabilities in care settings. The manuscript for her second book, tentatively titled *The Danger of the Single Story of Disability, Vulnerability, and the Single Solution of Protection*, is undergoing revision in preparation for publication.

Dr. Kuldeep Agarwal is a Professor and Graduate Coordinator in the Department of Automotive and Manufacturing Engineering Technology. He earned a Bachelor of Technology degree from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur in 2001, an MS in Industrial Engineering from The Ohio State University in 2003, and a Ph.D. in Integrated Systems Engineering from The Ohio State University in 2011. He joined Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2012 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2017 and Professor in 2021. His research interests are in the field of 3D Printing, metal forming, and engineering management. He has published more than 50 papers in journals and national and international conferences. He has also supervised 25 Master's Thesis/APP and 15 Masters Capstone Projects, along with 15 Undergraduate posters in conferences. He routinely works with local and regional manufacturing companies in improving their processes and products.



Dr. David Sharlin is a professor and graduate program coordinator in Department of Biological Sciences. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Zoology from the University of New Hampshire, Durham in 1999 and a Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Biology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 2007. Prior to joining the Department of Biological Sciences at Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2012, he completed a five-year postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD. His research interests reside at the intersection of endocrinology, neuroscience, and development. His research is broadly focused on understanding the role of thyroid hormone during development of the nervous system with a particular interest in the brain and auditory system. Dr. Sharlin is a teacher scholar who actively mentors graduate and undergraduate students in research.

