February 16, 2016

Dear Oregon State Colleagues:

Please join me in congratulating our colleagues, Professor Margaret Burnett and Professor Peter Clark, Oregon State University's 2016 Distinguished Professors. The Distinguished Professor award has been presented annually since 1988 to outstanding active OSU faculty members who have achieved national and/or international stature as a result of their contributions to scholarship/creative activity, research, education, and service, and whose work has been notably influential in their fields of specialization.

Professors Burnett’s pioneering leadership and outstanding contributions to visual programming languages, end-user software engineering, and gender-inclusive software has systematically debunked misconceptions of neutrality in “gender-neutral” software. Her work has received wide attention in the popular press and the research community, and launched the field of end-user software engineering. Burnett is a leader in gender diversity activities at OSU and nationally. In addition, she’s an award winning teacher with exemplary mentorship of graduate, undergraduate and high school research students.

Professor Clark uses climate change in the geologic past to highlight processes relevant to the future. His research emphasizes the role of glaciers and ice sheets in the global climate system. This work is central to the debate about future sea-level changes related to melting of land-based ice, which will likely be one of the major long-term impacts of anthropogenic warming driven by rising greenhouse gasses. Clark is an award winning teacher and mentor and served as the Geosciences Program Head. In addition, he is active in national organizations such as the Geological Society of America and the Geophysical Union.

For more information regarding the 2016 Distinguished Professors, please visit the article here: OSU honors two faculty members as Distinguished Professors.

Drs. Burnett and Clark will give lectures as a part of the Recognizing Excellence events planned for May 24, 2016. Times and locations of these lectures will be forthcoming.

Again, congratulations to Professors Burnett and Clark.

Sabah Randhawa
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