

Graduate Faculty Award Winners, 2017-2018

The *Distinguished Scholar Award* honors senior scholars and artists with a long and distinguished record of publications, exhibits and/or creative activities while a member of the UNI faculty and whose professional reputation is national (and international where appropriate).

- The 2018 winner is **Dr. Nageswara Rao Posinasetti**, Professor of Technology. Dr. Posinasetti earned his PhD in Mechanical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi India. His research interests include Manufacturing Technology, Metal cutting, Computer Aided Manufacturing, and Sustainable/Green Manufacturing. Since joining UNI in 2001, he has published 5 books, presented 5 keynote papers, 35 papers in peer reviewed journals, as well as a number of papers in international conference proceedings.

The *Outstanding Graduate Faculty Teaching Award* honors outstanding graduate teaching, which includes commitment to academic excellence: attention to individual student needs, interests, and development: excellent teaching of graduate courses: and service on thesis and dissertation committees.

- The 2018 winner is **Dr. Heminigild M. Mpundu**, Assistant Professor of Accounting. Dr. Mpundu earned his PhD in Business Administration (accounting major; finance minor) from the University of Oklahoma. His research interests include initial public offerings and dual-class stock structures. Since joining UNI in 2010, he has taught graduate-level managerial accounting (MBA) and some undergraduate classes.

The *James F. Lubker Research Award* honors a faculty member with five years of service at UNI and exceptional original contributions to research and scholarship, including the creative and performing arts.

- The 2018 winner is **Dr. Michael D. Waggoner**, Professor of Educational Leadership and Postsecondary Education. Dr. Waggoner earned his PhD at The University of Michigan in higher education as an interdisciplinary field of study. His principal scholarly interests center on legal, organizational, and pedagogical issues at the intersection of religion and education. He is Editor of the peer-reviewed journal, *Religion & Education* and of the Routledge book series, *Research in Religion and Education*. His most recent books are *Sacred and Secular Tensions in Higher Education* (2011), *Religion in the Public Schools: Negotiating the New Commons* (2013), and *The Oxford Handbook on Religion and American Education* to be published by Oxford University Press (Summer 2018, Co-editor).