2022
Distinguished Women Scholars

March 29, 2022
3:30-5:00 PM
Purdue Memorial Union
Anniversary Drawing Room

Sponsored by:

Susan Bulkeley Butler Center for

Leadership Excellence

and

Office of the Provost

PURDUE UNIVERSITY®

Program

3:30 pm
Reception

3:45 pm
Welcome Remarks

Mangala Subramaniam
Professor & Butler Chair and Director, Susan Bulkeley Butler Center for
Leadership Excellence

3:40 pm
Introduction and Presentation of Distinguished Woman Scholars with Statements from Honorees

Jay Akridge
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity

2022 Honorees

Elena Ianchovichina, PhD, Agricultural Economics, 1998
Delita Martin, MFA, Studio Art: Printmaking, Drawing, Mixed Media,
and Installation, 2009
Sulma Mohammed, PhD, Microbiology, 1991
Susan Rodger, PhD, Computer Science, 1989
Senay Simsek, PhD, Food Science, 2006
Lesley Sneed, PhD, Civil Engineering, 2007

Closing Remarks

Mangala Subramaniam
Professor & Butler Chair and Director, Susan Bulkeley Butler Center for
Leadership Excellence

2022 Honorees

Elena Ianchovichina has her Ph.D. and M.S. in agricultural economics from Purdue University and B.S. in mathematics and economics from University of South Carolina. After graduating in 1998, she became assistant professor in international trade at Kansas State University and in 2000 joined the World Bank where she took positions with increasing levels of responsibility, more recently becoming deputy chief economist for the Latin America and the Caribbean Region. She has authored and co-authored many journal articles and several books, co-founded the Bank's program on inclusive growth in the mid-2000s, and served as acting chief economist for the Middle East and North Africa Region on many occasions in the 2010s.

Delita Martin is an artist currently based in Huffman, Texas. She received a BFA in drawing from Texas Southern University and a MFA in printmaking from Purdue University. Formally a member of the fine arts faculty at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Martin is currently working as a full-time artist in her studio, Black Box Press. Primarily working from oral traditions, along with vintage and family photographs as a source of inspiration; Martin's work explores the power of the narrative impulse. Her finished works combine collaging, drawing, painting, printmaking, and sewing techniques, placing her figures amid patterns to visually represent what it looks like when we become the spiritual other: "when we pray or meditate ... we enter the veilscape." Martin's layering of technique and material, as well as her use of pattern and color, signifies a liminal space – the space between the waking life and the spirit life. By fusing this visual language with oral storytelling in this different space she offers other identities and other narratives for women of color. Martin's work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally. Most recently Martin's work was shown at the National Museum for Women in the Arts in Washington, DC and welcomed into the Library of Congress. She served as the 2020 Keynote speaker for the Mid America Print Council.

Sulma Mohammed, DVM, MS, Ph.D., is a Professor of Cancer Biology at Purdue's College of Veterinary Medicine and Cancer Center. She is an adjunct professor at the IU School of Medicine. She received her Ph.D. from Purdue in 1991. Her research addresses cancer health racial disparity, focusing on aggressive triple-negative breast cancer that affects predominantly black women: 1) Investigating immune-preventative and therapeutic approaches, 2) Mechanisms of cancer metastasis. Further, developing a point-of-care test for cervical cancer screening in low and middle-income countries. Her published work made a national and international presence, won many awards, and secured substantial funds for further studies.

Susan H. Rodger is a Professor of the Practice in the Computer Science Department at Duke University. Rodger has major contributions in computer science education, visual and interactive software for computer science education, computing in K-12 and peer-led team learning. Rodger developed JFLAP, educational software for experimenting with formal languages and automata. Rodger has integrated computing into K-12 with the Adventures in Alice Programming project. Rodger received the IEEE Computer Society 2019 Taylor L. Booth Education Award, ACM 2013 Karl V. Karlstrom Outstanding Educator Award, and the Duke University Trinity College 2019 David and Janet Vaughn Brooks Distinguished Teaching Award.

Senay Simsek is the Head of the Food Science Department at Purdue University and was recently named Dean's Chair in Food Science. She has a B.S. in chemistry (1998), M.S. in biochemistry (2000) from Gebze Technical University in Turkey, and a Ph.D. in food science from Purdue University (2006). Before joining Purdue in July 2021, she spent 14 years working at North Dakota State University (NDSU) as the Carbohydrate Research and Wheat Quality Program Director. Dr. Simsek is a cereal/food chemist, and her research spans plant sciences, food science, and analytical chemistry. Dr. Simsek aims to integrate partnerships between producers, scientists, and food processors to optimize research potential and develop novel carbohydrate-derived ingredients. Dr. Simsek has authored numerous research papers and conference contributions. She has received several awards, including the first NDSU Bert L. D'Appolonia Endowed Professorship in Cereal Science and Technology (2013), the International Young Scientist Research Award (2013), and the International Excellence in Teaching Award (2019) by the Cereals & Grains Association, and the Andersons Cereals and Oilseeds Award of Excellence by NC-213 U.S. Quality Grains Research Consortium (2020). Simsek is an inspirational teacher and advisor, and her deep understanding of industries and challenges around the world has created successful research partnerships on a global scale.

Lesley Sneed is a Professor in the Department of Civil, Materials and Environmental Engineering and Director of the High Bay Structures Laboratory at the University of Illinois Chicago. She received her Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and her Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue (2007). Her research focuses on the behavior, condition assessment, and repair of concrete infrastructure, and she has co-authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications in these areas. Dr. Sneed is a registered professional engineer, a registered structural engineer, and has over seven years of industry experience. She is the recipient of many awards for her scholarship, teaching, and service, and she is a fellow of the American Concrete Institute.