COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
COLLEGE AWARDS CEREMONY
MSU BROAD MUSEUM | OCTOBER 1ST
Thank you for attending the College of Social Science Awards program. Tonight, we recognize the best of the best. The individuals honored are making an impact in companies, communities, Michigan State University, and around the world.

HAROLD HENDERSON

Harold Henderson, a 1972 graduate of the College of Social Science, was the first African American police officer at MSU. Henderson also is a graduate of Harvard Law School, which led him to be one of the first African Americans to work at a major law firm in Washington DC. Henderson served for 16 years as the Executive Vice President for Labor Relations and Chairman of the Management Council Executive Committee for the National Football League. Henderson was the highest ranking African American ever in professional sports. He is currently the President of the NFL Player Care Foundation. Henderson and his wife Franzine have established an endowed scholarship which provides MSU students with financial assistance for internships and study away/abroad experiences.
ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

Presented to Michigan State University College of Social Science graduates who have demonstrated service to the college and/or meritorious public service on a local, state, national, or international level.

JENNIFER SHIMP

Jennifer Shimp’s career has spanned a number of sectors, including finance and advertising. Shimp serves as the Chair of the Social Science Alumni Leadership Council Board. She has also served on the MSU College of Social Science Alumni Association Board of Directors. Shimp currently mentors a Social Science Scholar and is a proud member of the Berkey Hall Society. She has a B.S. in Family and Consumer Resources and an M.A. in Advertising, both from MSU. Shimp also serves on the board of Illinois College Access Network and the United Way of Metropolitan Chicago’s allocation committee.

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ROSA WEAVER

Rosa A. Weaver is an award-winning Tax Attorney and Director of Attorney Recruiting for Parker Lynch Legal. Weaver is a 2002 graduate of MSU’s School of Criminal Justice. She previously worked at General Motors as a Global Security Investigator, helping to develop an internship program for MSU Criminal Justice students. Weaver also holds a Juris Doctorate degree from University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. She serves on the MSU Alumni Board in Texas.
**ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD**

Presented to Michigan State University College of Social Science graduates who have demonstrated service to the college and/or meritorious public service on a local, state, national, or international level.

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**YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD**

Given to College of Social Science graduates of the last ten years who have distinguished themselves through a high level of professional accomplishment early in their career. These individuals demonstrate a commitment to the College of Social Science through outstanding volunteer service on behalf of the university, and/or participation and leadership in meritorious public service on a local, state, national, or international level.

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**NEAL HEGARTY**

Neal Hegarty, an MSU Public Policy and Administration Alumnus, is the Mott Foundation’s Vice President of Programs. He oversees grantmaking in the Flint-based Foundation’s four program areas and works closely with both senior management and program staff in designing and implementing the Foundation’s grantmaking strategies.

Throughout his career, Hegarty has been an active and enthusiastic participant on many committees and boards. Currently, he serves as a trustee of Candid, a nonprofit organization formed as a result of the recent merger of the Foundation Center and GuideStar. He is a member of the Michigan Office of Foundation Liaison Advisory Committee and has served on the Michigan State University Political Science Advisory Board. Additionally, Hegarty has served as an advocate for the Michigan State University Masters of Public Policy Program, InnovateGov Program, and the Flint Community Initiative Program.

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**ALEJANDRA LOAIZA-DELGADO**

Alejandra Loaiza-Delgado is a Director at Ankura Consulting Group, LLC based in Ann Arbor. Previously, she was a member of 284 Partners, LLC. Delgado has also worked as a consultant focused on financial issues pertaining to intellectual property. She has a bachelor’s degree in Finance with an additional major in Economics from MSU. Delgado graduated with honors and high distinction. She now serves on the Women’s Leadership Institute Board.
YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Given to College of Social Science graduates of the last ten years who have distinguished themselves through a high level of professional accomplishment early in their career. These individuals demonstrate a commitment to the College of Social Science through outstanding volunteer service on behalf of the university, and/or participation and leadership in meritorious public service on a local, state, national, or international level.

JAY THAKER

Jay Thaker graduated in 2011 with a BA in Economics and a BS in Interdisciplinary Studies. Jay is currently the Director of Population Health at Oak Street Health, based in Chicago. Prior to his role at Oak Health, Jay completed his MBA candidacy at the Harvard Business School. Jay also held the role as Senior International Program Administrator for the Cleveland Clinic. Jay is a former member of the Alumni Board for the College and currently serves as a mentor for the Social Science Scholars program.

PHILANTHROPY AWARD

Presented to an individual, family, association, corporation, or foundation with a proven record of providing major, ongoing financial support and leadership to the College of Social Science at Michigan State University.

LAURIE LINS scOTT & IRV LESHER

Irv Lesher and Laurie Linscott deeply value their relationship with Michigan State University. Linscott attended MSU earning an MA degree in Child Development. She is the Director of the Child Development Laboratories in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. She serves on a number of boards including the Wharton Center Advisory Committee, President of Michigan Association for the Education of Young Children and was appointed by the Governor to the Early Childhood Investment Corporation Executive Committee.

Irv graduated in 1968 with a BA in Business Administration, followed by an MBA in Marketing in 1974. He founded American Collegiate Marketing in 1975 with offices located across the street from MSU. Irv has deep roots at MSU. His great-great-uncle, Theophilus Abbott, was President of Michigan Agricultural College (MAC) from 1862-1885. His great-grandfather, Oscar Clute, served as President of MAC from 1889-1893. Irv’s grandmother was one of the earliest female MSU graduates, and many other family members also attended MSU.
**HUMANITARIAN AWARD**

Given to a College of Social Science graduate who has demonstrated support, aid and action designed to alleviate suffering and maintain and protect human dignity on a global, regional, or local scale.

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**MARY TAVAROZZI**

Mary Tavarozzi is the Founder and Principal of MLT Advisors LLC. Tavarozzi has worked with a variety of Fortune 500 companies throughout the US and Canada in the design and implementation of comprehensive workforce health and productivity programs. Tavarozzi serves on the Social Science Scholars Advisory Board. She has funded and established an endowed scholarship for students working in unpaid internships. Tavarozzi has a bachelor’s degree in Urban Development from MSU.

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**OUTSTANDING FACULTY AWARD**

Presented annually, this award recognizes a current faculty member in the MSU College of Social Science who takes pride in and is committed to quality teaching and who demonstrates substantial continuing involvement in undergraduate education.

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**ERICA FRANTZ**

Erica Frantz (Ph.D., UCLA, 2008) is an Associate Professor in Political Science at Michigan State University. From 2011 to 2015, she was an assistant professor in Political Science at Bridgewater State University, and from 2008 to 2011 she worked as an analyst at the Institute for Physical Sciences. Her research and teaching interests include authoritarian politics, democratization, conflict, and development. She is particularly interested in the security and policy implications of autocratic rule.
Congratulations to all of the award recipients!