Congratulations to the UA’s newest Regents’ Professors, University Distinguished Professors and University Distinguished Faculty, who were formally inducted during a ceremony at Crowder Hall last week.

Brief bios of this year’s honorees are provided below. Lo Que Pasa will profile each of them in more detail in a special series beginning in January.

**Regents’ Professors**

Created in 1987, this is the highest honor bestowed on faculty in the Arizona university system. These new inductees bring the total number of Regents’ Professors at the UA to 97.

**Jonathan Overpeck**

Overpeck is a professor of geosciences who has a joint appointment in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences and holds the Thomas R. Brown Distinguished Chair. The founding co-director of the UA Institute of the Environment, Overpeck is an internationally recognized authority on the science and policy of climate and environmental change.

**Mary C. Stiner**

Stiner is a professor of anthropology who studies the evidence of Mediterranean cultures spanning the Middle Paleolithic period and the Stone Age. She also is curator of zooarchaeology at the Arizona State Museum. Her seminal book on Neanderthals, "Honor Among Thieves," is recommended reading for students of prehistoric anthropology all over the world.

**University Distinguished Professors**

This honor was created in 1995 by President Manuel Pacheco to recognize faculty who have a long-term commitment to undergraduate education and have made outstanding contributions at the UA.

**Andrew S. Cohen**

Cohen, professor of geosciences and ecology and evolutionary biology, has led teams of researchers into the East African Rift Valley of Kenya and Ethiopia, where he has taken samples from dry lakebeds near fossil and archaeological sites of ancient hominins. He has sought to expand what is known about the climate in which our ancestors evolved.

**Frederick P. Kiefer**

Kiefer is a professor in the Department of English and an expert in the literature and visual culture of the early and modern Renaissance period. He joined the UA faculty in 1973 and is its resident expert on Shakespeare studies, also teaching courses on Renaissance drama.
received the College of Humanities Distinguished Teaching Award in 2008.

---

**University Distinguished Outreach Faculty**

*This award is designed to recognize outstanding faculty whose scholarship-based outreach to the state, nation and world has demonstrated sustained excellence in the UA’s outreach mission.*

**Donald W. McCarthy** [5]

McCarthy, an astronomer, arrived at the UA in 1970 as a doctoral student. As a faculty member, he has been a significant contributor to the UA’s world-renowned infrared astronomy program. His work has led to key findings about nearby stars, asteroids, moons and objects located in the Kuiper belt. He also founded an immersive astronomy program for teenagers around the world that involved NASA researchers.

**Supapan Seraphin** [6]

Seraphin is a professor of materials science and engineering, with joint appointments in optical sciences and agricultural biosystems engineering. She is an expert in electron microscopy and carbon nanoclusters. As a Faculty Fellow, Seraphin has become known for preparing Thai lunches of chicken curry, pad Thai and other dishes for students. She was awarded a UA Science & Engineering Excellence Award in 2009 and was named a Da Vinci Fellow by the College of Engineering in 2007.

---

**Source URL:** [https://uaatwork.arizona.edu/lqp/ua-inducts-regents-professors-distinguished-professors-distinguished-outreach-faculty](https://uaatwork.arizona.edu/lqp/ua-inducts-regents-professors-distinguished-professors-distinguished-outreach-faculty)

**Links:**

[5] https://www.as.arizona.edu/people/faculty/don-mccarthy