

**ORED recognizes research faculty honors and highlights**

**December 2015 Issue**

**Upcoming Events**  
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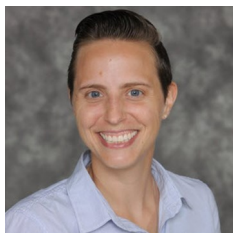
**Awards Received in October 2015**  
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In October, ORED launched a webpage dedicated to recognizing research [faculty honors and highlights](#). Faculty featured thus far include:



The Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA) recently named [Elisa Trucco](#), PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychology, as an Emerging Scholar. The award is given annually to four researchers recognized as gaining

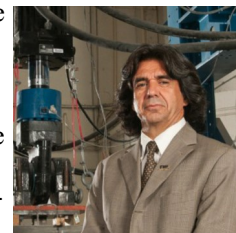
national prominence as experts on adolescence. Dr. Trucco, who joined FIU's Center for Children and Families in August 2015 immediately after completing a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Michigan, is establishing an interdisciplinary program of research focused on increased understanding of the etiology of substance use in adolescence from a social ecological approach. During the course of her training, the Research Society on Alcoholism honored her innovative research with two prestigious awards, the Junior Investigator Award (2013) and the Enoch Gordis Research Recognition Award (2015). Currently the recipient of a highly competitive Research Career Development Award (K01) from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and co-investigator on a National Institute on Drug Abuse grant recently awarded to FIU, Dr. Trucco has already authored or co-authored more than 20 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

On its 70th anniversary, the Journal of Medical Microbiology, one of the most prestigious journals in microbiology, announced that it is restricting its editorial board format and identified [Kalai Mathee](#), PhD, Professor of Human and Molecular Genetics, and Director, Global Health Consortium, as one of six Section Editors. Recognized experts in their re-



spective fields, section editors will ensure that the journal continues to publish high-quality science across the full spectrum of clinical microbiology. As Section Editor for Prevention and Therapy, Dr. Mathee will oversee a panel of editors responsible for steering the journal's scientific content in that subject category. Dr. Mathee's impact on the field will extend to the Microbiology Society's Editorial Office, as the section editors will influence the content, promotion, and expansion of the journal.

The White House and the U.S. Department of Transportation honored [Atorod Azizinamini](#), professor and chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at FIU's College of Engineering and Computing, for his innovations in making the nation's aging bridges safer. Azizinamini has been named a 2015 White House Transportation Champion of Change. The White House Champions of Change Program highlights the stories and examples of citizens across the nation, who are leading projects and initiatives that move their communities forward. On October 13, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the White House Office of Public Engagement hosted White House Champions of Change, focused on "Beyond Traffic: Innovators in Transportation for the Future." Azizinamini and the other honorees were recognized for being leaders in advancing transportation and change that benefits the country's transportation system. Azizinamini invented the Folded Plate Steel Bridge System, which provides an economical, long-term solution for replacing outdated short span bridges.



**The [2015 National Accelerated Bridge Construction Conference](#) takes place December 7 and 8, 2015.**

Please share your research faculty honors and highlights by emailing [Maureen Pelham](#).