David Richardson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Director of Sponsored Programs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is the 2017 recipient of the NCURA Outstanding Achievement in Research Administration Award. This award recognizes a current or past NCURA member who has made 1) noteworthy contributions to NCURA, and 2) significant contributions to the profession of Research Administration. First awarded in 1994, this award is NCURA’s highest honor.

Dave’s contributions to NCURA are many, spanning nearly 25 years of NCURA membership. He has served as NCURA President, on the Board of Directors, and as Chair of Region III. He also has served on the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee, Professional Development Committee, as a faculty member of the Fundamentals of Sponsored Project Administration Workshop, and has been on several national conference program committees. Dave is an active member of the NCURA Peer Review team and the Select Committee on Peer Programs. He was also instrumental in the 2014 INORMS meeting and served as one of the meeting’s Co-Chairs. Dave received the Julia Jacobsen Distinguished Service Award in 2013.

Michelle Vazin, Vanderbilt University, shared “I have had the privilege of working with Dave for many years in NCURA, and I am still in awe and have the greatest admiration for the energy, dedication and professionalism he brings to the table for every single endeavor he takes on for NCURA and the broader research administration community… I just cannot say enough about how outstandingly and consistently Dave has served the NCURA organization and the broader community for research administration. I feel so honored that I have been able to work with Dave and learn from his leadership and direction.”

Dan Nordquist, Washington State University, says “Dave’s impact on our profession and organization made him an ideal recipient of this prestigious award…Dave epitomizes the definition of ‘professional’ with his thorough business knowledge, people experience, tech savviness, decision making abilities, professional networking and development skills, and emotional intelligence. Dave demonstrates all of these characteristics at the highest level. Dave has many excellent qualities, but what stands out most to me is his willingness to serve, combined with his ability to lead effectively.”

Tony Ventimiglia of Auburn University, says “During his term as NCURA Vice President, Dave asked me to serve as Co-Chair for the NCURA 51st Annual Meeting. Having the opportunity to watch how he interacts with members of the program committee, NCURA staff, and others—all for the purpose of putting together an incredible program for the NCURA membership—left an impression on me as to how a true servant leader acted. Dave may not even be aware of the impact that he has had on my continued involvement in NCURA (and I am sure there are many individuals who can say the same thing), but that is one of the great things about him - be just cares.”

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Patricia Hawk of Oregon State University, contributed “I specifically chose Dave as one of my Presidential appointments because of his demonstrated leadership and service in the regional, national and global arenas. In my mind, I saw Dave as one of our leaders who had the vision to start us thinking about the “globalization” of research administration. I saw Dave not only as my personal role model that enabled NCURA’s adoption of a global strategic plan, but also as a pre-eminent ambassador for NCURA’s work.”

On receiving the award, Dave states, “I am honored to be recognized as the recipient of the NCURA 2017 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research Administration. My research administrative career would have been impossible without the support and guidance I received from the professional relationships I developed as a member of NCURA.”

David Richardson will receive the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Research Administration on Monday, August 7, 2017, at the 59th Annual Meeting Keynote Address.
This year, the NCURA Nominating and Leadership Development Committee selected four veteran NCURA members to receive the Julia Jacobsen Distinguished Service Award. This award recognizes members who have made sustained and distinctive contributions to the organization.

Each recipient has contributed to NCURA’s success in numerous ways and for many years. The following summaries provide a snapshot of their service and contributions in addition to the many presentations they have made at regional and national meetings and conferences over the years.

THE AWARD RECIPIENTS ARE:

**Jilda Garton**, Vice President for Research and General Manager of Georgia Tech Research Corporation and Georgia Tech Applied Research Corporation, Georgia Institute of Technology. Jilda has been an active NCURA member for 25 years. She has served as a member of the Traveling Workshop Faculty for Fundamentals of Sponsored Project Administration as well as Level II: Sponsored Project Administration. Jilda also served as an NCURATV faculty member for several productions. Jilda has served on numerous national conference program committees, has been a presenter/facilitator at conferences, and has been a YouTube Tuesday video contributor. As a recipient of this award, Jilda states, “This award is an honor and a delight. NCURA has been an important part of my career since I first began in research administration. It is one of those organizations that does so much for its members that serving, in whatever small way, is a pleasure. I am grateful just to be a member of NCURA and to have such wonderful colleagues.”

**Agatha Keller**, Co-Director EU GrantsAccess, ETH Zurich | University of Zurich. Agatha has served as the Chair of Region VIII, as Program Chair of Region VIII’s first regional meeting, and as a member of the Global Sponsored Projects Workshop Faculty. Agatha is currently on the national Board of Directors and is the Vice Chair of the Select Committee on Global Affairs, which she will chair in 2018. Agatha was awarded Region VIII’s first Distinguished Service Award in 2015. Since becoming an NCURA member in 2011, Agatha has served on an FRA Conference Program Committee and has made many presentations at both national and regional meetings. Agatha shares, “What an unexpected surprise - thank you so much for this wonderful honor. Being part of NCURA helped me to bring my passion for research administration to both the researchers, my home institutions as well as to my colleagues and fellow NCURA members all over the world!”

**Vicki Krell**, Assistant Director, Research Advancement, Arizona State University. During her 20 years of NCURA membership, Vicki has been on several Annual Meeting and Pre-Award Research Administration Conference program committees, on the Board of Directors, and served as the Chair of Region VII. Vicki has also been a member of the Nominating & Leadership Development Committee, an NCURA Magazine Contributing Editor, and has made countless presentations at both regional and national conferences. Vicki will be a Co-Chair of the upcoming 2018 Pre-Award Research Administration Conference. As a recipient of this award, Vicki adds, “NCURA has played such a vital role in my growth and development as a research administrator over the last 20+ years. I’ve had so many wonderful opportunities to play a variety of roles within NCURA, and I’ve enjoyed every moment of them all. I greatly treasure the friends I’ve made, everything I’ve learned, and the chances to give back to this amazing organization. Thank you so very much for this tremendous honor.”

**Rosemary Madnick**, National Program Director, Research Administration, Government Relations, American Association for the Advancement of Science.
Rosemary Madnick, Executive Director, Office of Grants and Contracts Administration, University of Alaska Fairbanks. Rosemary has been an involved NCURA member for nearly 20 years, over which time she has served as the Chair of Region VI, a member of the Professional Development Committee, a member of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee, Co-Chair of the 2017 PRA Conference, and as a presenter at both regional and national conferences. Rosemary currently serves as a Peer Reviewer, a member of the Fundamentals of Sponsored Project Administration Workshop Faculty, and is on the 59th Annual Meeting Program Committee. In reaction to the award, Rosemary says, “As a recipient of the Julia Jacobsen Distinguished Service Award it signifies the importance of a collective effort of research administrators to drive change, strive for better outcomes and to support the decisions and be an inspiration to our colleagues and we are in this field because it is worth it!”

The Distinguished Service Award recipients will be recognized at the 59th Annual Meeting before the Keynote Address on Monday, August 7, 2017. Please join us in thanking them for their service and their contributions!
The Joseph F. Carrabino Award, established in 2003 by the NCURA Board of Directors, is named after the late Joe Carrabino, NSF Grants Officer. This award recognizes a current or former federal partner who has made a significant contribution to research administration, either by a single project, activity, or innovation, or by a lifetime of service. The NCURA Nominating and Leadership Development Committee selected Michelle Bulls as the recipient of the 2017 Joseph F. Carrabino Award.

Michelle Bulls is the Director of the Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration (OPERA) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In the past five years, she has led efforts at NIH to minimize the administrative burdens associated with the remarkable number of federal regulatory changes. As Director of OPERA, Michelle provides trans-NIH direction regarding grants policy and compliance monitoring for the grants management offices of the 24 NIH institutes and centers that support extramural research.

Susan Wyatt Sedwick, Phase V Chair and Cynthia Hope, current Chair of the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP), share that:

*When we think of Michelle, the first word that comes to mind is ‘thoughtful.’ From the beginning of her tenure, Michelle has assumed a leadership position within the FDP and has worked diligently to ensure that regulatory and procedural changes at the NIH are made mindful of the downstream impact on research and the research administration community. Her reputation as an exemplary leader spans the membership of the FDP from her federal and university administrative colleagues to the faculty and technical representatives. Michelle has gone above and beyond her role as Director of the Office of Policy for Extramural Research Administration to work towards sensible policy implementation. She has spent a significant amount of time listening to the concerns of grantees and has worked with the community to come up with agreeable modifications to policies and procedures. Michelle has done an excellent job of seeing both sides of the issues and bridging the goals of the federal regulations and the environment that universities and other grantees work within. In her own words, Michelle states, “I am beyond honored to be a part of the NIH enterprise where I can make a very small difference in the work NIH does to manage administrative burden that may impact our research institutions. I cannot imagine being rewarded for performing collaborative duties that create a divine partnership which ultimately protects the scientific and administrative interests of both the Federal government as well as our extramural partners. The NIH mission is extremely rich and to be able to add my little crumb to the grand scheme of the entire pie is more than amazing and extremely rewarding.”*