

Distinguished Graduate Faculty Mentor Award *Masters Category*



Dr. Edwards'

mentoring philosophy

was shaped by the synthesis of two disparate influences that pre-date his doctoral studies in sociology: a philosophy of non-formal adult education most associated with the work of Brazilian educator Paulo Friere, and the apprenticeship system used by traditional trade and craft unions to transition unskilled laborers into master-practitioners.

Letters of recommendation from colleagues and former students note that Dr. Edwards mentoring has helped them sharpen research and writing skills, integrate into the discipline, and prepare for the rigors of the academic world.

Edwards is a Professor in the Department of Sociology, East Carolina University, Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences.

He obtained his PhD in Sociology from Catholic University of America. Dr. Edwards is also a research associate of the Center for Natural Hazards Research at ECU and an affiliate faculty of the Institute for Coastal Science and Policy, Coastal Resources Management Doctoral program. Dr. Edwards has received awards for excellence in teaching and scholar-teacher at ECU.

Dr. Edwards has published 6 edited volumes, 30 refereed articles, 19 scholarly book chapters, 15 encyclopedia entries or reviews and numerous reports to funding agencies and community partners. His published work has appeared in top-tier general-interest journals in Sociology including The American Sociological Review, Annual Review of Sociology, Social Problems, and Social Forces, as well as in peak-specialty journals. Dr. Edwards has collaborated with students on 29 projects leading to co-authored publications including 10 refereed articles, 6 book chapters, 4 encyclopedia entries, 4 reviews and over 25 co-presentations of research at national and international conferences.

Dr. Bob Edwards
PhD

"My approach to mentoring graduate students, like apprenticeships, is founded on the presumption of trust and reciprocity in a context of mutual respect and accountability in which each partner holds up their end in various collaborations."

-Dr. Bob Edwards

East Carolina University
division of research & graduate studies

Doctoral Category

Distinguished Graduate Faculty Mentor Award



Dr. Pekala's mentoring philosophy

was influenced by two great scientists and mentors: Richard Hartline and Dan Lane.

Letters of recommendation from colleagues and former students note that Dr. Pekala sets high standards for himself and his students. He is extremely generous with his time and provides dozens of opportunities in his laboratory. He is patient and teaches students the importance of networking in an intellectual environment.

Dr. Phillip H. Pekala PhD

"While I knew I would be training students, the idea of mentoring did not really enter my mind until that first student, Russ Price joined my lab and I immediately understood the great responsibility that I had accepted. I needed to provide not only rigorous scientific training, but also help him acquire other skills and an education that would be essential as he worked towards reaching his career goals."

-Dr. Phillip Pekala

Pekala is Professor and Chair in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, East Carolina University, Brody School of Medicine.

He obtained his PhD in Chemistry from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Pekala has been member of the ECU faculty since 1981.

Dr. Pekala received the Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence and is a world recognized researcher. Dr. Pekala trained 22% of the total doctoral degrees awarded by the department. His students are trained in cutting edge research and have strong careers such as professors at Emory University and LSU's School of Medicine, Director of Metabolic Diseases at Systemic, and Scientist in Clinical Development.

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