

Congratulations to the 2021 ADEC Award Recipients!

Every year, ADEC presents awards to individuals that have done an outstanding job proving their commitment to the field of thanatology and advancing the overall study of dying, death, and bereavement. ADEC also presents awards to undergraduate and graduate papers dealing with a thanatology topic.

The 2021 award recipients were recognized at the 2021 Annual Conference.

“ADEC is a vibrant network of professionals who are committed to serving their communities with dedication, respect, and compassion,” said Rebecca Morse, ADEC’s Board President. “Each year, our review committee is tasked with the enormous job of selecting awardees from a pool of impressive nominees. Congratulations to each of the 2021 award recipients - you are deserving of this honor, but also unending kudos for the work you do - day in, and day out - helping others to find support, comfort, and healing!”

2021 ADEC Award Recipients

- Academic Educator Award: **William G. Hoy, DMin, FT**
- Community Educator Award: **Julie Olds, MMC, CT**
- Edie Stark-Shirley Scott Early Achievement Award: **Jillian Blueford, PhD, LPC, NCC, CT**
- ADEC Service Award: **Greg Adams, LCSW, ACSW, FT**
- Ronald Keith Barrett, PhD. Scholarship for Diversity and Multicultural Presentations Award: **Sarah Vollmann, MPS, ATR-BC, LICSW**

2021 Student Award Recipients

- Mary E. Brown Undergraduate Student Paper Award: **Beth Hockenberry**
- Richard Kalish Graduate Student Paper Award: **Paul Victor Patinadan**
- Dr. Hannelore Wass Cross Cultural Student Paper Award: **Mark Shelvock**

Continue reading to learn more about each award and the recipients:

Academic Educator Award: William G. Hoy, DMin, FT

The academic educator award honors an individual with expertise in the field of dying, death and bereavement as demonstrated by advanced academic degrees, professional honors, awards, and other contributions. The individual demonstrates excellence in academic teaching in thanatology as demonstrated by judgment of peers; department chair; dean and /or department; development of teaching materials; new courses; and student evaluations.

For more than 35 years, **Bill Hoy** has been involved in caring for the dying and bereaved while providing training and education to the professionals who care for them and the pre-health students who will eventually care for them. After more than two decades of practice, Bill transitioned to a clinical teaching and research position at Baylor University in 2012, where for the last eight years, he has helped equip the next generation of health care professionals to provide excellent, humane care to the dying and bereaved.

Community Educator Award: Julie Olds, MMC, CT

The community educator award honors an individual with expertise in the field of dying, death, and bereavement as demonstrated by advanced academic degrees, professional honors, awards, and other contributions. The individual demonstrates excellence in community-focused teaching in thanatology by judgment of peers, development of workshops, presentations, or teaching materials.

Julie Olds started her career in the senior housing and healthcare industry in 2002, working in admissions for a local continuing care retirement community. During her time there, she attended the university full time at night to obtain her master's degree in marketing and communication. In 2012, Julie began working as the Director of Community Relations and Education for Schoedinger Funeral and Cremation Service. Within her first year she was able to develop continuing education programs for social workers based on her experience, that were approved by the National Association of Social Workers – Ohio Chapter. The following year she was able to obtain provider status for her company through the Ohio Board of Counselors, Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, of which Schoedinger is the only funeral home in Ohio to obtain this status. Since then, to validate the programming being offered, Julie obtained her Thanatology Certification through the Association of Death Education and Counseling. She was asked to assist with recommendations for sponsorships and support for the 2020 ADEC conference that was due to be held in Columbus. Julie now also provides continuing education to our funeral directors, obtaining approval through the Ohio Board of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

Edie Stark-Shirley Scott Early Achievement Award: Jillian Blueford, PhD, LPC, NCC, CT

The Edie Stark-Shirley Scott Early Career Award is presented annually to a woman in the initial years of a career in thanatology who has distinguished herself through activity in scholarship, service, research, clinical practice, or social action. The award is intended to sponsor the winner's registration fee for ADEC's annual conference and provide a limited reimbursement for some travel expenses.

Dr. Jillian Blueford is a clinical assistant professor for the school counseling program at the University of Denver, a Licensed Professional Counselor in Colorado, and recently earned the designation of being Certified in Thanatology: Death, Dying, and Bereavement. Dr. Blueford began her thanatology journey as a counselor intern at a hospice bereavement center, which sparked a lifelong commitment to serving grieving individuals. Over the years, Dr. Blueford has continued to provide grief counseling to individuals of all backgrounds in various settings, including schools, outpatient facilities, and currently in private practice in the Denver area. Further, Dr. Blueford is a grief and loss scholar, who has conducted research and scholarship via her dissertation, peer-reviewed publications, webinars, podcast features, and several regional, national, and international presentations, including ADEC Conferences. Dr. Blueford has been a member of ADEC since 2017 and remains heavily involved in the Student and New Professional Committee, where she currently serves as the Chair. Seeking that all counseling professionals are equipped and competent in grief counseling, Dr. Blueford also works with other educators and clinicians as Co-Chair of the Grief Counseling Competencies Task Force to develop key competencies for the training programs.

ADEC Service Award: Greg Adams, LCSW, ACSW, FT

The ADEC service award honors an individual with excellence in service to ADEC in consistent committee participation and other high-quality efforts to benefit the growth and development of the Association of Death Education and Counseling.

Greg Adams, LCSW, ACSW, FT is Program Coordinator for the Center for Good Mourning and Staff Bereavement Support at Arkansas Children's Hospital where he has worked since 1991. At ACH, his roles have included pediatric oncology social work, leading the development of a grief support group program which developed into the Center for Good Mourning, and leading the development of the palliative care program. Greg currently serves as co-chair for both the Bioethics Advisory Committee and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. He has served as treasurer and board member for the Association of Pediatric Oncology Social Work and the National Alliance for Grieving Children. He has also served as board member for the Arkansas chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the Arkansas Suicide Prevention Council. Greg teaches a grief/loss class in the Graduate School of Social Work at UA-Little Rock. He has given numerous presentations locally, presented at ADEC conferences, and recently at an international palliative care conference in Australia. He has helped lead pediatric oncology bereavement retreats in Florida,

Pennsylvania, and New York. Greg served on the ADEC Credentialing Council for 8 years including 6 years as chair.

Ronald Keith Barrett, PhD. Scholarship for Diversity and Multicultural Presentations Award: Sarah Vollmann, MPS, ATR-BC, LICSW

The Ronald Keith Barrett, PhD. Scholarship for Diversity and Multicultural Presentations is awarded to a presenter(s) whose presentation(s) demonstrate diversity and/or multicultural sensitivity to rituals, traditions, and concerns in the field of death, dying, education and counseling.

Sarah Vollmann, MPS, ATR-BC, LICSW is a registered, board-certified art therapist and a licensed independent clinical social worker. She maintains a private practice with a specialization in grief and loss. She is the lead counselor at Buckingham Browne and Nichols School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Her international art therapy concentration includes work with The Red Pencil. Sarah is a practicum faculty member of the Portland Institute for Loss and Transition, and an adjunct professor in Indiana University's graduate art therapy program. As a member of the Artful Grief team of art therapists Sarah works with Gold Star families facing suicide bereavement and traumatic loss. She has published articles and book chapters on grief and loss, and she presents both nationally and internationally on art therapy, grief, and bereavement. Let us welcome and congratulate Sarah Vollmann.

Mary E. Brown Undergraduate Student Paper Award: Beth Hockenberry

Award presented to an outstanding undergraduate paper dealing with a topic related to dying, death, loss, and bereavement. Paper must be a requirement for an undergraduate course at a recognized institution of higher learning.

Beth Hockenberry is a senior undergraduate student in the Human Development and Family Science program at Messiah University. Beth wrote the paper, *Needs Assessment Regarding Miscarriage and Disenfranchised Grief*, to meet a portion of the course requirements for HDFS 442 Strategies of Family Life Education. This is the senior capstone course where students conduct a formal needs assessment and then create four hours of family life education programming on the topic. Beth enrolled in HDFS 442 this fall (2020) and is the sole author of the paper that she submitted.

Richard Kalish Graduate Student Paper Award: Paul Victor Patinadan

Award presented to an outstanding graduate paper dealing with a topic related to dying, death, loss, and bereavement. Paper must be a requirement for a graduate course at a recognized institution of higher learning.

Paul Victor Patinadan is a Full-time PhD student at the School of Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University Singapore. Paul submitted the paper, *I Am What I Ate: The 'Food for Life and Palliation' (FLiP) model for understanding the Lived Experience of nutritional assimilation among Singaporean Palliative Care Patients and their Families*, as a part of his doctoral research. This paper was a direct output from Paul's Independent Study Course (HP7888) in which he received an A grade for his excellent work.

Dr. Hannelore Wass Cross Cultural Student Paper Award: Mark Shelvock

Award presented to an outstanding undergraduate or graduate paper dealing with a topic related to dying, death, loss, and bereavement where there is an emphasis or concentration on cross-cultural aspects of the phenomena studied. Paper must be a requirement for an undergraduate or graduate course at a recognized institution of higher learning.

Mark Shelvock wrote his paper, *Green Death Practices*, while he was a graduate student enrolled in the Women's Studies and Feminist Research Program (WSFR) at Western University in London, Canada. He used an interdisciplinary focus and the lens of critical review for this paper on green practices in current funeral customs in North America. Mark graduated from his Master's program on October 23rd, 2020.