FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Economics Professor Receives Prestigious Powe Award

GREENVILLE, N.C. (May 14, 2015) — East Carolina University assistant professor of economics Dr. Yizhen Zhao has received a prestigious Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award from Oak Ridge Associated Universities. Zhao is one of 35 recipients of the award, from a total of 134 applicants.

One of ORAU’s historic purposes is to assist member universities – of which there are 115, and their faculty. The Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award “represents public recognition by your academic peers of the quality and promise of your research,” reads Zhao’s award notification letter.

Zhao's primary areas of research include econometrics, financial economics, financial risk management and financial market microstructure. Before joining ECU in August 2013, Zhao helped rebuild the risk-modeling framework of the fixed income derivatives traded by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), an essential division of the World Bank. Her current publications span from density forecasting to high-frequency trading.

Zhao earned her PhD and her MA in economics from Johns Hopkins University in 2013 and 2010 respectively. Her BA in economics, earned in 2006, is from The Central University for Nationalities.

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