FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Jamie Kruse Awarded 2012 Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor

GREENVILLE, N.C. (Sept. 21, 2012) — Last month, East Carolina University’s Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences inducted another member of its faculty into the ranks of distinguished professor, an honor bestowed at the beginning of the academic year when a qualifying individual is chosen for the award.

Dr. Jamie Kruse, professor of economics and director of the Center for Natural Hazards Research, was named the 2012 Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor during the college’s annual faculty convocation held in Wright Auditorium on Aug. 20.

The Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professorship is one of the most prestigious at ECU and is conferred upon a professor whose career exemplifies a commitment to and a love for knowledge and academic life, as demonstrated by outstanding teaching and advising, research and creative productivity, and professional service.

Throughout her academic service to ECU, Kruse has displayed the qualities and characteristics required of a Distinguished Professor. Kruse joined the faculty of ECU in 2004 as the founding director of the Center for Natural Hazards Research. She additionally served as the founding director of the RENCI Center for Coastal Systems Informatics and Modeling from 2006 to 2008.

Exhibiting her love for knowledge and academic life, Kruse has taught many courses, including principles of micro- and macroeconomics; micro- and macroeconomic theory; economic research; health care economics; introduction to mathematical economics; managerial economics; risk management; and risk and regulation, among others. Over the years, she has mentored numerous students, serving as committee chairperson for 17 masters and doctoral students, co-chair for 4 doctoral students, and as a member on 18 graduate student theses and dissertation committees.

A colleague writes, “Dr. Kruse is a demanding and engaged teacher who pushes her students to achieve beyond their initial expectations, and a wonderful mentor to graduate students and junior colleagues both inside and beyond the Economics Department.”

Contributing to the professional realm, Kruse is a member of the American Economic Association; Economic Science Association; Southern Economic Association; Society for Risk Analysis; Society of Behavioral Economics; and the American Association for Wind Engineering. She currently serves on the Board of Editors for

Over the course of her career, Kruse has published more than 50 refereed journal articles, has authored more than two dozen reports, and has been a presenter at more than 80 symposiums, conferences and meetings within her field of research, which includes experimental economics, applied microeconomics, industrial organization, risk and mitigation, health economics and wind hazard economics. She has been a primary investigator or Co-PI on research grants totaling almost $20 million: $2.5 million while at ECU.

Of her many honors and achievements, Kruse was most recently awarded ECU’s 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award for Research, and in 2011 was selected as an ECU Women of Distinction Honoree.

Letters of nomination from colleagues within and outside the ECU community were praiseworthy of Kruse, adding to the impressive case for inducting her into the prestigious group of Thomas Harriot Distinguished Professors.

“Dr. Kruse is a superb teacher, economist, and innovator in scientific collaboration, and a national leader in efforts to understand and manage natural hazards for the betterment of society,” writes one nominator.

“Her entire career exemplifies outstanding achievement in service to her university and society, in mentoring student achievement, and in both research contribution and in leadership of multidisciplinary research efforts in her areas of scientific interest and work,” writes an external nominator.

Another nomination letter reads, “Dr. Kruse promotes an atmosphere of creativity and scholarship that brings national and international attention to East Carolina University. She is a world class scholar and represents East Carolina University in a world-class manner.”

Kruse is a graduate of the University of Arizona, where she received her doctoral degree in economics (‘88). She received her master’s degree in agricultural economics from Colorado State University (’83), and her bachelor’s degree with distinction in ag honors from the University of Nebraska (’79).

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