

## **Ferhan Atici – Professor, Department of Mathematics**

Dr. Ferhan Atici is a Professor in the Department of Mathematics. It is worth noting that she is currently the only female professor in that department. She earned her PhD in Mathematics at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 1995 and joined WKU in 2001 after spending six years on the faculty in the Department of Mathematics at Ege University in Turkey. She has proven to be an excellent and engaged teacher of both undergraduate and graduate students. According to one undergraduate student, Dr. Atici is a “good teacher, mentor, advisor, pep talk(er), self-esteem booster, etc”. She has mentored more graduate students than any other faculty member in her department. According to her nomination letter, Ferhan “conveys her personal experiences as an example of what can be achieved with hard work and perseverance. Many of her students, male and female, are now faculty at other universities in the US and around the world”. This is a true testament to her ability to motivate and highly train her students to move to the next phase of their educations.

Dr. Atici’s scholarship involves differential equations, difference equations, dynamic equations on time scales and their applications in economics. Her recent work is on the theory of discrete fractional calculus and its applications in quantum calculus and cancer research and she has supervised both undergraduate senior projects and masters theses.

She is internationally recognized and has been invited to speak at numerous national and international mathematics conferences including as a keynote speaker. She reports 47 publications in top quality peer-reviewed journals in mathematics and a book chapter in *Advances in Dynamic Equations on Time Scales*". Several of these publications are coauthored by thesis students.

Dr. Atici's service has been broad and impactful for her department, Ogden College, and the university. She has organized the Mathematics Symposium at WKU, served as Director of graduate programs in the mathematics department, served on University Senate and the Graduate Council, and has been involved with the editorial boards of several mathematics journals. These are only a few examples of Dr. Atici's service activities.

It is because of her achievement and selflessness in teaching, scholarship, and service that Dr. Atici has been chosen as the 2015 Women in Science and Engineering award winner.