Sarah Codd, professor in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, received the Women in Science Distinguished Professor award to support and recognize outstanding women faculty in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and the social and behavioral sciences. Codd will receive an annual award of $4,000 for two years.

Codd, who is co-director of MSU’s Magnetic Resonance Laboratory, studies a variety of complex fluid systems, including colonies of bacteria known as biofilms and supercritical carbon dioxide. Through the use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) microscopy, Codd works to discover answers to vital questions about the function of biofilms, which are the cause of oral plaque and many persistent medical infections, and how biofilms can be used beneficially to remove or contain contaminants in the subsurface. She is also using MRI to understand how carbon dioxide will behave when it is stored at high pressures and temperatures in reservoirs underground to try to prevent climate change.

Codd has had more than 60 papers published in peer-reviewed journals, and she is frequently invited to present at a prominent meeting in her field, the International Conference of Magnetic Resonance Microscopy conference series. She has also won several National Science Foundation awards, including a $400,000 NSF Career Award in 2007. The award is given to support the early career development of teacher-scholars, and it is considered one of NSF’s most prestigious distinctions.

In fall 2015, Codd served as a Gledden Fellow at the University of Western Australia, where she worked with a group that uses low-field portable MRI to study engineering in oil fields. She also has been previously recognized at MSU with the Provost’s Award for Undergraduate Research/Creativity Mentoring and the Women’s Faculty Caucus Distinguished Mentor Award.