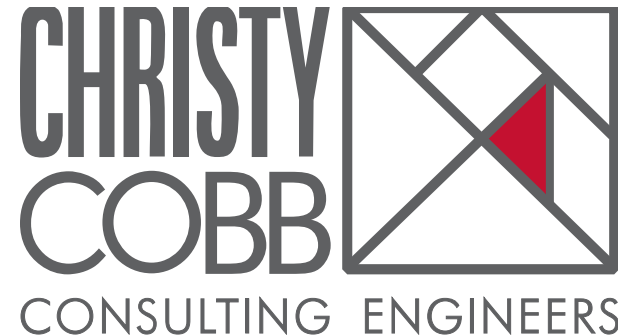




2024 AWARDS BANQUET SPONSORED BY:

hargrove 





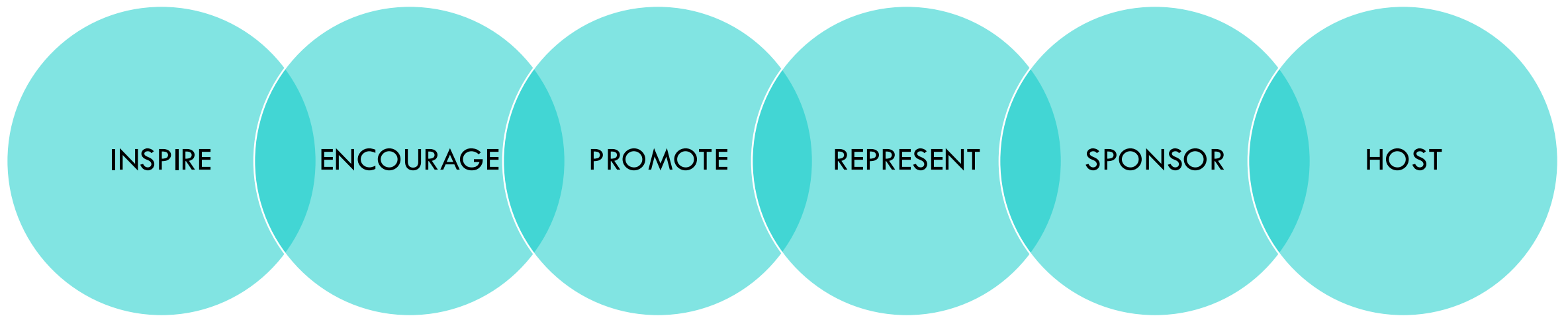
ENGINEERING COUNCIL OF BIRMINGHAM

proudly presents

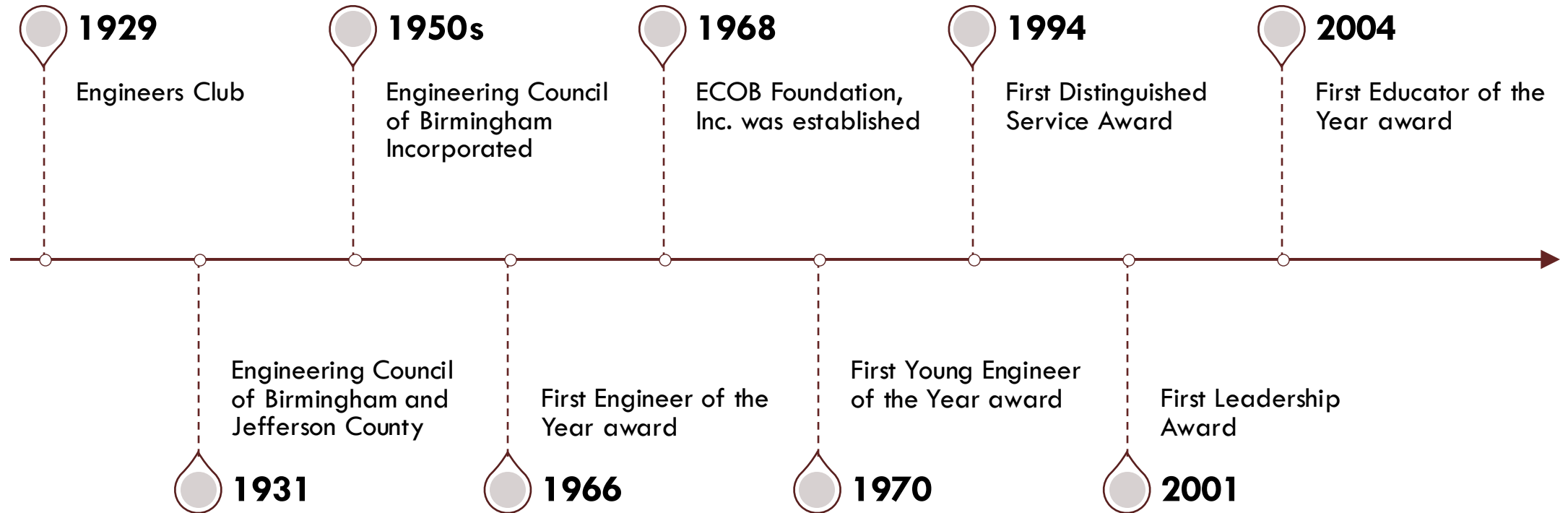
65TH ANNUAL ENGINEERING AWARDS BANQUET



PURPOSE OF ECOB

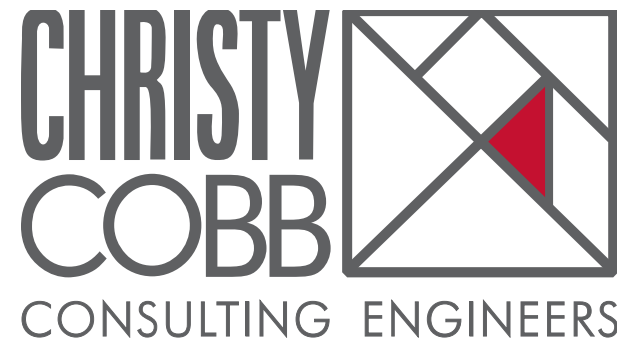


TIMELINE



OUR SPONSORS

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2023-2024 LEADERSHIP

PRESIDENT

Jeanne Otts
Retired from Southern Company

VICE PRESIDENT

Brandy McKinney
Girls, Inc.

SECRETARY

Brinkley Wood & Adrienne Hall
The University of Alabama

TREASURER

Michelle Ballew
Christy/Cobb, Inc.

PAST PRESIDENT

Tiffany Borden
Alabama Power Company

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Reginald Murchison
Retired from Alabama Power

FOUNDATION TREASURER

Michelle Ballew
Christy/Cobb, Inc.

ORDER OF AWARDS

UAB and UA Engineering Student Awards
(Graduate and Undergraduate)

Engineering Council of Birmingham
Scholarship Award Recipients

Engineering Council of Birmingham Awards
(Distinguished Service, Educator of the Year, Young
Engineering of the Year, Engineer of the Year)





UAB THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Engineering Undergraduate Students of the Year



Michael David Heim

Biomedical Engineering

3.95 GPA

President's List, Dean's List

Jack Lemons Endowed BME Scholarship, Dupuis Engineering Scholarship, UAB Merit Scholarship.

3rd Place poster in division at 2021 UAB Research Expo

Student Lab Assistant in Dr. MK Sewell-Loftin's BME Lab at UAB



Aubrey Corbitt

Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering

4.0 GPA

President's List, Chi Epsilon

President of ASCE Student Chapter

Imogene Baswell Endowed Scholarship,

Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering
Scholarship



Andrew Smith

Electrical & Computer Engineering

4.0 GPA

President's List, Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi

Presidential Recognition Scholarship

Engineering Peer Tutor

Electronics Intern, 402nd Software Engineering Group

IT volunteer supervisor, The World Games



Brent Hughes

Materials Engineering

3.73 GPA

College Industry Conference Scholarship,
American Foundry
Society Scholarship

President's List, Alpha Sigma Mu, Tau Beta Pi

Intern, American Cast Iron Pipe Company

President of Materials Advantage Student Chapter



Hannah Szczepanski

Mechanical Engineering

4.0 GPA

UAB Presidential Scholarship, ACIPCO
Scholarship, ASHRAE Scholarship

President's List, Alpha Lambda Delta, Pi Tau Sigma

Intern, Northrop Grumman

Intern, BLOX, LLC

Researcher, UAB Mechanical Systems Lab



UAB

Undergraduate

Student of the Year

Hannah Szczepanski
Mechanical Engineering

The background of the slide is a photograph of a city street, likely in Birmingham, Alabama, featuring modern buildings and lush green trees. A semi-transparent green overlay covers the entire image. In the upper left corner, the UAB logo is displayed in white, followed by the university's name and the school of engineering.

UAB THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Engineering Graduate Students of the Year



Yuhua Wei

Biomedical Engineering

4.0 GPA

Blazer Fellowship, Professional Major Award,
Feidi Scholarship, National Encouragement
Scholarship

Author of 18 articles in peer-reviewed journals

Researcher in lab of Jianyi Zhang, M.D., Ph.D.



Affrin Hossain Anni

Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering

4.0 GPA

Graduate Research Assistant in the lab of
Dr. Virginia Sisiopiku

Author of five articles in peer-reviewed journals

VP of UAB Institute of Transportation Engineers
Student Chapter

Member, ASCE, WTS, SDITE



Orhun Vural

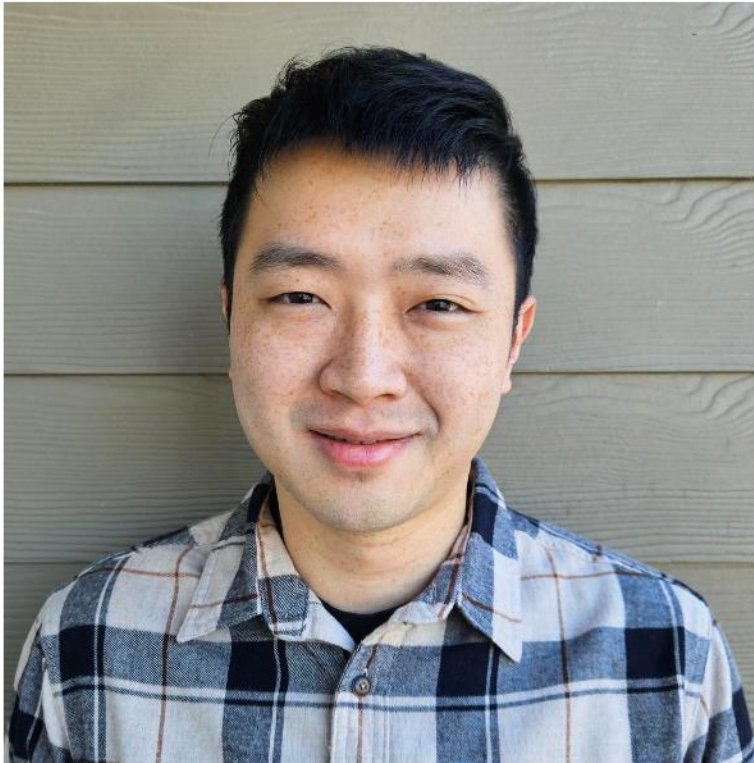
Computer Engineering

4.0 GPA

Tau Beta Pi

Tutor, UAB Learning Resource Center

Researching deep learning, computational biology
and computer vision in the UAB Integrated
Systems Laboratory



Yu-Chao “Joe” Shih

Materials Science & Engineering

3.89 GPA

Alpha Sigma Mu

Author of two articles in peer-reviewed journals

Graduate Research Assistant for UAB Materials
Processing and Applications Development
(MPAD)
Facility

Member, ASME and ASTM



Emmanuel Ong'aro Ramogi

Mechanical Engineering

3.66 GPA

Alabama EPSCoR Graduate Research Scholarship
Program (GSRP) fellowship

Intern, Evonik Birmingham Laboratories

Member, AIAA, ASME, and Pi Tau Sigma

Volunteer, UAB Community English Program (CEP)



Melissa Rohrer

MEng., Advanced Safety Engineering and Management

4.0 GPA

American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)
Foundation Scholarship

ASSP Community Safety Professional of the Year (2x)

Administrator for ASSP Emerging Professionals
Common Interest Group



Anthony Petrowski

MEng., Construction Engineering Management

3.87 GPA

Project Engineer, Atlas

U.S. Marine Corps (1996-2007)



Grayson Ray Gilliland

MEng., Structural Engineering

4.0 GPA

UAB Presidential Scholarship, Robert and Edith
Bauman Scholarship

President's List, Tau Beta Pi, Chi Epsilon

Structural Designer, BRPH



Sarah Roberts

MEng, Sustainable Smart Cities

4.0 GPA

Senior Solar Asset Manager, Silicon Ranch

Former Wind Operations Manager, Southern Power



Caleb Scott Rowe

Neuroengineering

4.0 GPA

Co-Director and Co-Founder, UAB Neuroengineering Society

T32 Training Grant, Translational & Molecular Sciences

Blazer Graduate Research Fellow, Graduate Biomedical Sciences Program

Undergraduate Mentor, Neuroengineering Society Mentorship Program



UAB

Graduate

Student of the Year

Affrin Hossain Anni

**Civil, Construction,
and Environmental Engineering**



Thank you!

THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®]

*College of
Engineering*

UA STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Undergraduate

LACEY BELDON

Aerospace Engineering

4.0 GPA

President's List

**18th out of 69 teams at the 2023 NASA
Student Launch Competition**

Post-graduation goal of working for Airbus



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®]

College of
Engineering

CORRE WYMAN

Architectural Engineering

Research focused on engineering machine learning software design

Former president of Technology Student Association

Mentored and tutored numerous students in STEM



OLIVIA COLE

Chemical & Biological Engineering

**BioTran intern for the HudsonAlpha Institute
for Biotechnology**

**Research focused on neurodegenerative
diseases with an intense focus on biochemical
reactions**

**Silver medal winner for UA in ballroom
dancing**



CHARLES CROUSE

Civil Engineering

**Dr. Daniel S. Turner Alabama Student Civil
Engineer of the Year**

**Active in American Society of Civil Engineers
(ASCE)**

**Theta Chi, Chi Epsilon, Alpha Lambda Delta, &
Carol A. Elliot Honor societies**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®]

College of
Engineering

HUNTER GRACE FAIRFAX

Computer Science

Current president and member of UA's Society of Women Engineers (SWE) – former newsletter committee head and webmaster

STEM Path to MBA

Former intern at KEYSYS, Altec and Motion



MICAH NISHIHIRA

Cyber Security

Mentor and officer of Crimson Defense team

Creator of challenges for UA Capture the Flag competitions

189th out of 4,672 teams in the National Cyber League competition

National Cyber Scholar



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®] | College of
Engineering

ANIKA CHO

Electrical Engineering

**2022 National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration Hollings Scholarship winner**

**Research focused on acoustic methods and
technologies to advance ocean exploration**

**One of 12 to receive the Mitchell Scholarship
at University College Cork in Ireland**



GEORGIA HERR

Environmental Engineering

National Merit Scholar

**Member of UA's Young Water Professionals,
Alpha Omega Epsilon and the Technical
Science Sorority**

Mentor for annual STEM Showcase



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®]

College of
Engineering

KATERINA WERKHAVEN

Mechanical Engineering

Current president of UA's American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

Completed a two-term internship with BMW Motorcycles

Minor in Computer Science and STEM Path to MBA



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®]

College of
Engineering

MILES JOHNSON

Metallurgical Engineering

4.0 GPA

**Recipient of Foundry Educational Foundation
(FEF) metal-casting scholarship**

Founded a martial arts school

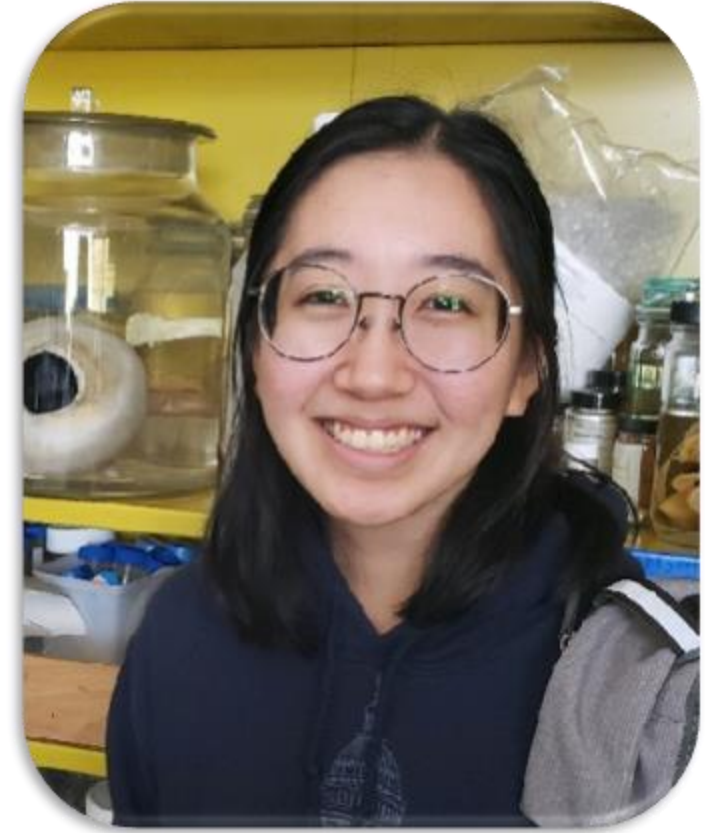
**Post-graduation goal of earning a PhD and
becoming a UA professor**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®] | College of
Engineering

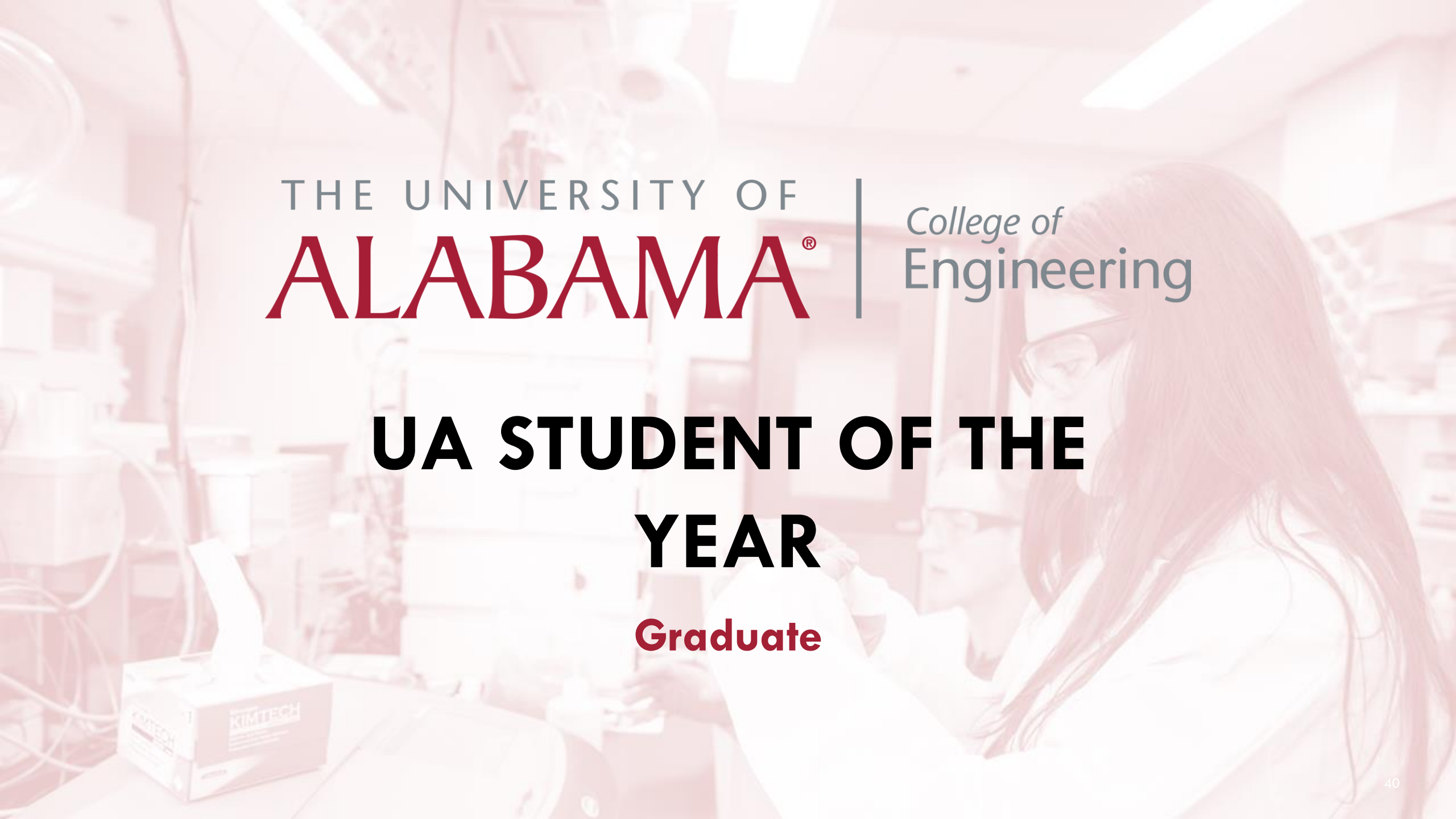
**UA STUDENT OF
THE YEAR OVERALL
UNDERGRADUATE
WINNER**

**Anika
Cho**



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ALABAMA[®]

College of
Engineering



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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College of
Engineering

UA STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Graduate

JENNIFER BAGGETT

Aerospace Engineering

**Member of the Public Engagement Learning
Community and Emerging Scholars
Community programs**

**Works to introduce technology and STEM to K-
3rd grade students**

**B.S. in biology, chemistry, biomedical
engineering, mathematics, psychology and
film studies**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®] | College of
Engineering

ALEXANDRA AVERA

Chemical & Biological Engineering

Earned her M.S. in chemical engineering

Inventor on two provisional patents

Recipient of UA's Outstanding Graduate
Student, Outstanding Teaching Assistant, and
Outstanding Service to the Department awards



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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Engineering

TOLULOPE SANNI

Civil Engineering

Served on the Committee on Professional Career Growth of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

Research focused on data solutions to enhance human performances

Post-graduation goal of improving global natural disaster resilience



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ALABAMA[®] | College of
Engineering

MYLES LEWIS

Computer Science

**Regional executive leader at the National
Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)**

**Works in the Human-Technology Interaction
Lab at UA**

**Published multiple papers on technical
training procedures and the analysis of
quantitative and qualitative data**



LAUREN ERVIN

Electrical Engineering

Completed a co-op with the National Security Agency

Post-graduation goal of becoming a robotics researcher

B.S. in electrical and computer engineering

Lab manager of the Embedded and Robotic Systems lab and researcher in Agile Robotics lab



THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA[®] | College of
Engineering

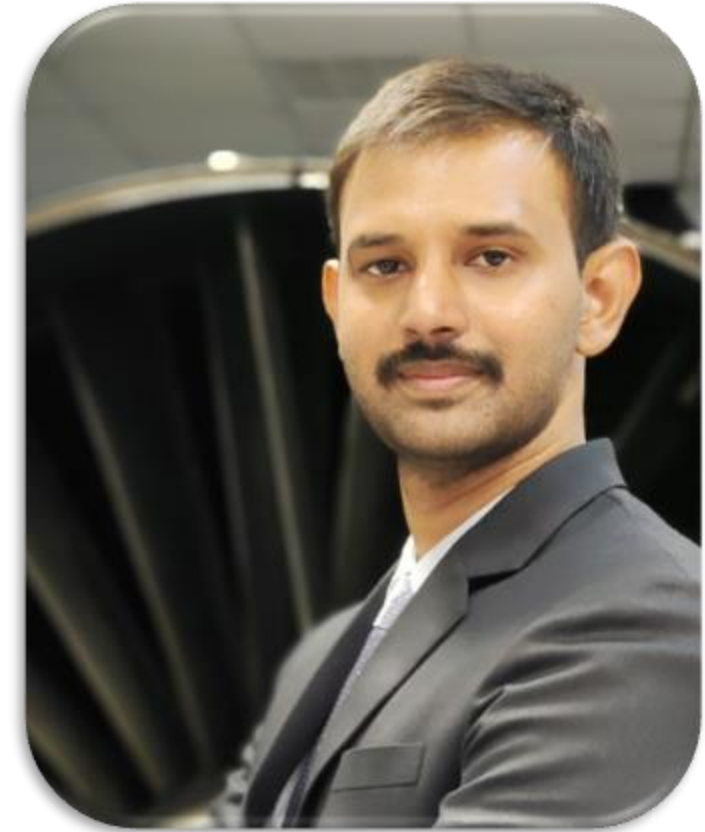
VAMSI KRISHNA UNDAVALLI

Mechanical Engineering

Member of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and the Royal Aeronautical Society

Completed a M.S. in aircraft propulsion and a B.S. in aerospace engineering

Current graduate teaching assistant and graduate research assistant



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Engineering

RAJYASHREE LENKA

Metallurgical Engineering

Completed a B.S. and M.S. at the National Institute of Technology in Rourkela, India

Worked as a senior engineer at Kohler Co. in India

Currently serves as vice president of the Indian Student Association of Tuscaloosa and treasurer of the UA Vedic Society



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Engineering

UA STUDENT OF THE YEAR OVERALL GRADUATE WINNER

**Alexandra
Avera**



THE UNIVERSITY OF
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College of
Engineering

The background of the slide is a faded, reddish-tinted photograph of the University of Alabama campus. In the center background is the iconic Old College Building, a large neoclassical structure with a prominent portico of columns and a pediment. In the foreground, there is a large, circular fountain with multiple water jets. To the left of the fountain, a few people can be seen walking on a path. The overall image has a soft, hazy quality.

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College of
Engineering

Thank you!

An aerial photograph of a city skyline. The central focus is a large, white, classical-style building with a prominent green, gabled roof. Three large, spherical, light-colored domes are positioned on the roof's corners. The building is surrounded by other urban structures, including a tall, modern skyscraper with a glass facade to the right and various smaller commercial buildings and parking lots. The streets are visible, with some cars and trees scattered throughout the scene.

ECOB SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

SKYLER CARRILLO

HIGH SCHOOL: Hewitt Trussville High School

UNIVERSITY: Tuskegee University

DEGREE: Mechanical Engineering

MEMBER: National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and Tuskegee Track Team

INTERN/WORK: Nucor Steel



JEREMIAH HAMPTON

HIGH SCHOOL: Thompson High School

UNIVERSITY: The University of Alabama

DEGREE: Mechanical Engineering

MEMBER: National Society of Black
Engineers (NSBE), Bridge and the Black
Student Union (BSU)



KELBY TAYLOR

HIGH SCHOOL: Thompson High School

UNIVERSITY: Tuskegee University

DEGREE: Computer Engineering

MEMBER: National Honor Society, Beta Club, Math Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, Ambassador and Football Team





DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

STEFANIE FUNK

NOMINATED BY: International Society of Automation (ISA)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Chemical Engineering and Mathematics, The University of Alabama | M.B.A., The University of Alabama at Birmingham

CURRENT EMPLOYER: BBP

CURRENT POSITION: Director of Automation



J. GASTON LARGE III

NOMINATED BY: The University of Alabama
Capstone Engineering Society

EDUCATION: B.S. in Computer Engineering, The
University of Alabama | Executive M.B.A., Auburn
University

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Alabama Power Company

CURRENT POSITION: Engineering Supervisor



JANIE B. MAUTER

NOMINATED BY: Alabama Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Civil Engineering, The University of Alabama

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Barge Design Solutions

CURRENT POSITION: Project Manager



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



J. Gaston
Large, III

An aerial photograph of a city skyline. In the center, a large white rectangular banner is overlaid, containing the text "EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR" in a teal, sans-serif font. The banner is positioned horizontally across the middle of the image. The background shows a dense urban environment with various buildings, including a prominent tall skyscraper with a grid-like facade in the lower center, and several older, multi-story buildings with flat roofs. The streets are visible, with some cars and trees scattered throughout the scene. The overall color palette is dominated by the urban tones of the buildings and the teal color of the text.

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

CHRIS S. CRAWFORD

NOMINATED BY: The University of Alabama
Capstone Engineering Society

EDUCATION: B.S. in Computer Science, The
University of Alabama | Ph.D. in Human-Centered
Computing, University of Florida

CURRENT EMPLOYER: The University of Alabama

CURRENT POSITION: Associate Professor



ARUP GHOSH

NOMINATED BY: The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Information Technology, West Bengal University of Technology | M.S. in Computer Engineering, G.C. in Advanced Quantitative Methods and Ph.D. in Computer Science, University of Central Florida

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Jacksonville State University

CURRENT POSITION: Assistant Professor



MUHAMMAD M. SHERIF

NOMINATED BY: American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

EDUCATION: B.S., United Arab Emirates University
| M.S., Carnegie Mellon University | Ph.D.,
University of Virginia

CURRENT EMPLOYER: The University of Alabama
at Birmingham

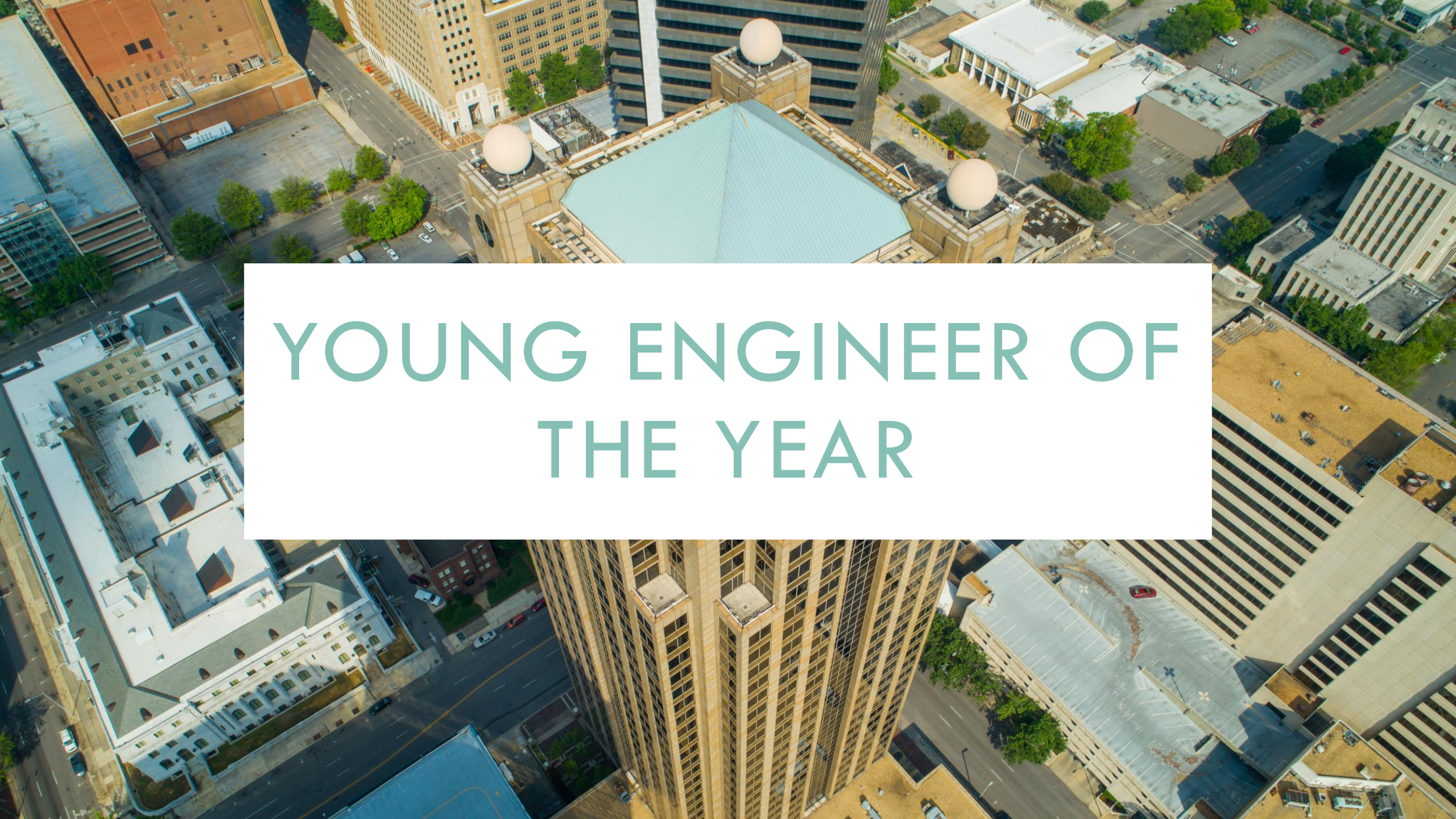
CURRENT POSITION: Assistant Professor



EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



Dr. Arup Ghosh

An aerial photograph of a city skyline. In the center, a white rectangular banner is overlaid with the text "YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR" in a teal, sans-serif font. The background shows various city buildings, including a prominent skyscraper with a blue glass facade and several older, multi-story buildings with flat roofs. The streets are visible, with some cars and trees scattered throughout the urban landscape.

YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

ATTRICE DAVON ELDER

NOMINATED BY: American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Civil Engineering, Auburn University

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Barge Design Solutions

CURRENT POSITION: Transportation Engineer



CHARLIE LEDOUX

NOMINATED BY: International Society of Automation (ISA)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Chemical Engineering,
Mississippi State University

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Yates Engineers, LLC

CURRENT POSITION: Instrumentation and Controls
(I&C) Engineer



KATIE MCGUYER

NOMINATED BY: Society of Women Engineers
(SWE)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Civil Engineering, The
University of Alabama | M.S., University of South
Alabama

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Volkert

CURRENT POSITION: Project Manager



DR. KATHRYN O'HARRA

NOMINATED BY: The University of Alabama
Capstone Engineering Society

EDUCATION: B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Chemical
Engineering and B.S. in Dance, The University of
Alabama

CURRENT EMPLOYER: The University of Alabama

CURRENT POSITION: Assistant Professor



DANIEL T. WHITAKER

NOMINATED BY: American Society of Heating,
Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers
(ASHRAE)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and
MBA, The University of Alabama

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Schneider Electric

CURRENT POSITION: Mechanical Engineer



YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR



Dr. Kathryn
O'Harra



ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

DR. RODNEY COLLINS

NOMINATED BY: American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

EDUCATION: B.S. and M.S., University of Alaska |
Ph.D., University of Oklahoma

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Building & Earth

CURRENT POSITION: Project Engineer



JANIE B. MAUTER

NOMINATED BY: Alabama Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Civil Engineering, The University of Alabama

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Barge Design Solutions

CURRENT POSITION: Project Manager



DR. WALTER SCHOEL III

NOMINATED BY: The University of Alabama
Capstone Engineering Society

EDUCATION: B.S. and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering,
The University of Alabama

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Schoel Engineering

CURRENT POSITION: CEO and Chief Engineer



DAVID WALSH

NOMINATED BY: International Society of Automation (ISA)

EDUCATION: B.S. in Electrical Engineering, Auburn University

CURRENT EMPLOYER: Process Automation and Simulation Services (PASS)

CURRENT POSITION: Owner and President



ENGINEER OF THE YEAR



Janie B. Mauter

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



JODY SINGER

Director, Retired | Marshall Space Flight Center
(NASA)

LEADERSHIP AWARD



JODY SINGER

Director, Retired | Marshall Space Flight Center
(NASA)

SPECIAL THANKS

The Engineering Council of Birmingham is especially grateful to those who supported ECOB this past year and for your participation in helping make tonight's program a success.

Our sincere thanks to the many organizations and individuals for their donations and in-kind services.

