HAWAI'I COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING SOCIETIES Recognizes 4 Outstanding Engineers for 2021

The Hawaii Council of Engineering Societies (HCES) annually recognizes four outstanding engineers at their Engineers Week Banquet. They were selected for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the profession and Hawaii. Due to restrictions created by the pandemic, the recipients will be recognized at a virtual ceremony on February 26, at noon. The following individuals will be recognized.

Mr. Steve Baldridge, P.E., has been selected by the Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers as the 2021 Engineer of the Year. He is the founder and President of Baldridge & Associates, Inc., a Honolulu-based structural engineering firm. Mr. Baldridge received his BSCE from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and MSCE from the University of Texas – Austin, and started his career in the field of engineering in Hawaii in 1979. Since then, he has been involved in many projects throughout the islands addressing the design and construction of structures facing many challenges such as earthquakes, hurricanes, high winds, or tsunamis. Steve has served on and chaired technical councils advancing the design state of art. Steve has shared his expertise in natural disaster mitigation through speaking engagements and his many publications. He has also provided consultative services to clients in the form of pro-bono efforts for technical non-profits that often required staying in tents or hotel rooms with no power. These four outstanding professional engineers are the 2021 Award Recipients.

Ms. Kapiolani Street, P.E., was selected by the Hawaii Society of Professional Engineers as the 2021 Distinguished Engineer of the Year. Ms. Street earned a BS in Civil Engineering and a BA in Anthropology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She obtained her MBA from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Shidler College of Business. Ms. Street became a licensed professional engineer in the State of Hawaii in 1997 and has been honored by several engineering societies. She is a team player who enjoys working as part of a team and is dedicated to her job. Ms. Street brought an inter-disciplinary approach to her practice and has been a driving force behind the development of the University of Hawaii’s Civil Engineering program. In recognition of Ms. Street’s outstanding contributions to the islands, she was awarded the Rome Prize in 2003 and in 2007 she was honored with the OIEA Young Engineer Award. In 2010, Ms. Street was awarded the Outstanding Woman in Engineering award by Eta Kappa Nu. In 2012, she was named a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and in 2016 she became the first woman to receive the national award of Maui Times Woman of the Year. Ms. Street continues to be a prominent voice in the engineering profession and has made significant contributions to environmental protection, sustainability, and justice. She is an excellent role model for women and young professionals.

Mr. Willy Chang, was selected as the HCES Student Engineer of the Year by a UHM College of Engineering faculty committee. A Regent’s Scholar, Willy wished to continue his academic career not only as an individual seeking awards and a Bachelor’s degree, but as an individual who can contribute to the overall improvement of the society through his work as an engineer. Willy has been a math and science tutor and is currently working as a teaching assistant.

Ms. Lisa K. Saunders, P.E., has been selected by the Hawaii State Association of Professional Land Surveyors as the 2021 Land Surveyor of the Year. She worked for the State of Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources before starting her own land surveying firm in 1989. After her father’s death, she started to develop her own firm. She passed away in February 2021. Ms. Saunders was a true professional who always went above and beyond to ensure the best results for her clients. She was always willing to help others and her clients always felt valued. She was always willing to go the extra mile to ensure that her clients were satisfied with the results. Ms. Saunders was a true professional who always went above and beyond to ensure the best results for her clients. She was always willing to help others and her clients always felt valued. She was always willing to go the extra mile to ensure that her clients were satisfied with the results. Mrs. Saunders was a true professional who always went above and beyond to ensure the best results for her clients. She was always willing to help others and her clients always felt valued. She was always willing to go the extra mile to ensure that her clients were satisfied with the results.
While 2020 was a year like none other, students and faculty at the College of Engineering at the University of Hawaii continued to learn and innovate by employing an endless array of technologies to keep the University community. Here’s a recap of what we’ve been up to this past year.

Online and hybrid instruction

During the first semester of the fall semester, classes were held online, while the majority of our classes are still delivered virtually. The College has been able to maintain its highly interactive and studio classes to meet in-person (with strict social distancing protocols) for those courses where hands-on instruction was needed.

Traditional events gone virtual

While held events were held via various online platforms and were broadcast live, the UH System Presidents Kick-off, the Annual Banquet fund-raiser, our annual Alumni Banquet, and our College-wide Ceremony, and others. While a virtual event can never fully replicate an in-person event, these events had some unique benefits to our events online, including the ability to invite participants from out-of-state and replicate an in-person experience, we discovered there were some unique benefits to holding our events online,

Outstanding industry-integrated courses that allow students to earn college credit while tackling real-world problems

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