OUTSTANDING
ALUMNI AWARDS
AND STUDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

FEBRUARY 24, 2022 | DAUCH ALUMNI CENTER

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
School of Engineering Education
IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURE to present this year’s recipient of the Engineering Education Outstanding Alumni Award, Umesh Patel, PhD, a graduate of the former Division of Interdisciplinary Engineering (now part of the School of Engineering Education).

The Engineering Education Outstanding Alumni Award is presented to alumni/ae who have achieved singular accomplishments in their fields, whose successful careers are role models for our students, and whose achievements set an example for all the School’s alumni. In future years, the award will recognize alumni who have interdisciplinary engineering degrees, multidisciplinary engineering degrees, or engineering education doctoral degrees, reflecting all academic degrees the School offers.

Our 2021 honoree, Umesh Patel, is such an inspiration. He has distinguished himself as an innovative global leader in the medical device and regenerative medicine industry. In doing so, he has displayed the ingenuity and pursuit of excellence that epitomizes the Purdue engineer.

Dr. Donna Riley
KAMYAR HAGHIGHI HEAD

PROGRAM AGENDA

6:30 PM
WELCOME
Shepherd Dick
SENIOR, MDE THEATRE ENGINEERING

STUDENT AWARDS
Mary Pilotte
PROFESSOR OF ENGINEERING PRACTICE
CO-DIRECTOR, FUSION STUDIO FOR ENTERTAINMENT AND ENGINEERING
DIRECTOR, ENGINEERING EDUCATION UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS – MULTIDISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING & INTERDISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING STUDIES

Guests should eat their salad during this portion

7:00 PM
DINNER

Mixed Farm Greens, Ruby Red Grapefruit, Candied Pecans, Pomegranate Seeds, Juniper Citrus Vinaigrette

Roasted chicken in a creamy lemon garlic sauce with spinach and sundried tomatoes.
Saffron Rice with toasted pinenuts, raisins, fresh parsley and butter.
Crispy Roasted Brussels Sprouts

Caramel Apple Cheesecake with pepita brittle and 5-spice syrup

7:45 PM
OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARD
Donna Riley
KAMYAR HAGHIGHI HEAD, SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING EDUCATION

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING
PHOTOS OF HONOREES AND GUESTS
Meet at the Boilermaker Special in Atrium
Umesh Patel, PhD
1986 Interdisciplinary Engineering, Genetic Engineering
2021 IDE Outstanding Alumni Award

As President of Cook Biotech Incorporated, Umesh provides executive leadership and strategic direction to the organization that has global talent spanning the areas of research, development, marketing, regulatory and manufacturing in the field of regenerative medicine. Cook Biotech is a medical products company that commercializes products that are used to repair and heal tissue defects. These products have been used in treatments for more than 6 million patients worldwide.

Umesh joined Cook Biotech in 1995 as its second employee and was responsible for operations and the development of manufacturing processes to produce extracellular matrix (ECM) medical devices. Prior to becoming president of Cook Biotech, Umesh also served as vice president of product development and engineering.

Umesh holds more than 50 U.S. patents and is author of more than 14 peer-reviewed publications. He has served as a guest faculty lecturer on biomedical engineering topics and leadership at several universities. He serves on several boards and committees including Purdue’s Weldon School of Engineering Industrial Advisory Board, Purdue Foundry Investment Fund, Indiana Center for Translational Sciences Institute (CTSI) External Advisory Committee, and Greater Lafayette Commerce. He is also a mentor for the MatchBOX Coworking Studio Spark program for minority-owned businesses.

As a student and post-doc, Umesh conducted research at Purdue University’s Biomedical Engineering Center in the areas of cardiac output, impedance cardiography, hyperthermia, telemedicine, and ECM materials. Umesh earned a Doctorate degree in industrial engineering at Purdue University. His Master of Science degree in electrical engineering and Bachelor of Science degree in interdisciplinary engineering are also from Purdue University.
STUDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

**SAYA C. UEKI**  
OUTSTANDING SOPHOMORE  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
MDE Visual Design Engineering  
Product Lifecycle Management Minor  
Collaborative Leadership Certificate

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**ASHLEY M. GROOMS**  
OUTSTANDING SENIOR  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
MDE Acoustical Engineering  
Mathematics Minor  
2022 Donald A. Loren Scholarship Recipient

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**RACHEL M. GANDER**  
OUTSTANDING JUNIOR  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
MDE Engineering Management  
Sustainable Engineering and Organizational Leadership Minors  
MDESS Historian Officer 2021-22

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**LOGAN K. NOSTER**  
OUTSTANDING SENIOR  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
MDE Visual Design Engineering  
Product Lifecycle Management Minor  
2021 Outstanding Junior Achievement Recipient  
MDESS Professional Development Officer 2021-22

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**MASON ZHAO**  
OUTSTANDING JUNIOR  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
IDES Engineering Science Studies  
Computer Science (Double Major)  
Mathematics Minor

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**CHLOE M. OTIS**  
OUTSTANDING SENIOR  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
MDE Visual Design Engineering  
Product Lifecycle Management Minor  
2021 Outstanding Junior Achievement Recipient
SHEPHERD D. DICK
OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

MDE Theatre Engineering
Theatre Design and Production and
Philosophy Minors

CLAUDIA R. JOHNSON
OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

IDES Engineering Science Studies
Medical Humanities Certificate
MDESS President 2021-22

MDESS MEMORIES 2021-22
Game night, ice skating, homecoming and so much more
ASHLEY M. GROOMS  
DONALD A. LOREN SCHOLARSHIP
MDE Acoustical Engineering  
Mathematics Minor

RYAN M. ZIHENNI  
DONALD A. LOREN SCHOLARSHIP
MDE Engineering Management  
Business Economics Minor

ALIYAH AHMAD and  
ELISABETH CASETTI  
GOLDEN GLOBE WINNERS WITH DR. KIRSTEN DAVIS

The Donald A. Loren Scholarship was established in December 2016 by Jeffery R. Loren and Wendy B. Loren in honor and in memory of their father, Donald A. Loren (BS 1948 Mechanical Engineering). The scholarship supports Multidisciplinary Engineering and Interdisciplinary Engineering Studies students who have demonstrated superior leadership.

The Golden Globe award is given to a to a superior Sophomore two person team in the IDE 30100 Professional Development course, for their work on a global design case. Reviewing the case of a fictitious firm, the teams must carefully consider the World Bank Environmental and Social Standard to analyze a wide range of design implications for an engineered product that needs to be built and sold into a remote global location. This case study aims to aid students in better understanding the complex standards and far reaching human, community, biodiversity, economic and environmental considerations that must motivate and may constrain their design aspirations in the global economy in which we live.
HONORING OUR ALUMNI

Division of Interdisciplinary Engineering Studies
OUTSTANDING INTERDISCIPLINARY ENGINEERING ALUMNI
1999-2003

1999  Gregory M. Ayers*  BSE IDE, PRE-MED/PRE-LAW, 1985
2001  Paul C. Cloyd  BSE IDE, ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING, 1976
       Sue Hudson-Abreu*  BSE IDE, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, 1978
2002  Michael J. Cave*  BSE IDE, ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, 1982
       David R. Schwind*  BSE IDE, INVENTIVE DESIGN, 1974
2003  Geoffrey T. Crowley*  BSE IDE, TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING, 1974
*Also Distinguished Engineering Alumni

School of Engineering Education
ENGINEERING EDUCATION OUTSTANDING ALUMNI
2009-2021

2021  Umesh Patel  BSE IDE, GENETIC ENGINEERING, 1986
2020  Judith Cleland  BS IDE, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, 1974
       Pedro Pires de Miranda  BSE IDE, PRODUCTION ENGINEERING, 1980
       Jennifer Kerr  BSE IDE, BIOENGINEERING, 1993
       Arnold Young  BSE ID, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, 1973
2019  Celebrating 50 Years
2018  Russell P. Troyer  BS IDE, ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, 1972
2017  Brian C. Bosma  BSE IDE, PRE-PROFESSIONAL, CIVIL AND
       ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING STUDIES, 1981
       Thomas A. Gray  BSE IDE, ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, 1974
2016  Holly Simmons  BSE IDE, ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, 1998
2015  Henry A. "Hank" Frissora  BSE IDE, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, 1979
2014  Rex Carter  BSE IDE, URBAN SYSTEMS AND TRANSPORTATION, 1974
2013  Stan Jones  BSE IDE, ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT, 1973
       Eric J. Schmidt  BSE IDE, ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, 1976
       Michael W. Wells  BSE IDE, PRE-LAW, 1975
2012  Leslie Bottorff  BSE IDE, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, 1979
       Rick Kosdrosky  BSE IDE, COMPUTER ENGINEERING, 1976
2011  Debra S. Echt  BSE IDE, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, 1973
       Raymond Michael Klein  BSE IDE, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, 1977
       Richard H. Le Sesne  BSE IDE, NUCLEAR ENGINEERING, 1975
2010  Howard J. Gobstein  BS IDE, TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICY, 1974
2009  Harold M. Aberman  BSE IDE, BIOENGINEERING, 1985
       Brian E. Farley  BSE IDE, BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING, 1979
       Gary C. Horlacher  BSE IDE, SYSTEMS ENGINEERING, 1989
       Robert F. Sharpe, Jr.  BSE IDE, PRE-LAW, 1974
       Mary Spiess Smith  BSE IDE, ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING, 1974

2020 IDE OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

LEFT TO RIGHT | Donna Riley, Arnold Young, Judy Cleland, Jennifer Kerr, Pedro Pires de Miranda, and Mary Pilotte