Letter from the Dean

Dear Engineering Graduates,

By nature of you being here today, you are among the best, brightest and hardest working engineers the world has to offer.

You have made it through one of the most rigorous engineering programs in the country. During your time as an engineering student, you have collectively spent thousands of hours researching, volunteering and interning in the city of Houston, adding to the strength and vibrancy of our community. When you leave our labs and classrooms to embark on your careers, your professional contributions will have a resounding impact here, in the city of Houston, and around the world.

You are the thinkers, doers and creators of our modern world. You will be the designers, builders, problem-solvers and inventors of our tomorrow. Although you represent a wide variety of backgrounds and disciplines, as you walk across the stage to accept your diploma, you all have one thing in common: you are world-class engineers.

From here, the world is at your fingertips. Work hard, give back and trust in the knowledge you have acquired during your time as a student at the UH Cullen College of Engineering. Everything else will fall into place.

Congratulations, Cougar engineers! I look forward to seeing the impact your bright careers will have on our future and our world. Please stay in touch and fill me in on all of your successes: dean@egr.uh.edu.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Tedesco
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Dean and Professor
**Convocation Speaker**

**GABRIEL CUADRA**  
Vice President for Compliance, Gulf of Mexico

In his current role, Gabe Cuadra is responsible for compliance with legal and regulatory agreements for the BP Exploration & Production’s Gulf of Mexico Operations. He held a similar post in his previous role at the Texas City Refinery where he was also responsible for communications, investigations, internal assurance, leadership and culture, and the development of management systems and work processes. In addition to his recent roles focused on compliance, Gabe has held numerous business leadership, commercial, operations management, and engineering roles throughout his 25 years with Amoco and now BP. Gabe’s tenure includes a technology development project in Argentina and Retail Business Unit Leadership for Latin America based in Mexico City. He is a two time recipient of the company Chairman’s Award and also received the Technology Award in 1998.

A native Houstonian, Gabe attended Strake Jesuit College Preparatory and completed his BS in Chemical Engineering at the University of Houston in 1988. He also graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University’s Executive Masters in Business Administration in 1995.

Gabe serves as BP’s Executive Sponsor for the University of Houston where he leads university relations, corporate funding, and recruiting activities for BP. He has served as the vice-president for UH’s Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Industrial Advisory Board and Chair of the Cullen College of Engineering Leadership Advisory Board.

Mr. Cuadra has been married to his wife, Joanne for twenty five years and has two sons, Gabriel and Benjamin of whom he is very proud. As a family they enjoy the outdoors, traveling, and working together on various projects.
University of Houston
Cullen College of Engineering

Convocation
Saturday, May 13, 2017, 2 p.m.
NRG Arena

PROCESSIONAL
Grand Marshal Chad Wilson
Instructional Assistant Professor
Grand Marshal Leonard Trombetta
Associate Professor
Faculty
Banner Bearer
Platform Party
Dean Joseph Tedesco

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS
UH ROTC

NATIONAL ANTHEM
ManCorps

WELCOME AND
Joseph W. Tedesco
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Dean and Professor

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
Gabriel Cuadra
Cullen College of Engineering Alumnus

CONVOCATION ADDRESS
Suresh Khator
Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Computing Facilities

PRESENTATION OF BEST DISSERTATION AWARDS
Mike Lejeune
Presenter

PRESENTATION AND HOODING OF
Mike Lejeune
Presenter

DOCTORAL CANDIDATES
PRESENTATION OF
Mike Lejeune
Presenter

MASTER’S CANDIDATES
PRESENTATION OF
Mike Lejeune
Presenter

BACHELOR’S CANDIDATES
CLOSING REMARKS
Dean Tedesco

ALMA MATER
ManCorps

RECESSIONAL

Event music provided by ManCorps, Moores School of Music.
Cullen College of Engineering

The University of Houston Cullen College of Engineering, established in 1941, is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET. The Cullen College is ranked among the top 100 engineering schools in the country and is recognized as one of Best Engineering Schools of 2017 by U.S. News & World Report.

Approximately 5,000 students are enrolled in engineering courses—3,722 undergraduates as well as 1,247 master’s and doctoral students in biomedical, chemical, civil, computer, electrical, environmental, geosensing systems, industrial, mechanical and petroleum engineering. The college also offers interdisciplinary graduate programs in space architecture, subsea, aerospace, materials, and computer and systems engineering. Chemical, mechanical, electrical, computer and civil engineering are ranked among the top graduate programs nationally by U.S. News & World Report.

The mission of the Cullen College of Engineering at the University of Houston is to serve the Greater Houston community, Texas and the nation by educating engineers to assume leadership positions in the identification and solution of the complex technical challenges of society, to advance the state of knowledge through pioneering research and scholarly work, to facilitate the transfer of new technology to Texas and U.S. industries, to play a key role in economic development for the Greater Houston region and the State of Texas, and to benefit the public sector through service to the university, community, industry, government and the engineering profession.
Administration

Joseph Tedesco
*Elizabeth D. Rockwell Dean and Professor*

Hanadi Rifai
*Associate Dean for Research and Facilities*

Suresh Khator
*Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Computing Facilities*

Frank Claydon
*Director of the Division of Undergraduate Programs and Student Success*

Metin Akay
*Chair, Department of Biomedical Engineering*

Michael Harold
*Chair, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering*

Roberto Ballarini
*Chair, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering*

Badrinath Roysam
*Chair, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering*

Gino Lim
*Chair, Department of Industrial Engineering*

Pradeep Sharma
*Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering*

Mohamed Soliman
*Chair, Department of Petroleum Engineering*

Russell Dunlavy
*Chief Development Officer - UH STEM*

Stephen Bangerter
*Executive Director of Business Operations*

Audrey Grayson
*Executive Director of Communications*

Jagannatha Rao
*Director of Online Programs and Extension Services*

Janice Quiroz-Perez
*Director of the Engineering Career Service Center*

Roshawnda Anderson
*Assistant Dean of Administration*
### National Academy of Engineering Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J.J. Azar</td>
<td>Petroleum Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benton Baugh</td>
<td>Subsea Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Cutler</td>
<td>Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Ehlig-Economides</td>
<td>Petroleum Engineering</td>
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<td>John Lienhard</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Luss</td>
<td>Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrea Prosperetti</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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<td>Kaushik Rajashekara</td>
<td>Electrical and Computer Engineering</td>
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<td>James Symons</td>
<td>Civil and Environmental Engineering</td>
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<td>Jerome Schultz</td>
<td>Biomedical Engineering</td>
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<td>Ganesh Thakur</td>
<td>Petroleum Engineering</td>
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<td>Anestis Velestos</td>
<td>Civil and Environmental Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kaspar Willam</td>
<td>Civil and Environmental Engineering</td>
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### Department of Biomedical Engineering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mohammad Abidian</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metin Akay</td>
<td>Professor and Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yasemin Akay</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muayyad Al-Ubaidi</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Francis</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Gifford</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuri Ince</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirill Larin</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheereen Majd</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elebeoba May</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandra Mohan</td>
<td>Professor and Associate Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muna Naash</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ahmet Omurtag  
*Associate Professor*

Jerome Schultz  
*Biomedical Engineering*

Sergey Shevkoplyas  
*Associate Professor*

Tianfu Wu  
*Assistant Professor*

Yingchuan Zhang  
*Assistant Professor*

### Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Vemuri Balakotaiah  
*Professor*

Patrick Cirino  
*Associate Professor*

Jacinta Conrad  
*Associate Professor*

Vincent Donnelly  
*Professor*

Demetre Economou  
*Professor*

Lars Grabow  
*Assistant Professor*

Michael Harold  
*Professor and Chair*

Ramanan Krishnamoorti  
*Professor*

Dan Luss  
*Professor*

Michael Nikolaou  
*Professor*

Jeremy Palmer  
*Assistant Professor*

Jeffrey Rimer  
*Associate Professor*

Megan Robertson  
*Assistant Professor*

Navin Varadarajan  
*Associate Professor*

Peter Vekilov  
*Professor*

Richard Willson  
*Professor*

Jonathan Worstell  
*Instructional Professor*

### Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Roberto Ballarini  
*Professor and Chair*

Abdeldjelil Belarbi  
*Professor*
Mina Dawood
Associate Professor

Egor Dontsov
Assistant Professor

Craig Glennie
Associate Professor

Reagan Herman
Instructional Associate Professor

Thomas Hsu
Professor

Yandi Hu
Assistant Professor

Konrad Krakowiak
Assistant Professor

Hyongki Lee
Assistant Professor

Arturo Leon
Associate Professor

Stacey Louie
Assistant Professor

Yi-Lung Mo
Professor

Kalyana Nakshatrala
Assistant Professor

Hanadi Rifai
Professor and Associate Dean

William Rixey
Associate Professor and Associate Chair

Debora Rodrigues
Associate Professor

Ramesh Shrestha
Professor

Joseph Tedesco
Professor and Dean

Cumarsawamy Vipulanandan
Professor

Keh-Han Wang
Professor

Kaspar Willam
Professor

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Jiming Bao
Associate Professor

Masoud Barati
Instructional Assistant Professor

Aaron Becker
Assistant Professor

Stanko Brankovic
Associate Professor

Ji Chen
Professor

Jiefu Chen
Assistant Professor

Jinghong Chen
Associate Professor

Yuhua Chen
Associate Professor
Frank Claydon  
*Professor and Director*

Jose Contreras-Vidal  
*Professor*

Xin Fu  
*Assistant Professor*

Zhu Han  
*Professor*

Thomas Hebert  
*Associate Professor*

David Jackson  
*Professor*

Han Le  
*Professor*

Huang Quang Le  
*Instructional Assistant Professor*

Jung Uk Lim  
*Instructional Assistant Professor*

Dmitri Litvinov  
*Professor*

Stuart Long  
*Professor*

David Mayerich  
*Assistant Professor*

Hien Nguyen  
*Assistant Professor*

Miao Pan  
*Assistant Professor*

Shin-Shem Pei  
*Professor*

Saurabh Prasad  
*Assistant Professor*

Kaushik Rajashekhara  
*Professor*

Badrinath Roysam  
*Professor and Chair*

Paul Ruchhoeft  
*Associate Professor*

Xiaonan Shan  
*Assistant Professor*

David Shattuck  
*Associate Professor*

Bhavin Sheth  
*Associate Professor*

Wei-Chuan Shih  
*Associate Professor*

Leonard Trombetta  
*Associate Professor and Associate Chair*

John Wolfe  
*Professor*

Yan Yao  
*Assistant Professor*

Wanda Zagozdzon-Wosik  
*Associate Professor*

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**Department of Industrial Engineering**

Christopher Chung  
*Associate Professor*

Qianmei Feng  
*Associate Professor*
Cullen College of Engineering

FACULTY

Ali Kamrani
Associate Professor

Suresh Khator
Professor and Associate Dean

Gino Lim
Professor and Chair

Jiming Peng
Associate Professor

Lawrence Schulze
Associate Professor

Randal Sitton
Instructional Associate Professor

Yaping Wang
Instructional Assistant Professor

Department of Mechanical Engineering

Ashutosh Agrawal
Assistant Professor

Daniel Araya
Assistant Professor

Haleh Ardebili
Associate Professor

Richard Bannerot
Professor

Theocharis Baxevanis
Assistant Professor

Christina Chang
Instructional Assistant Professor

Xuemei Chen
Instructional Assistant Professor

Yi-Chao Chen
Professor

Matthew Franchek
Professor

Hadi Ghasemi
Assistant Professor

Karolos Grigoriadis
Professor

Yashashree Kulkarni
Associate Professor

Dong Liu
Associate Professor

Holley Love
Instructional Assistant Professor

Philippe Masson
Assistant Professor

Anastassios Mavrokefalos
Assistant Professor

Ralph Metcalfe
Professor

Andrea Prosperetti
Professor

Jagannatha Rao
Associate Professor,
Associate Chair and Director

Jae-Hyun Ryou
Assistant Professor
Venkat Selvamanickam  
Professor

Pradeep Sharma  
Professor and Chair

Gangbing Song  
Professor

Li Sun  
Professor

Su Su Wang  
Professor

Kenneth White  
Professor

Di Yang  
Assistant Professor

Cunjiang Yu  
Assistant Professor

Department of Petroleum Engineering

Christine Ehlig-Economides  
Professor

Lori Hathon  
Assistant Professor

Dimitrios Hatzignatiou  
Professor

Konstantinos Kostarelos  
Associate Professor

Michael Myers  
Associate Professor

Guan Qin  
Associate Professor

Mohamed Soliman  
Professor and Chair

Ganesh Thakur  
Professor

Huai Wang  
Instructional Assistant Professor

George Wong  
Associate Professor

Division of Undergraduate Programs and Student Success

Daniel Burleson  
Instructional Assistant Professor

Diana de la Rosa-Pohl  
Instructional Assistant Professor

Jerrod Henderson  
Instructional Assistant Professor

Erin McCave  
Instructional Assistant Professor

Chad Wilson  
Instructional Assistant Professor
Best Ph.D. Dissertation Award

Spring 2017

This semester, we have awarded the following individual a plaque and a check for $1,000 for being the outstanding dissertation award winner:

Katy N. Olafson,
*Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering*

**Dissertation Title:** Deciphering the Molecular Interactions between Antimalarials and Hematin Crystal Surfaces

**Dissertation Advisors:** Dr. Peter Vekilov and Dr. Jeffrey Rimer
The Honors College Honors

The Honors College at the University of Houston offers students special opportunities to develop their academic abilities. Below are the Honors College honors designations.

**University Honors with Honors in Major**
Students who complete the Honors College curriculum (36 hours) and complete a senior honors thesis.

**University Honors**
Students who complete the Honors College curriculum and elect not to complete a senior honors thesis.

**Collegiate Honors and Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major**
Students who fulfill the requirements for the honors program in the college of their major, including 21 hours of honors courses; who complete an Honors College minor, or who complete 21 hours of approved honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major.

**Membership in The Honors College and Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major**
Students who affiliate with the Honors College during their undergraduate years and complete fewer than 21 hours of honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis and fulfill the requirements of their major with distinction, they graduate with Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major.

**Honors in Major**
Students who complete a senior honors thesis but are not members of the Honors College.
Honors Recipients

University Honors with Honors in Major

Rawan Hussein Almallahi  Vikash B Patel

University Honors

Ashwin P. Antony  Tara Elise Mars
Irbaz Imtiyaz Arab  Jorge Luis Martore
Shivam Yogesh Bhakta  Kevin J. McEnery
Christiana Sokeland Freitas Chamon  Rafi M. Mohammed
Elizabeth Rachel Dunn  Kasan K. Momin
Sujata Gautam  Christina Renee Ramsey
Christopher G. Gay  Phillip Andrew Reid
Kevin J. Gu  Tevin J. Richards
Moriah Stephanie Hargrove Anders  Stephanie Nicole Roohi
Nairah Hashmi  Benjamin William Rose
Nancy Angelica Ibarra  Ruqaiya Taha Shipchandler
Daniel Jarjour  Daniel Sierra
Zachary M. Khan  Franklin Tam
Saniya Khowaja  Carol M. Upchurch
Maria Ciara Lalata  Christopher Colby Wiggs

Collegiate Honors

Melati Amtar  Eunice Marquez
Maria F. Djuanda  Rachel W. Mills
Dylan Eser Jose  Tri Huu Nguyen
Eric R. Hudgins  Raaz Saeed Pathan
Jose Victor Lopez  Anthony P. Richmond
Clayton Manchaca  Maria Angelica Rodriguez Bermudez
Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major
Tam Nguyen          Luc Hoang To

Membership in The Honors College
Fernando Sergio Curiel          Lauren Ford
Rogelio Fonseca              Ayodh Y. Patel

Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major
Vijay Arjun Dharmaraj

Honors in Major
Tarek Ghoneim          Munib A. Hasnain
Aqib Hasnain              Minahil Samee
Outstanding Seniors of the Year

Each academic year one graduating senior from each of the eight undergraduate disciplines is chosen by the faculty of that department as the outstanding student of the year. From these eight students, one is chosen by merit of his or her superior scholarship and leadership to be the Texas Society of Professional Engineers Outstanding Senior of the Year, the highest honor awarded to a student by the college. The faculty, students, and staff of the Cullen College of Engineering congratulate the 2017 recipients of these awards.

Outstanding Senior of the Cullen College of Engineering
Tam Nguyen

Departmental Outstanding Seniors

Outstanding Biomedical Engineering Student
Vijay Arjun Dharmaraj

Outstanding Chemical Engineering Student
Phillip Andrew Reid

Outstanding Civil Engineering Student
Christopher Colby Wiggs

Outstanding Computer Engineering Student
Tevin J. Richards

Outstanding Electrical Engineering Student
Andrew Maicke

Outstanding Industrial Engineering Student
Christopher Avalos

Outstanding Mechanical Engineering Student
Tam Nguyen

Outstanding Petroleum Engineering Student
Bryan K. Printz
Honors

Academic Honors are based on the requirements of the catalogue year students entered the university. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost’s Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

**PRE-FALL 2010 CATALOGUE**

Undergraduate students who complete their degree requirements under any catalogue prior to Fall 2010 will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the following grade point averages earned in the last sixty-six (66) hours completed at the University of Houston.

- **3.75 to 4.0** Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
- **3.50 to 3.74** Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
- **3.25 to 3.49** Cum Laude (with Honors)

**FALL 2010 CATALOGUE TO PRESENT**

Undergraduate students who complete their degree requirements under, and since, the Fall 2010 catalogue will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the following grade point averages earned in the last fifty-four (54) hours completed at the University of Houston.

- **3.90 to 4.0** Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
- **3.70 to 3.89** Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
- **3.50 to 3.69** Cum Laude (with Honors)
Spring 2017

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**

Haleh Aghajani  
Assessment of mental workload by EEG+fNIRS  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Ahmet Omurtag

Majid Latif Jr.  
Nathaniel Z. Piety  
Microfluidic and Paper-Based Devices for the Analysis of Red Blood Cells: Improving the Quality and Accessibility of Diagnosis, Monitoring and Treatment for Sickle Cell Disease  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Sergey S. Shekoplyas

Taha Salim  
Experimental and Computational Modeling of Dynamic Formation of the Proinflammatory Microenvironment in Response to Francisella tularensis LVS Infection  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Elebeoba May

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING:**

Jihae Chung  
Role of Polyprotic Acids as Inhibitors of Calcium Oxalate Crystallization  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Jeffrey D. Rimer

Sanbir Kaler  
Etching of Silicon Materials using Plasma Beams from Finfet Processing to Atomic Layer Etching  
**ADVISORS:** Dr. Vincent Donnelly and Dr. Demetre J. Economou

Aaditya Khanal  
Numerical Study and Production Forecasting of Unconventional Liquid-Rich Shale Reservoirs with Multi-Fractured Horizontal Wells  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Guan Qin

Qiaowei Lou  
Optical Spectroscopic Studies of CH3F with O2/CO2 and C4F8 Inductively Coupled Plasmas  
**ADVISORS:** Dr. Vincent M. Donnelly and Dr. Demetre J. Economou

Yang Ning  
Numerical Modeling and Simulation of Natural Gas Transport in Multi-Scale Shale Digital Rocks using the Lattice Boltzmann Method  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Guan Qin

Katy N. Olafson  
Deciphering the Molecular Interactions of Antimalarials to Hematin Crystal Surfaces  
**ADVISORS:** Dr. Peter Vekilov and Dr. Jeffrey Rimer

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CIVIL ENGINEERING**

Justin Chang  
Structure-Preserving High Performance Computational Methods for Transport in Porous Media  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Kalyana Babu Nakshatrala

Ahmed Amine El Kacimi El Hassani  
Interface Characterization of Embedded Fiber Reinforced Polymer Strands in Sensing Cement and Polymer Composites  
**ADVISOR:** Dr. Cumaraswamy Vipulanandan
Meng Liu
Reliability Analysis of Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer (CFRP) Strengthened Steel Beams
ADVISOR: Dr. Mina Dawood

Can Xu
Modeling Material Degradation Due to Moisture and Temperature
ADVISOR: Dr. Kalyana Babu Nakshatrala

Ting Yuan
Congo Wetlands Hydrology using SAR, INSAR, and Radar Altimetry
ADVISOR: Dr. Hyongki Lee

Qi Zeng
RF Shimming Impacts on RF-Induced Heating for Medical Implants at 3T
ADVISOR: Dr. Ji Chen

Zhuan Zhu
Investigation of Environmental Stability of Methylammonium Lead Iodide Perovskite and Its Interaction with Water
ADVISOR: Dr. Jiming Bao

Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering

Nikunj Arunkumar Bhagat
Brain-Machine Interface controlled neuromuscular stimulation for grasping in stroke and spinal cord injury survivors
ADVISOR: Dr. Jose L. Contreras-Vidal

Fahrettin Firat Gonen
Real-Time Visual Stimulus Selection through Attentional and Decisional Processes
ADVISOR: Dr. Haluk Ogmen

Hung Khanh Nguyen
Big Data Optimization for Distributed Resource Management in Smart Grid
ADVISOR: Dr. Zhu Han

Fahira Sangare
RF Energy Harvesting and Information Transfer Implementation in the Internet of Things
ADVISOR: Dr. Zhu Han

Hao Wu
Semi-supervised and Deep Learning for Hyperspectral Image Analysis
ADVISOR: Dr. Saurabh Prasad

Doctor of Philosophy in Industrial Engineering

Guven Kaya
Large Scale Optimization Models and Algorithms in Healthcare Delivery
ADVISOR: Dr. Gino J. Lim

Doctor of Philosophy in Materials Engineering

Meysam Heydari Gharahcheshmeh
Flexible III-Nitride-Based Materials and Devices for Electronic and Photonic Applications
ADVISOR: Dr. Jae-Hyun Ryou

Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Engineering

Aparna Balasubramani
Carbon-Based Technologies for Remediating Polychlorinated Biphenyls in Contaminated Sediment
ADVISOR: Dr. Hanadi S. Rifai

Cullen College of Engineering
CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Himani Agrawal
Continuum and Atomistic Reinvestigations of Protein Membrane Interactions
ADVISORS: Dr. Pradeep Sharma and Dr. Yashashree Kulkarni

Renzo Ivan Beraun Escudero

Weijie Li
Innovative Structural Health Monitoring Using Smart Sensors
ADVISOR: Dr. Gangbing Song

Yi Lu
Electrowetting (EW) Modulation of Droplet and Bubble Dynamics and Its Application to Critical Heat Flux (CHF) Enhancement
ADVISOR: Dr. Dong Liu

Amine Meziou
Low-Dimensional Modeling of Two-Phase Flow in Pipelines
ADVISOR: Dr. Matthew Franchek

Ala Eddine Omrani
Multiphase Flows in Vertical Pipelines
ADVISOR: Dr. Matthew A. Franchek

MASTER OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Shahab Malayeri

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Kyle Andrew Karinshak
Hanyang Li
Anh Viet Vu

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

Sai Prakash Reddy Addula
Aditya Bhaskaruni
Nithish Reddy Billa
Anil Sai Bodepudi
Priya Dixit
Abhinav Gundlapalli
Rohan Gupta
Alekhyaa Karavadi
Sneha Kolli
Sreedhar Gupta Kothamachu
Vishnu Prashad Kumar
Harish Maram
Venkata Naga Raja Sekhar Nanduri
Chaitanya Narayanaavaram
Rohith Navulla
Praveen Gayatree Pendyala
Srinivasa Karthic Ponguru
Saya Pradeep

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOENGINEERING

Jaganth Nivas Asok Kumar
Christopher J. Candelari
Chika A. Okolo
Kelsey M. Smegner

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Parameswaran Ariram
Matthias Heinrich Bowman
Aji George

Erick Ika
Ashley Schneider Poe
Seng Sok
Upender Telukuntla
Mythili Thevamaran
Sakshi Rajpal
Amara Datta Sachidananda
Nagoor Saheb Shaik
Sai Ramya Tanniru
Bharath Vemula
Deepti Ramachandra Walvekar
Yuanshuo Yang
Devi Mounika Yarra

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Anirudh Shandilya Annavajhala
Viraj Bhagat
Indra Narayana Sandilya Bhogaraju
Mary C. Burbage
Amaldev Devadas
Osman A. Jamshed
Khalil Tarek Khalil
Surya Teja Kondala
Rebecca Elizabeth Kusko
Madhuri Manjunath
Dhruv Mukesh Modi
Jaffer Mohammed Ismail
Maanasa Mohanambal Sathianarayanan
Srijani Mukherjee
Suhas Reddy Nalla
Pallavi-Dilip Pant
Chintankumar Natvarbhai Patel
Divya Rajendran
Chinmay Bharat Shah
Shalini Singh
Soumya Sinha
Chandrayee Soneja
Srinivasa Subrahmanyan Puneeth Vandrapu
Vani Murthy Vellanki
Arun Viswanathan Mahadev
Chen Wang

**MASTER OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Sneha Gadamsetty
Amani Jridi
Lakshmi Kesavan
Mohammed Hussain Shareef
Siswitha Yadlapati
Tong Yang

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**

Roshni D. Krishnasing
Sean Christopher Smith

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All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We’ll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we’ll ever be.

Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942
Academic Regalia

THE ATTIRE of the participants dates back to the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities began to be established in Europe. In 1321, at the University of Coimbra in Portugal, gowns were required attire not just for faculty members, but also for students of all classifications. Other European universities started requiring gowns, but there was not a standard design. In 1887, Gardner Leonard volunteered to design the graduation gowns for his class at Williams College. His design, as well as the standardization of colors to denote areas of study, were later adopted by an intercollegiate commission, and are the ones used today by most United States colleges and universities.

GOWNS. The bachelor’s gown has long pointed sleeves; the master’s gown has an oblong sleeve open at the wrists (some older gowns may be open near the upper part of the arm); the doctoral gown is fuller than the others with full-length velvet panels on the front and three velvet crossbars on each sleeve in black or in the color distinctive to the academic discipline of the wearer’s degree.

HOODS. The hood, worn by master’s and doctoral degree recipients, drapes over the shoulders and down the back and indicates the academic discipline to which the degree pertains; the field of the hood denotes the university that conferred the degree. The size of the hood indicates the level of the degree.

CAPS. The black mortarboard is the most common cap used. The tassel fastened to the center of the cap is black, although it may be the color appropriate to the subject of the degree. The tassel for the doctoral cap may be of gold thread. Candidates for bachelor’s degrees wear the tassels on the right side, shifting it to the left side after being awarded their degrees. Candidates for master’s and doctoral degrees wear their tassels on the left side from the outset and do not shift them after receiving their degrees.

| BACHELOR’S DEGREES | Gown: Black  
|                    | Tassel: Orange |
| MASTER’S DEGREES   | Gown: Black  
|                    | Hood: Orange  
|                    | Tassel: Black |
| DOCTORAL DEGREES   | Gown: Black  
|                    | Hood: Dark Blue  
|                    | Tassel: Old Gold |
A special thanks to the Convocation Committee and volunteers who assisted in making this memorable event possible.

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