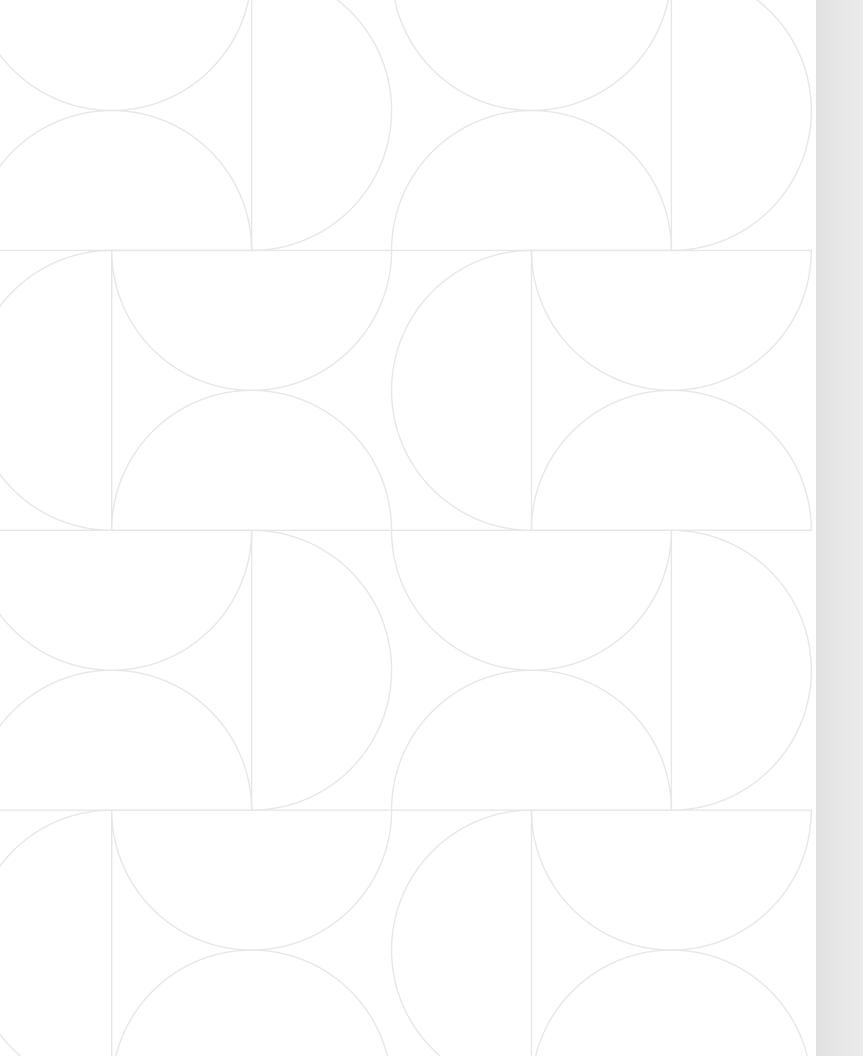




Undergraduate
Honors and Awards
Ceremony



THE A. JAMES CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

2024 UNDERGRADUATE HONORS AND AWARDS CEREMONY

Program

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Samuel Graham, Jr., Dean and Nariman Farvardin Professor

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BIOENGINEERING

lan White, Professor, Associate Chair, & Director of Undergraduate Studies

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Paige Smith, Director

CENTER FOR MINORITIES IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Rosemary Parker, Director

MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE

Joseph Naft, Director, Maryland Industrial Partnerships

A. JAMES CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Samuel Graham, Jr., Dean and Nariman Farvardin Professor

Ken Kiger, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Closing Remarks

AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Department of Aerospace Junior Merit Award** is presented to juniors in the department who have attained the highest overall academic average.

Awarded to William Covington, Kevin Franzblau, Richard Huang, Benjamin Leazer, and Nathan Roy

The **Joseph Guthrie Scholarship Award** is presented to a junior in the department who has attained the highest overall academic average.

Awarded to Michael Mallamaci

The **Alfred Gessow Scholarship Award** is presented to those seniors in the department who have attained the highest overall academic average.

Awarded to Peter Capozzoli, Gustavo Lang, Jr., and Visesh Uppoor

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Outstanding Achievement Award is presented to the student who has made the most outstanding contribution through scholarship and service to the student branch and the department.

Awarded to Kruti Bhingradiya

The **Women in Aeronautics and Astronautics Award** is presented to the students who have made the most outstanding contribution through scholarship and service to the organization and the department.

Awarded to Elizabeth Quinn and Lillian Spuch

The **Department of Aerospace Engineering Chair's Award** is presented to those students who have made the most outstanding contributions through excellence in academics and outstanding service and leadership to the department.

Awarded to Kruti Bhingradiya, Elizabeth Quinn, and Lillian Spych

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Kruti Bhingradiya is a senior international student pursuing aerospace engineering with a minor in robotics and autonomous systems. She is an undergraduate researcher with the Collective Dynamics and Controls Lab and is part of the Near Space Balloon Payload Program. Kruti serves as president of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, vice president of Sigma Gamma Tau, and as Expansion Chair for the international board of Women of Aeronautics and Astronautics. She will be pursuing a Ph.D. in spaceflight dynamics and controls upon graduation.

Peter Capozzoli is a senior aerospace engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. He is a member of the Honors College and the aerospace departmental honors program. He is also an undergraduate researcher in the Alfred Gessow Rotorcraft Center where he researches airflow measurement using neuromorphic, event-based vision. Outside of academics, Peter runs on UMD's varsity track team.

William Covington is a junior aerospace engineering student with a focus on space systems. He conducts research with Dr. Dave Akin at UMD's Space Systems Lab, studying the terramechanical interaction between rovers and lunar regolith. He currently interns for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory as a Systems Operations Engineer and will be interning at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab this summer.

Kevin Franzblau is a junior aerospace engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. He is an undergraduate researcher with the Machine Learning for Dynamical Systems Lab, modeling gravity fields using neural networks. Kevin is a member of the Students for the Exploration and Development of Space Club, working on the liquid rocket team. He will be interning this summer at Draper Laboratory in Boston.

Richard Huang is a junior aerospace engineering student who is a member of the University Honors and aerospace departmental honors programs. He has completed internships at NASA Langley Research Center, where he conducted computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations, and Firefly Aerospace, where he worked on the propulsion analysis team. Richard also plays for Maryland club ultimate and is president of the Terrafins scuba club.

Gustavo Lang, Jr. is a senior aerospace engineering major and father of two boys. He has designed rear wings for the Terps Racing Electric Vehicle and been actively engaged with the Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering, all while maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Gustavo completed a co-op at Apple as a Mac Product Design Engineer, where he was selected Intern of the Year. He is currently working part-time at Boeing as a liaison engineer on the NASA Space Launch System. After graduation, he will be a Flight Performance Engineer at Kratos Defense.

Benjamin Leazer is a junior aerospace engineering student on the astronautical track with a 4.0 GPA. He is a leader within the Telescope Housing Event-based Imaging Apparatus nanosatellite project, where he works on general bus design and analysis. He has future aspirations of pursuing a career in autonomous systems and control.

Michael Mallamaci is a junior aerospace engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. He is a member of the aerospace honors program where he is researching and developing dust mitigation techniques for use on airless bodies under the guidance of Dr. Christine Hartzell. Michael is an active member of the Terrapin Rocket Team in which he served as president. He is currently interning part time at NASA JPL where he serves as a flight operations engineer for the NISAR mission. This summer, Michael will intern as a mission operations engineer at VAST.

Elizabeth (Ellie) Quinn is a senior aerospace engineering major from Kensington, Maryland. Throughout her time at UMD, she has been part of the College Park Scholars program and the QUEST Honors program. Beyond that, she has conducted variable star research at the University Observatory, is a tour guide with Maryland Images, and is president of Maryland Irish Dance. Ellie is also the co-chair of Women in Aeronautics and Astronautics, an organization committed to empowering women within the field of aerospace through social, professional, and technical outreach events.

Nathan Roy is a junior aerospace engineering student who has maintained a 4.0 GPA. He is the payload team lead for the Terrapin Rocket Team, where he leads the development of a parachute drift control system. As a member of the Gemstone Affordable Natural Disaster Relief Robotics research team, Nathan has led the development of a low-cost, plug-and-play computer vision system for UAVs. As part of the National Science Foundation Buoy Project, he has developed low-cost sensor buoys for air deployment over the Arctic Circle. Outside of engineering, Nathan is an active member of the OneU campus ministry.

Lillian Spych is a senior aerospace engineering major on the space track. She is currently co-chair of the university's Women in Aeronautics and Astronautics, an organization with the purpose of empowering and building a community of women in aerospace. Additionally, she is a member of both the Society of Women Engineers and the Upsilon chapter of the STEM sorority Alpha Omega Epsilon. She is currently interning at SARSAT, a contractor of NOAA and NASA that builds and monitors satellites for search-and-rescue. She hopes to continue her work for SARSAT in the future.

Visesh Uppoor is a senior aerospace engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. He is a student researcher in the Alfred Gessow Rotorcraft Center, experimentally studying aeroelastic stability of rotorcraft at high speeds. Outside of engineering, he is a part of the University of Maryland club sailing team and Terps Skydive club. He is an avid Indian classical (Carnatic) musician, performing vocal and violin concerts regularly. Post graduation, Visesh will begin graduate studies towards a Ph.D.

BIOENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Fischell Department of Bioengineering Outstanding Junior Award** is presented on the basis of outstanding academic achievement and contributions to the profession and the department by a junior.

Awarded to Matthew Ensign

The **Fischell Department of Bioengineering Outstanding Senior Award** is presented on the basis of outstanding academic achievement and contributions to the profession and the department by a senior.

Awarded to Lucas Frankle and Autumn Hengen

The **Fischell Department of Bioengineering Outstanding Research Award** is presented on the basis of significant contributions to research, the department, and the field of bioengineering.

Awarded to Udit Gupta

The **Fischell Department of Bioengineering Outstanding Service Award** is presented to an excellent student who has contributed significantly to the community, department, university, and profession.

Awarded to Miguel Martinez

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Matthew Ensign is a junior bioengineering student with a 4.0 GPA. He is a member of the Integrated Life Sciences Honors Program and is developing cell-penetrating peptide-conjugated nanoparticles in the Maisel Lab as part of the Bioengineering Honors Program. He is the vice president of academic affairs for Alpha Eta Mu Beta and the director of operations for The Catalyst. Matthew also serves as a member of the Clark School Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council and Omicron Delta Kappa, and is a teaching fellow for Biomedical Electronics.

Lucas Frankle is a senior bioengineering student with a minor in global engineering leadership and a 4.0 GPA. He is a member of the University Honors Program, ODK Leadership Honors Society, and a Clark School Ambassador. Lucas was a contributing author on three publications, studying the molecular products of fluorescent chemical activation. He spent one semester studying abroad in Madrid, Spain and spent his spring break volunteering for Habitat for Humanity. He has been accepted into a leadership development rotational program with Siemens Healthineers, working in R&D on medical imaging devices.

Udit Gupta is a senior bioengineering student who has worked in Dr. Kimberly Stroka's lab on quantifying the impact of matrix stiffness on brain endothelial cell-cell junction stiffness. He is a member of the Integrated Life Sciences Program. Udit has been an undergraduate teaching fellow for courses including Biostatistics and Biomedical Electronics and Instrumentation. After graduation, Udit plans to continue his studies and pursue a Ph.D. in bioengineering.

Autumn Hengen is a senior bioengineering student and proud member of the Bioengineering Honors Program. She has participated as a member of Cohort 3 of the A. James Clark Scholars Program. Autumn has also dedicated much of her undergraduate career to being a photo editor and photographer for The Diamondback as well as a boxing group fitness instructor. Her research in the Stroka Lab has inspired her decision to pursue a Ph.D. in bioengineering with a focus on developing cancer therapeutics upon graduation.

Miguel Martinez is a senior biocomputational engineering student, retired US Air Force veteran, and a distinguished Kendall Scholar. His journey from an aircraft mechanic in the military to academia highlights a dedication to lifelong learning and community support. Accepted into Clemson University's Bioengineering Ph.D. program, Miguel is set to harness artificial intelligence and machine learning in cancer research, aiming to make significant contributions to medical science and patient care.

CHEMICAL AND BIOMOLECULAR ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **David Arthur Berman Memorial Award** is presented to the student majoring in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering with the highest cumulative scholastic average at the end of the first semester of their junior year, and who has been elected to (or has been contacted by and is pursuing election to) Tau Beta Pi.

Awarded to Christine Ogunsola

The **Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Outstanding Junior Award** is presented to a department junior for academic excellence.

Awarded to Ivan Lin

The **Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Outstanding Senior Award** is presented to graduating seniors for scholarship, leadership, and service to the department.

Awarded to Riordan Correll-Brown

The **Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Student Service Award** is presented for outstanding service to the department.

Awarded to Nadeen Alomar and Samaa Zaman

The **Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Chair's Award** is presented for excellence in academics, outstanding service to the department, or leadership in the department.

Awarded to Lane Crofton

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Nadeen Alomar is a sophomore chemical engineering student with a 3.9 GPA. She is currently the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion chair of the professional engineering fraternity, Theta Tau. She is also a member of the University of Maryland Debate team and serves as a Clark School Ambassador.

Riordan Correll-Brown is a senior majoring in chemical engineering. She is part of the Gemstone research honors program where she leads Team SOLAR, a group of students developing a more sustainable solar panel recycling method. She is also an undergraduate intern in the Functional Macromolecular Laboratory, researching polymer-based solid-state Li-ion batteries. In addition to her research, Rae is a member of the Women in Engineering student advisory board, and also serves as a peer tutor. Additionally, she has worked as a chemical engineering undergraduate teaching fellow.

Lane Crofton is a senior chemical engineering student with a 3.98 GPA. He is an active member of the Albertus Research Group where he studies electrochemo-mechanical coupling in thin-film solid-state batteries. After becoming a member sophomore year, he is the current president of the University of Maryland undergraduate chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He has been active in the undergraduate community, working as a teaching fellow for the past four semesters within the chemical engineering department. Lane is looking forward to continuing to follow his passion for working within an electrochemistry career field.

Ivan Lin is a junior chemical engineering student with a 3.9 GPA. He is grateful for the recognition and would like to thank his family, friends, and professors for their ever-present support.

Christine (Yemi) Ogunsola is a junior chemical and biomolecular engineering student with a 3.92 GPA. She is a member of the Advanced Cybersecurity Honors Program. She is involved in the Black Engineering Society, Tau Beta Pi, and ChemE Car structural and electronic team. She is a consistent teaching fellow for multiple chemical engineering introduction courses, including Thermodynamics I and Introduction to CHBE. She completed the AmazonNext program, a semester-long introduction to machine learning and artificial intelligence. She aspires to combine her chemical engineering background with her computational and machine learning skills.

Samaa Zaman is a senior majoring in chemical engineering and minoring in Global Engineering Leadership. She has served as webmaster and historian in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and treasurer for Chem-E-Car, and has competed in the annual Alumni Cup competition for her major. Samaa performs research on batteries and electrochemical systems with Dr. Albertus at the Maryland Energy Innovation Institute, and she is a teaching fellow for the chemical and biomolecular engineering department. After graduating, Samaa hopes to pursue her interests in electrochemistry.

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Outstanding Junior Award** is presented to a department junior who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement.

Awarded to Caroline Kahl

The **Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Outstanding Senior Award** is presented to a department senior for outstanding scholastic achievement.

Awarded to Maguire Ballard

The **Chi Epsilon Outstanding Senior Award** is presented to a department student for demonstrated leadership and service to the student engineering community.

Awarded to Owen Schweitzer

The American Society of Civil Engineers Outstanding Senior Award is presented to a senior member for outstanding scholastic achievement and for significant service to the chapter.

Awarded to Mekhi Boulware

The **CEE DEI Service Award** is presented to a department student for demonstrated service and activism in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion to the student engineering community.

Awarded to Meena Toolaabee

The **Robert L. Morris Award in Environmental Leadership** is given to a department junior or student who has demonstrated through extracurricular activities a commitment to environmental stewardship, ethical engineering practice, or sustainable technology.

Awarded to Rohan Doshi

The **Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Chair's Award** is presented to a department student for the most significant contribution to the department.

Awarded to Annushka Aliev

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Annushka Aliev is a senior civil & environmental engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. She is a student in the University Honors, Engineering Honors, and QUEST Honors programs, and works as a teaching assistant for QUEST's introductory course. She is heavily involved in Engineers Without Borders, in which she was president, media/technology chair, and a water systems subteam lead, and has traveled to Uganda with them twice. Annushka has also worked with UMD's Center for Disaster Resilience on projects focusing on environmental justice and sea-level rise. After graduation, Annushka will work with Hazen & Sawyer.

Maguire Ballard is a senior environmental track civil engineering student with a 3.97 GPA. He is a College Park Scholar, Global Fellow, and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration Hollings Scholar. On campus, Maguire is actively involved as a teaching fellow for Intro to Engineering Design, department tutor for civil engineering, editor of Chi Epsilon Honor Society, and research assistant in the Davis Environmental Engineering Laboratory. Following graduation, he will begin working towards a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering at North Carolina State University.

Mekhi Boulware is a senior civil engineering student with a 3.87 GPA. He currently serves as the president of the American Society of Civil Engineers Student Chapter, where he leads the organization's efforts of supporting the civil engineering student body through social and professional development opportunities. He is also the secretary of Chi Epsilon, the National Civil Engineering Honor Society. He has been accepted to the University of Michigan's Graduate Program for Environmental Engineering, where he will begin his studies towards a Master's of Science.

Rohan Doshi is a senior civil engineering student on the environmental and water resources track. He has kept a 3.97 GPA with minors in both sustainability and general business. He is a member of Engineers Without Borders where he has traveled to Nakifuma, Uganda, twice to implement a water distribution system for a secondary school. In addition, Rohan has studied abroad in Iceland exploring renewable energy. He has also been a teaching fellow for Mechanics I for four semesters. After college, he will continue working for Community Power Group developing solar facilities across the United States.

Caroline Kahl is a junior civil engineering student on the geotechnical and structural track. She is the secretary for the Maryland Beta Chapter of the National Engineering Honor Society, Tau Beta Pi. Additionally, she is involved with Chi-Epsilon, the National Civil Engineering Honor Society. During the summer of 2023, she worked as a project engineer intern at Whiting-Turner and will intern with them again this upcoming summer. She hopes to apply her engineering knowledge within the construction industry.

Owen Schweitzer is a senior civil engineering student with a 3.69 GPA. He is the president of Chi Epsilon, the civil engineering honor society. Owen is the lead construction project manager for the university's Steel Bridge Competition team. He is a current tutor for the Academic Success & Tutorial Services, focusing on classes with high fail and withdrawal rates. After graduation, he will start as a project engineer for the general contractor DPR Construction.

Meena Toolaabee is a junior civil engineering student. She is the undergraduate representative for the Civil and Environmental Engineering's departmental Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee and president of the student group within the committee. As a member of the Clark Scholars Program, she is project lead for a service-learning project to research and prototype a compact bioremediation system to treat water with high copper concentrations before it is discharged to the environment.

ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

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The **Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Outstanding Academic Performance Award** is presented to a junior for academic excellence.

Awarded to Nicholas Venginickal for electrical engineering

Awarded to Lawrence Rhoads for computer engineering

The **Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Chair's Award** is presented to a senior for outstanding academic performance.

Awarded to Scott Fleischmann, David Kirkpatrick, and Elijah Taeckens for electrical engineering

Awarded to Lincoln Doney, Ezana Kebede, and Michael Orlosky for computer engineering

The **Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Service Award** is presented to graduating seniors who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to both their fellow students and the department.

Awarded to Justin Cargiulo and Warren Stewart

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Justin Cargiulo is a senior electrical engineering student researching explainability and fairness in machine learning. In the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, Justin has served on the Undergraduate Affairs Committee and Departmental Council and spent four semesters as an undergraduate teaching fellow. He spent the fall semester as a recruiting assistant for the department, helping to recruit new teaching fellows for the spring semester. Next year, Justin will be working full-time as an electrical engineer while pursuing a Master's degree in data science.

Lincoln Doney is a senior computer engineering student who is additionally pursuing degrees in physics and mathematics. He has volunteered for outreach events for the greater College Park area aimed at getting underrepresented kids into STEM such as Physics is Phun and Maryland Day. He has volunteered for free tutoring programs, and has been a teaching assistant for CMSC106: Introduction to C Programming and PHYS401/402: Quantum Mechanics 1/2. Lincoln has been accepted to the University of Colorado Boulder for graduate school to pursue a Ph.D. in condensed matter physics, focusing on superconductivity research.

Scott Fleischmann is a senior electrical engineering student. He is a member of the Gemstone Honors Program, where his team is researching direct laser writing to create nanoscale biodegradable capsules. Scott is also a member of the QUEST Honors Program. In Engineers Without Borders, Scott is currently the Workshop Lead and was previously the Solar Pump Lead, helping to supply a community in rural Nicaragua with reliable access to clean water. He has been an undergraduate teaching fellow for the past six semesters and has been inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa leadership honor society.

Ezana Kebede is a senior computer engineering student with a 3.98 GPA. He is a member of the University Honors program, Black Engineer Society, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He is a Northrop Grumman Engineer Scholar and has interned at Northrop Grumman for two summers. This past summer, Ezana interned as a software engineer at Google. After graduation, Ezana will be working full-time as a software engineer.

David Kirkpatrick is a senior electrical engineering student. He attended Hagerstown Community College prior to attending the University of Maryland. There, he worked as a peer tutor and earned his Associate in Engineering Science degree. He interned at the University of Maryland Aerospace Engineering Department's Motion and Teaming Lab through the Maryland Space Grant's Summer Internship program. After transferring to the University of Maryland, he continued working with the Motion and Teaming Lab and served as an undergraduate teaching fellow for Intermediate Programming Concepts for Engineers.

Michael Orlosky is a senior computer engineering student with a 3.935 GPA. He is a member of the University Honors program and studied abroad at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid in 2023. In the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors Society, he actively participates in fundraising and community service. He completed a Digital System Design Capstone and has also internships with Lockheed Martin and AWS. Michael has accepted a job as a Software Engineer at Microsoft and wants to explore graduate school in computer science.

Lawrence Rhoads is a junior computer engineering student with a minor in robotics and autonomous systems. He has a passion for robotics and outside of class is part of Robotics @ Maryland, the university's student robotics team. Lawrence currently works as an intern at Northrop Grumman near Baltimore. Outside of school, he spends much of his time outside taking photos of wildlife.

Warren Stewart is a senior electrical engineering student with a 3.98 GPA. He is in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Honors Program and a member of Team Transport in the Gemstone Honors Program. He has been an undergraduate teaching fellow for Intermediate Programming, Digital Logic, and Electric Circuits and a student member of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Undergraduate Affairs Committee. Warren is involved in undergraduate research, as well as being a hiking and camping trip leader for the Terrapin Trail Club. He plans to apply his knowledge of electronics in the medical device industry after graduating.

Eli Taeckens is a senior electrical engineering student and Banneker-Key Scholar. He works as an undergraduate researcher in the lab of Dr. Sahil Shah, where he develops algorithms that decode neural signals to enable more intuitive control of prosthetics for people with spinal cord injuries. He is also a member of a Gemstone Honors Research team studying the flight patterns of bees and works as a tutor for the ECE department. After graduation, Eli will begin working on his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering at Johns Hopkins University and studying the computations performed by the brain during motor control.

Nicholas Venginickal is a junior electrical engineering student with a 4.0 GPA and is a member of the University Honors program. In the Students for the Exploration and Development of Space club, he is the avionics lead, working on a cube-satellite payload that will launch into space with the US Naval Academy. Nicholas is an electrical and computer engineering peer mentor for first-year undergraduate students and works as a teaching assistant for ENEE101.

FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The Salamander Honor Society presents the **Robert J. Taylor Academic Achievement Award** to the department junior with the highest GPA.

Awarded to Nicholas Mertz

The **Society of Fire Protection Engineers Outstanding Senior Award**, sponsored by the society's Chesapeake Chapter, is presented to the department senior with the highest GPA.

Awarded to Vikramdeep Hanspal

The **FPE DEI Service Award** acknowledges a student for their service to the department and/or Clark School that has a focus on increasing the diversity, improving equity, and expanding the inclusion of the engineering community here at the University of Maryland.

Awarded to Angelo Capati

The **NFPA Ambassador Award**, sponsored by the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) acknowledges students who have served as exemplar FPE Ambassadors, going above and beyond to promote the major.

Awarded to Jennifer Beaton

The **Department of Fire Protection Engineering Chair's Award** is presented to the department student or students who exemplify academic excellence and make a significant contribution to the Department mission through their service during the year.

Awarded to Amber Robertson

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Jennifer Beaton is a senior fire protection engineering major and has been a teaching fellow for two years for Numerical Methods with MatLab. She is a fire protection engineering student ambassador as well as the president of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers student chapter. As president, Jennifer organizes professional events and ensures members have a safe and comfortable lounge to study in. During this academic year, Jennifer has taken graduate level courses and is working towards her master's degree.

Angelo Capati is a senior fire protection engineering student who is an ambassador for the department and serves as secretary for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. He is the external affairs chair for the Latinx Student Union, secretary for the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, a part of the Center for Minorities in Sciences and Engineering, and contributes to Anakbayan College Park. Angelo also serves as a teaching assistant for five undergrad and graduate engineering courses and conducts autonomous wildfire detection and suppression in the XPRIZE competition.

Vikramdeep Hanspal is a senior fire protection engineering student. Vikram is a member of the Gemstone Honors Program and has served as secretary for the Society of Fire Protection Engineers University of Maryland student chapter. He is president of the Salamander Fire Protection Engineering Honorary Society, organizing professional and social events for students. In Engineers Without Borders, he has constructed a water distribution system in Uganda. After graduation, Vikram has accepted a position with Jensen Hughes, a fire protection engineering and design firm.

Nicholas Mertz is a junior fire protection engineering student. He is a member of the University of Maryland Society of Fire Protection Engineers and Salamander Fire Protection Engineering Honorary Society. He is also an undergraduate teaching fellow for Mechanics II and enjoys research. Nicholas is continuing his studies in the fire protection engineering combined BS/MS program and will be pursuing a Master of Science in Fire Protection Engineering.

Amber Robertson is a senior fire protection engineering transfer student with a 3.8 GPA. She is secretary of the Salamander Honorary Society and a member of the student chapter of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers as well as a teaching fellow for Human Response to Fire. Amber is a ClarkLeader, having assisted with onboarding for both first-time freshman and transfer students, and volunteers with Laurel Cats. She has been an intern with Summer Consultants since June 2023 and will be working there full-time starting in July.

MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Department of Materials Science and Engineering Outstanding Materials Student Service Award** is presented to a graduating senior for outstanding service to the department, to the student chapter of the Materials Engineering Society, and exceptional advocacy for the students in the department.

Awarded to Alexandra Terres

The **Department of Materials Science and Engineering Student Research Award** is presented to an undergraduate who has demonstrated creativity and scholarship in research.

Awarded to Jack FitzGibbon

The **Department of Materials Science and Engineering Chairman's Outstanding Senior Award** is presented to graduating seniors for scholarship, leadership and service to the department.

Awarded to Ryan Kim and Vincent Lan

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Jack FitzGibbon is a senior materials science and engineering student with a 3.958 GPA. He has been an undergraduate researcher in the Koeth Research Group since Summer 2021, researching Lichtenberg figure formation in acrylic. He was a lab teaching fellow for Introduction to Engineering Design and published videos for an educational YouTube channel oriented towards energetic material synthesis. He is an alumnus of the AAMP-UP program at Purdue University and intends to pursue a graduate degree in the field of energetic chemistry.

Ryan Kim is a senior materials science and engineering student. He has interned at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and Euclid techlabs, and is the former student-faculty liaison and current president of the Materials Engineering Society. In these roles, Ryan has represented student interests to the MSE undergraduate committee, board of visitors, and Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. He has been accepted to the University of Maryland to begin his studies towards a Ph.D.

Vincent Lan is a winter 2023 magna cum laude graduate in materials science and engineering with citations from College Park Scholars and QUEST Honors Program. For multiple semesters, he has served as a Teaching Fellow for ENMA180 and ENMA165. He has interned at NIST, NASA, Apple, and Samsung, and studied abroad in Singapore. Vincent has conducted research on nanoparticles for additively manufactured inductors with the Kofinas Research Group, and founded student organization Flower STEM to foster creativity in STEM. After graduating, he joined Lazarus AI as an Implementation Engineer.

Alexandra Terres is a senior materials science and engineering student. She is currently the treasurer for UMD's chapter of the American Nuclear Society and the project lead for her senior capstone design project, designing and fabricating an in-memory plasmon matrix multiplier. Outside of academics, she is the fleet captain of the UMD Club Sailing Team and a sister in the Gamma Theta Chapter of Alpha Chi Omega. Alexandra has been offered a position at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission following graduation in the Nuclear Regulator Apprenticeship Network.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

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2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Academic Achievement Award** is presented to juniors in Mechanical Engineering who have excelled academically to obtain a cumulative grade point average of 4.0.

Awarded to Lucas Baldwin, Maggie Chen, Jacob Kaplan-Davis, and Steven Kuo

The **Chairman's Award** is presented to graduating Mechanical Engineering seniors for excellence in academics, outstanding service to the department, or outstanding leadership in the department.

Awarded to Gabriel Assan, Dillon Capalongo, Avital Fink, Akshay Kandakumar, Nathan Martin, Urjoshi Nahid, Christopher Nwoke, Joshua Rippeon, and Aidan Stark

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Gabriel Assan is a senior mechanical engineering major. He is an IAP scholar who mentors underclassmen in rigorous engineering subjects. He is also the president of the UMD chapter of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America. After graduation, he plans to enroll in the master of science in information systems program at the University of Maryland Robert H. Smith School of Business.

Lucas Baldwin is a junior mechanical engineering student. As a leading member of Terps Racing Baja, he designs and manufactures off-road automotive parts. He works as a machinist in the Instructional Fabrication Lab and is passionate about teaching engineers how to design for manufacturing. Outside of school, he owns and operates a small business designing and handcrafting precision cutlery sold to clients around the globe.

Dillon Capalongo is a senior majoring in mechanical engineering and minoring in robotics and automated systems. He is president of Robotics @ Maryland and the lead engineer at Carbon Lockdown. He is a teaching fellow for introduction to engineering design and plays alto saxophone in the Mighty Sound of Maryland. Dillon is a Science, Mathematics, and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholar, and was placed into the US Army Combat Capabilities Development Command to support the sustainment of night vision and aviation.

Maggie Chen is a junior mechanical engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of the Design Cultures and Creativity Honors Program, which explores the relationships between design, society, and creative practices. She is also currently enrolled in the Science, Technology, Ethics, and Policy minor, where she seeks to navigate nuanced topics with sensitivity.

Avital Fink is a senior mechanical engineering student. As an engineering orientation advisor, she enjoyed the opportunity to assist and mentor incoming engineering students. She also interned for the Maryland State Highway Administration, working with their facilities team to plan and execute capital improvement projects. After graduation, Avital plans to enter the HVAC field to help reduce carbon emissions and create a more sustainable future.

Akshay Kandakumar is a senior mechanical engineering student with a 3.93 GPA. In addition to engineering, he also is working towards a minor in general business. He is currently a teaching fellow for the class ENME392, which teaches mechanical engineers about statistics used in engineering. Akshay also works in a laboratory under the supervision of Dr. Thamire, working on a conveyor system for oyster cages. This past summer, Akshay had an internship at Northrop Grumman and will continue working at the Baltimore location after completing his undergraduate degree.

Jacob Kaplan-Davis is a junior with a 4.0 gpa, majoring in mechanical engineering and minoring in piano performance. Jacob has completed two engineering internships in the federal government. He was also president of Vintage Voices at UMD, a charitable singing group. Jacob is currently expanding his engineering and cultural knowledge with a semester at Lund University in Sweden.

Steven Kuo is the chief engineer of the Leatherbacks Combat Robotics Club. He works with his team to bring robots to compete in the Norwalk Havoc Robot League. Within Terrapin Works, he works as one of the welding machine specialists in the Instructional Fabrication Lab. Steven is also a member of the Autonomous Micro Air Vehicle Team, where they build drones to compete in the Vertical Flight Society's Design-Build-Vertical Flight Competition.

Nathan Martin is a senior mechanical engineering and computer science student. At the University of Maryland, he is active in the ballroom dancing and juggling clubs, and is designing an Aerial-Aquatic Quadrotor with his capstone team. After graduating, Nathan will begin work as a software engineer at T. Rowe Price in Baltimore, Maryland.

Urjoshi Nahid is a senior mechanical engineering student with a minor in computer science. She is a member of QUEST, University Honors, and the president of Theta Tau, a professional co-ed engineering fraternity on campus. She is a teaching fellow for Electronics and Instrumentation II, and was previously a teaching fellow for Electronics and Instrumentation I and Computing Fundamentals for Engineers. After graduation, Urjoshi will be starting her masters in computer science at Johns Hopkins, while also working full-time as a software engineer at Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory.

Christopher Nwoke is a senior mechanical engineering student and a student member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. He is a recurring member of UMD's Mechanical Contractors Association of Metropolitan Washington student chapter and the University's Terps Racing EV team. Additionally, he volunteers as a speaker at Clark School events and as a campus tour guide for prospective students interested in joining the Clark School of Engineering.

Joshua Rippeon is a transfer student from Frederick Community College. He is currently pursuing a double major in Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science, where he is interested in the fields of robotics and controls.

Aidan Stark is a senior mechanical engineering student pursuing a minor in robotics and autonomous systems with a 4.0 gpa. He previously earned an associate of science degree in mechanical engineering from Montgomery College. Aidan is a member of Pi Tau Sigma, the mechanical engineering honors society. Aidan has applied to the University of Maryland's master of engineering program for robotics and hopes to begin the program in the Fall of 2024.

ENGINEERING CAREER SERVICES

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2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Outstanding Engineering Co-op/Intern Award** is presented to selected students who have demonstrated exceptional work performance, strong academic achievement, and remarkable potential for a successful career while participating in a cooperative education or internship opportunity.

Awarded to Robert Fink IV, Charlotte Ondatje, Summer Slocum, and Smriti Thomas

ABOUT THE AWARDEES FROM THEIR NOMINATORS

Robert Fink IV is an aerospace engineering student that interned with US Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. Robert's supervisor was very impressed with his work and said he is in the top 5% of the interns he has ever worked with at NRL. Robert has a rare combination of a keen intellect with a creative mind along with exceptional analytic capabilities, excellent hands-on skills, and exceptional communication skills. He has been working on one of the most challenging R&D programs of critical national importance at NRL with a focus on hypersonic missiles. Robert has contributed original ideas and work that has made it into the design of next generation hypersonic missiles. It is unprecedented that Robert is listed as an inventor of four provisional patents and was a contributing author to a presentation and poster at the 2023 Hypersonic Technology Systems Conference (HTSC), which won best poster after competing with 78 of the premier hypersonics presentations in the country, and is currently displayed in the Pentagon.

Charlotte Ondatie is a civil engineering student that interned at Hensel Phelps in Riverdale, MD. Charlotte ranked in the top of her intern class. Charlotte's remarkable skill and great personality made her what Hensel Phelps looks for in interns and full-time candidates. She showcased her tenacity when it comes to learning the job and excelling at every challenge laid before her. Hensel Phelps has high expectations for interns, and she picked up quickly, asked a lot of good questions, had a keen eye for detail, and showed a willingness to learn and take on new tasks. Charlotte showed that she deserves this award for not only her work ethic, but also for her personality. During Charlotte's time as a field engineer, she worked relentlessly on a lift drawing that needed to get done. They are one of the most difficult tasks the employer must do in the field and, even though she faced a learning curve, she continued to push through the task by asking questions and never giving up.

Summer Slocum is a civil engineering student who interned at James G. Davis Construction in Reston, Virginia. Summer's employer could tell from day one that she was a go-getter and willing to take on any task that was put in front of her. She was constantly communicating with the team and pushing the team in a way that is not always expected from interns. Summer had a genuine care for the project and was constantly looking for more. One of the items that they tasked her with over her internship was the facade maintenance equipment. The project that she was on included a BMU (Building Maintenance Unit), ISAs (Intermediate stabilization anchors), and davits. The BMU and ISAs were new to the entire team. She had no issues with going above and beyond and contacting professionals that specialized in these activities to get helpful insight. Her Hotel Condo project was a very high-profile project for DAVIS. Summer was asked to lead the tour of her intern classmates through the site. She knew this was something out of her comfort zone, but she was willing to step up and do this for the 45 other interns and other staff touring the site.

Smriti Thomas is a bioengineering student who interned at US Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC. Smriti's performance transcends mere excellence; she has set a new benchmark for interns within NRL, surpassing even the most exceptional individuals that have interned. Her initiative and proactiveness are unparalleled. Her rapid mastery of the complex HPLC instrument, achieved in a handful of sessions, showcased her exceptional learning ability and technical prowess. Moreover, Smriti doesn't just follow instructions; she anticipates needs, troubleshoots independently, and takes ownership of her tasks. Her meticulous preparation of samples and buffers ensures smooth operation, while her self-directed approach liberates team members for other critical tasks. She is entrusted with complex processes requiring her knowledge, best judgment, and multitasking ability. Smriti constantly juggles demanding tasks, all while maintaining meticulous accuracy. Smriti's dedication and rapid learning are expected to earn her co-authorship on multiple publications from this high-visibility project.

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Women in Engineering Service Award** is presented to engineering students who have demonstrated outstanding service to the Women in Engineering Program.

Awarded to Chelsea Neumann and Yimang (George) Tang

The **Women in Engineering Leadership Award** is presented to the engineering student who has demonstrated leadership, engagement, and impact to Women in Engineering Program initiatives and student organizations.

Awarded to Sierra Raspa

The **Women in Engineering Mentorship Award** is presented to the engineering student who has gone above and beyond to encourage, motivate, and guide their peers and increase student engagement in Women in Engineering (WIE) and other engineering programs and organizations while upholding the values of the WIE Program.

Awarded to Hannah Lee and Nicole Uhl

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Hannah Lee is a senior bioengineering student with a minor in sustainability studies. She is an alumna of the Women in Engineering Flexus Living and Learning Program and QUEST Honors Program. She currently serves as the director of corporate relations for the Society of Women Engineers and has previously served as secretary. She has been active within Clark Ambassadors, Maryland Images, Alpha Omega Epsilon, and the Women in Engineering Sheila Rohra WIE Connect Peer Mentoring Program. After graduation, she will begin her career in Dallas, TX working with biodiagnostics systems at Abbott.

Chelsea Neumann is a junior bioengineering student specializing in biomechanics and biomaterials. She is a teaching assistant for the Flexus & Virtus Living and Learning Program as well as a Flexus alumna. As a Women In Engineering intern she has worked to update the Flexus & Virtus curriculum to reflect current social justice issues, and engage high school students in engineering research through the Research, Instruction, and Service in Engineering Summer Program. She is the vice president of competitions for the Biomedical Engineering Society and serves as the graphic design lead for *The Catalyst*.

Sierra Raspa is a fourth-year student studying mechanical and electrical engineering. She is a member of the Gemstone Honors Program where she is leading a research team working on swarm robotics. She was a teaching fellow for Introduction to Engineering Design and Mechanics I, and is now a teaching fellow for Electric Circuits in the ECE Department. She has interned at NASA Goddard, Quantum Space, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Sierra also collaborated with the Women in Engineering Program to create and lead the first-ever WIE Code virtual coding bootcamp in order to help incoming first-year students feel more prepared for their coding journeys.

George Tang is a senior aerospace engineering student on the space track with a minor in leadership studies. He is an additive manufacturing technician at Terrapin Works, a structural researcher in the Near Space Balloon Payload Program, a ClarkLEADER, and a clarinet player in the Maryland Pep Band. Through Women in Engineering, he has been a peer mentor, a tutor for Mechanics 1, a facilitator for the 3D Printing sessions through the technical workshops, and a structural engineer of the GOAL kits for the outreach events. He also served as an undergraduate teaching fellow for Introduction to Aerospace Systems, as well as a tutor for Differential Equations at the Keystone Center. He has been accepted into Carnegie Mellon University for graduate school to begin his studies towards a Master's degree.

Nicole Uhl is a junior mechanical engineering student. She has been involved with the Women in Engineering Program since her first year as a mentee in the Sheila Rohra WIE Connect Peer Mentoring Program. She then went on to serve as a peer mentor and is now a peer mentor coordinator. Nicole is the vice president of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society Maryland Chapter. She is an active member of the THEIA Team which is developing a CubeSat in the University of Maryland Space Systems Lab.

CENTER FOR MINORITIES IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering Service Award** is presented in recognition of dedicated service to the Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering through commitment to promoting diversity in engineering in the college, the university community, and through the Center's recruitment, outreach, and retention programs.

Awarded to Joshua Ikegwu and Friedrich Alvarez

The **Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering Director's Award** is presented for excellence in academics, outstanding service to the Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering and a strong commitment to promoting diversity in engineering and representing the Center.

Awarded to Stephanie Tsitsiwu and Wilhelm Smith

The **Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering Leadership Award** is presented to an undergraduate student who through service and leadership provides outstanding support to the initiatives and programming of the Center.

Awarded to Lynn Ekwonye

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Friedrich Alvarez is an electrical engineering student pursuing a double minor in robotics and project management. He is a member of the LSAMP Bridge 2022 cohort and VIRTUS program. Friedrich is a program assistant for the CMSE Bridge 2023 cohort and is also a mentor and tutor for CMSE. As a member of IEEE, Friedrich leads a collaborative project between IEEE and WIE for the WIE Are Makers program. He is an electrical member of the Robotics @ Maryland sister club, Terraformers, which aims at building and competing in international Mars Rover competitions.

Lynn Ekwonye is a sophomore mechanical engineering student. She is the Pre-College Initiative Chair for the Black Engineers Society. As chair, she plans and executes events for high school students, including logistics coordination, budget management, and participant engagement. She also cultivates and maintains positive relationships with local high schools to facilitate successful outreach initiatives. Lynn is also a member of the Students Toward Educational Progress and Philanthropy step team.

Joshua Ikegwu is a senior mechanical engineering student also pursuing a dual degree in computer science. He is a member of the Black Engineer Society on campus. He is currently doing research analyzing the spatial and temporal effects of High Intensity Focused Ultrasound, which can be used as a supplemental treatment for diseases such as cancer. He is also part of a part-time cooperative program with Northrop Grumman as a software engineer. Joshua's plans after graduation are to pursue his PhD related to computer systems and their security with a goal to work in industry or academia.

Wilhelm Smith is a sophomore bioengineering student and a member of the QUEST Program. He has participated in the First Year Research Experience (FIRE) Honors program and is a member of the Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) Program. He focuses on developing the Keyscope, an affordable, low-cost and durable laparoscope for healthcare in low and middle-income countries. Wilhelm also works as a program assistant at the Center for Minorities in Engineering (CMSE) for their Bridge Program.

Stephanie Tsitsiwu is a senior mechanical engineering student. She is a member of the Black Engineers Society and serves as the co-conference planning chair on its executive board. As a Clark Ambassador and Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering Ambassador, Stephanie has participated in several mentoring programs and outreach events that allow children to experience engineering. Following graduation, she has accepted a position as a program manager at L3Harris Technologies.

MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE AWARDS

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

Presented by the **Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute** to the undergraduate student with the most outstanding performance on a semester-long ASPIRE engineering research project during the past year.

Awarded to Ethan Bolinger

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Ethan Bolinger is a junior chemical and biomolecular engineering student. He is a member of the board for both the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and Omega Chi Epsilon, the chemical engineering honor society. He has worked as an undergraduate research assistant within the Zierden Lab since September 2022, presenting his research at the National Nanotechnology Initiative's 20th year celebration. This summer, he will be performing research at AstraZeneca in the Fermentation and Cell Culture division.

DEAN'S AWARDS

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

The **Dinah Berman Memorial Award** is presented to a third-year engineering student who has combined academic excellence with demonstrated leadership or service to the Clark School.

Awarded to Owen Mank

The **A. James Clark School of Engineering Leadership Award** is presented to a student who has demonstrated outstanding leadership to the Clark School in activities that impact all engineering majors.

Awarded to Ryan Mahon

The **Kim Borsavage and Pamela J. Stone Student Award for Outstanding Service** is presented to a student who has demonstrated outstanding dedication and service to the Clark School and is a truly unique individual whose contributions to the school exemplify a high level of dedication and service.

Awarded to Marisol Hernandez

The **A. James Clark School of Engineering Global Leadership Award** is presented to a student who through their leadership or service has promoted the global engineering leadership experience on behalf of the Clark School and has demonstrated significant involvement in global engineering activities.

Awarded to Hannah Lee

The **A. James Clark School of Engineering Dean's Award** is presented to a senior for scholastic excellence and who has demonstrated outstanding service and leadership to the Clark School of Engineering in activities that impact students in all engineering majors.

Awarded to Annushka Aliev

ABOUT THE AWARDEES

Annushka Aliev is a senior civil & environmental engineering student with a 4.0 GPA. She is a student in the University Honors, Engineering Honors, and QUEST Honors programs, and works as a teaching assistant for QUEST's introductory course. She is heavily involved in Engineers Without Borders, in which she was president, media/technology chair, and a water systems subteam lead, and has traveled to Uganda with them twice. Annushka has also worked with UMD's Center for Disaster Resilience on projects focusing on environmental justice and sea-level rise. After graduation, Annushka will work with Hazen & Sawyer.

Hannah Lee is a senior bioengineering student with a minor in sustainability studies. She is an alumna of the Women in Engineering Flexus Living and Learning Program and QUEST Honors Program. She currently serves as the Director of Corporate Relations for the Society of Women Engineers and has previously served as Secretary. She has been active within Clark Ambassadors, Maryland Images, Alpha Omega Epsilon, and the Women in Engineering Sheila Rohra WIE Connect Peer Mentoring Program. After graduation, she will begin her career in Dallas, TX working with biodiagnostics systems at Abbott.

Marisol Hernandez is a senior civil and environmental engineering student with a concentration in structural engineering. She has held several leadership positions including mentor coordinator for the Women in Engineering Peer Mentor Program, SHPEtinas chair of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and president of Vintage Voices. Marisol is also involved in Alpha Omega Epsilon, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and is a proud alumna of Flexus. Following graduation, she will start her career as a structural engineer at Whitman, Requardt & Associates in Baltimore, Maryland.

Ryan Mahon is a senior mechanical engineering student. He is the engineering school representative on the Undergraduate Provost Advisory Committee, the vice president of Pi Tau Sigma, a Clark Lead Storyteller, Clark Opportunity Transfer Scholar, and led two balloon payloads which collected gravity wave data during the total eclipse. He is currently researching mechatronics and controls of lunar rovers in the Space Systems Lab where he is also training to become a certified scientific diver. After graduation, Ryan will begin graduate school in UMD's aerospace engineering department.

Owen Mank is a junior electrical engineer with a 3.92 GPA. He is a member of the Gemstone Honors Program, Flexus and Virtus, Banneker Key, and is in the leadership of the University's IEEE student branch. In Gemstone, he leads the electrical design of Team SCOOT's intelligent knee scooter and acts as a peer mentor. In the Flexus and Virtus program, Owen serves as a facilitator and educator for the program's final class. In IEEE, he has been designing a relaxing lounge for students to study in and a process for students to access IEEE's technical equipment for personal and academic use.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

2024 HONORS AND AWARDS

Congratulations to all the students being recognized for their contributions to the Clark School, the University of Maryland, and the campus community.

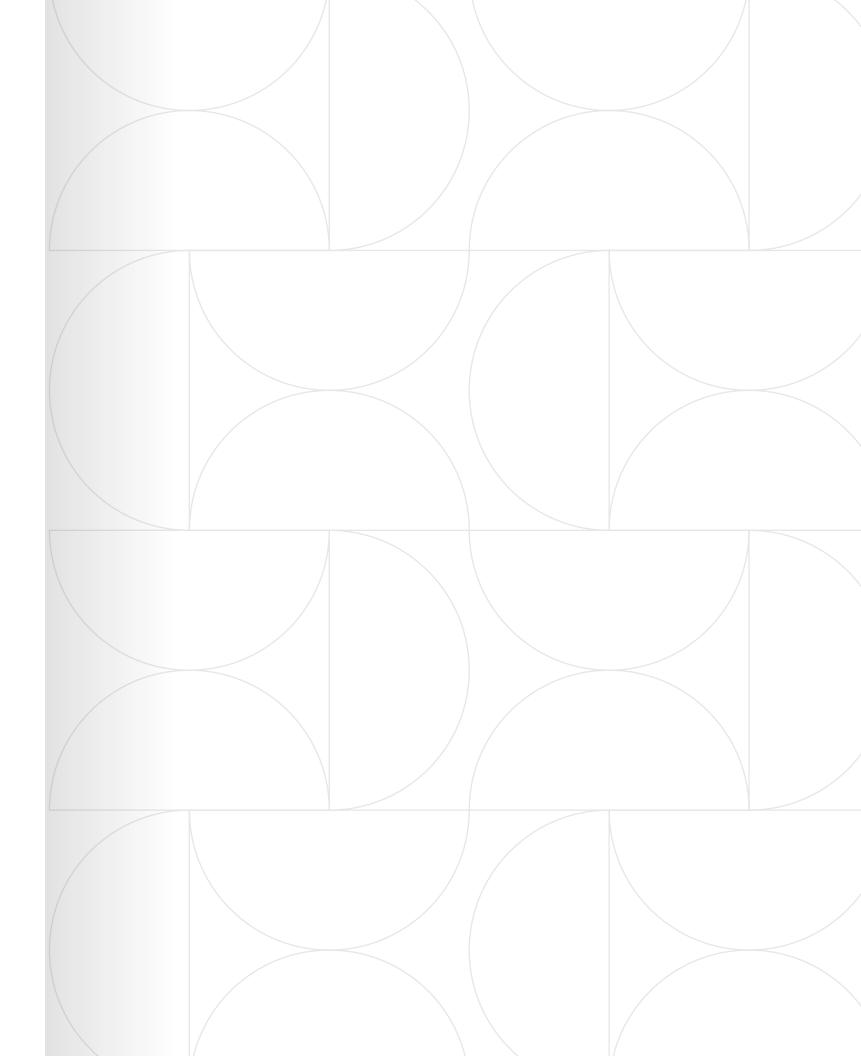
The Honors and Awards Ceremony Planning Committee wants to thank the staff and faculty of the A. James Clark School of Engineering, Office of Communications, and Office of the Dean, as well as Dean Sam Graham and Associate Dean Ken Kiger, for their assistance and support. We also thank the family and friends of the awardees for joining us in recognizing these outstanding students.

2024 PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mary Bell, Undergraduate Advising and Academic Support Shannon Hayes Buenaflor, Undergraduate Advising and Academic Support

Michael Galczynski, Keystone Program (Photographer)
Amanda McClish, Engineering Advancement Office
Tabatha Cuadra Rodriguez, Women in Engineering
Nicole P. Roop, Undergraduate Student Affairs (Chair)

Front cover photo by Michael Galczynski.





1126 GLENN L. MARTIN HALL 4298 CAMPUS DRIVE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK, MD 20742

