

## The Distinguished Service Award

The 2016 Distinguished Service Award (DSA) recipient is Robert A. Chin of East Carolina University. The DSA is the highest award of merit given by the Engineering Design Graphics Division. It recognizes the significant contributions of the recipient to the Division in terms of leadership, authorship, or support.

The awardee is recognized with a framed citation or plaque, which is presented by the Division Chair or their delegate at the Annual Conference Awards Banquet. Following the presentation, the recipient may address those assembled.

The award description can be found at:  
<http://edgd.asee.org/awards/dsa/index.htm>

A complete list of awardees can be found at:  
<http://edgd.asee.org/awards/dsa/awardees.htm>

[1] 63<sup>rd</sup> (2013) DSA recipient, Kathryn Holliday-Darr, introducing the 2016 DSA recipient.

[2] Chin delivering his DSA acceptance remarks.

[3] Engineering Design Graphics Division Chair, Nicholas Bertozzi, presenting the DSA plaque.

Photos from *Theodore Branoff*



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**Kathryn Holliday-Darr's Introduction of DSA Recipient Robert Chin  
ASEE Annual Conference  
New Orleans, LA, June 28, 2016**

It is my honor and pleasure to introduce this year's Engineering Design Graphics Division of the American Society for Engineering Education Distinguished Service Award recipient, Robert Chin. Bob is a full professor at East Carolina University in the Department of Technology Systems, College of Engineering and Technology, where he has taught since 1986.

Reading Bob's VITA really brought home his dedication to his profession, students, community and country. Thank you, Bob, for your many years of service to our country in the Air Force and Air National Guard. Bob has served EDGD as the Director of Publications, editor for the Engineering Design Graphics Journal, Director of Programs, program chair for multiple annual and mid-year conferences, editor of multiple conference proceedings, and as a review board member for the Journal.

But, what I really want to focus on is Bob's dedication to, and his biggest impact on the Division. In 2007, printing costs for the Journal increased by 35%. In 2008 the economy "crash" led to a significant number of university libraries discontinuing their subscriptions and faculty ending their ASEE memberships. The Division had some hard decisions to make about the future of the Journal. Bob was instrumental in leading an ad-hoc committee to investigate the feasibility of various options, such as: continuing a printed journal with advertising, determining if moving the Journal online would negatively impact its reputation, and testing software if necessary.

Due to the economy, the decision was made to move the Journal online as quickly as possible. In the spring of 2009, Bob worked with his university to host, install and maintain the selected software on their server. While this software was the closest to offering the features required, it was not easy to learn or use. It was expensive to ask for help, so we were on our own. I was circulation manager at the time and while the subscription portion of the software was cumbersome, the editor's segment looked down right frustrating. I'm sure if I had been responsible for learning that part of the software not only would have I worked on perfecting my cussing, but I would be doing jail time! But bless Bob's heart, he never once complained.

Bob was successful in publishing the first online issue of the Journal in January 2010, all done while learning the editor position. By June of 2010, Bob had the online author paper submittal and reviewer portions of the software up and running. To achieve this feat in such a short time could only have been accomplished through his sheer perseverance and determination.

Rest assured that as your incoming vice-chair, Bob will give the Division the time, energy and forward-thinking it deserves. His attention to detail and his collaborative approach make working with him a real pleasure. Please join me in congratulating Bob Chin on being awarded the 2016 EDGD Distinguished Service Award.

Kathryn Holliday-Darr, DSA

**Robert A. Chin's DSA Acceptance Remarks  
ASEE Annual Conference  
New Orleans, LA, June 28, 2016**

Thank you Kathy for your warm introduction and kind words. For those who may not know or recall, Kathy is the 63<sup>rd</sup> (2013) recipient of the Distinguished Service Award.

And John, thank you. From what I understand, you're the one who's stood behind and supported Kathy in all that she's done, which I'm sure also includes her production of this introduction.

Standing before you as the 66<sup>th</sup> (2016) Engineering Design Graphics Division of the American Society for Engineering Education's DSA recipient is humbling and an honor. An honor because I believe the DSA not only recognizes the recipient but those who've worked with the recipient to position the recipient for this recognition. That is, I'm of the mind this award also recognizes those who've worked with me: those who are senior to me, my contemporaries, and those junior to me who've provided opportunities to do and to get things done on behalf of the Division and the Society.

Before sharing a few additional comments, if you'll bear with me I'd like to share a few tidbits about this award:

The first award of the DSA occurred in 1950; the first recipient was Frederick Higbee of the University of Iowa. While it doesn't have to be, this award has been presented every year since then. This includes the one occasion in which the award was made posthumously to Paul Reinhart of the University of Detroit in 1972.

The purpose of the DSA "...is to encourage and recognize those persons who have made outstanding contributions to the field of graphics and the Engineering Design Graphics Division of ASEE." The DSA guidance also notes that:

- "The [DSA] Committee need not select a recipient in any year that none of the nominees fully meet the requirements established by the Division and set forth in these Bylaws."
- "This award may be given posthumously" and that nominations from the membership will remain active and in contention during all subsequent DSA considerations.

In addition, the guidance notes that:

- Any member of the Engineering Design Graphics Division is eligible for this award.

- There's a nomination process that says that any member or group of members may nominate members.
- Within the Division bylaws, there are requirements or criteria that can be used to help nominees nominate and the DSA committee to select the recipient.
- There's a nomination form, which outlines the DSA requirements and space on the form for the nominator to briefly describe the nominee's qualifications.

According to the Division's bylaws, "...the Distinguished Service Award Committee shall be composed of the three immediate past Chairs of the Division." For the 2016 award though, two of the past chairs had to recuse themselves. So the 2016 DSA committee was composed of:

- Dennis Lieu, the 2015 DSA recipient
- Sheryl Sorby, the 2007 DSA recipient
- Mary Sadowski, the 2005 DSA recipient

Oversight of the committee was provided by Norma Veurink, the Division's Vice-Chair.

So thank you Dennis, Sheryl, Mary, and Norma for your hard work and your consideration.

With these tidbits about the DSA and my opening comments, please bear with me as I close with a couple of admonitions for your consideration:

For those of you in a position of responsibility in the Division, the Society, and in your respective Section or Zone, ask for assistance. If for no other reason, you're providing others with the opportunity to excel and to be somebody more they are presently. And if you'll take a moment to think about it, generally when you're asked to assist, you feel pretty good, right; you feel good about being considered, recognized for your knowledge and skills, and about being needed.

For those of you who are new to the Division, the Society, and your respective Section or Zone, step up and volunteer to do and to get things done. I've learned very early in my careers that volunteering is one of the best ways to manage my destiny. As well, I was able to contribute by doing what I wanted to do. Make yourself indispensable by doing and getting things done.

At the same time though, continue taking care of yourselves and watching out for one another. From time to time, we over overextend ourselves and experience undue stress and failure. Serve as safety net for one another and adopt an aggressive approach to personal and professional resiliency.

This concludes my remarks. Thank you for this opportunity to share a few words of thanks and all the opportunities you've provided me to grow with you, this honor, and this opportunity to represent the achievements of the Division.