

UB's Tarek Sobh wins ASEE Outstanding Teaching Award while students also win research prizes

By **Leslie Geary** - May 4, 2015

Tarek Sobh, senior vice president for graduate studies and research and dean of the School of Engineering at the University of Bridgeport, has received the 2015 Outstanding Teaching Award from the American Society for Engineering Education, Northeast Section. (ASEE) while UB students swept research awards,

The honor recognizes Sobh's teaching expertise, his contributions to engineering education, his research and publications, and his involvement with the ASEE, said Christian Craciun, chairman of ASEE Northeast Section.

ASEE sections across the U.S. and Canada award just Outstanding Teacher Award per year. The Outstanding Teaching Award presented to Sobh on May 2 was awarded by the society's section that encompasses engineering schools in the northeast and parts of Canada.

As this year's winner, Sobh will compete against ASEE section winners for the National Outstanding Teaching Award.

Sobh received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering with honors in Computer Science and Automatic Control from the Faculty of Engineering,

Alexandria University, Egypt, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Computer and Information Science from the School of Engineering, University of Pennsylvania.

He is founding director of the Interdisciplinary Robotics, Intelligent Sensing, and Control (RISC) Laboratory at UB, a founder of the high-tech small business incubator at UB, known as the CTech IncUBator, and a professor of Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering.

His research interests include but are not limited to the fields of computer science and engineering, control theory, robotics, automation, manufacturing, AI, computer vision and signal processing.

ASEE judges also awarded UB student work.

Peter Zeno won First Place in the Student Paper Award for his work, "Emulating the Functionality of Rodents' Neurobiological Navigation and Spatial Cognition Cells in a Mobile Robot." He was advised by Dr. Sobh.

Third Place went to UB student John Jagtiani Lalit's entry, "Discovering the Role of Big Data in the Execution Performance of Software Development Projects." Lalit was advised by UB professor Neil Lewis.

In the Outstanding Graduate Student Poster competition, Toufiqur Rahman Chowdhury, Xinggou Xiong, and Junling Hu won Second Place for "Train Transportation of Digital Microfluidic Droplets for Fast Manipulation. "

Third Place was awarded to UB student Reem Alattas and professor Jeongkyu Lee for "Application for Big Data Visualization using Google BigQuery and Google Charts."

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