The John D. Tickle Engineering Building

Gift Recognition Opportunities

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering
The John D. Tickle Engineering Building is a five-story, one-hundred ten thousand square foot building. The building is the featured facility for a prominent entrance to campus along Neyland Drive.

The first four floors of the building house the laboratories of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE), which have been disbursed across several different buildings on and off campus. Features located on the first floor include multiple high-bay labs while the second floor is home to the American Society of Civil Engineers Project Lab/Student Project Lab, the GeoTech Labs, and the Undergraduate Soils Laboratory. The third floor houses the CEE departmental office, transportation labs, air quality lab, classroom, computer and senior design labs, and faculty and graduate student offices. The fourth floor features classrooms, office, and laboratory space as well as a student study area and seminar room.

The Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) is located on the fifth floor of the building, including the departmental office, laboratory space, faculty and graduate student offices, and a conference room.

Unique to this building and to the Knoxville campus is a pedestrian bridge donated by the Strongwell Corporation, manufactured from the company’s pultruded fiberglass. Easing pedestrian access, this bridge is a distinctive element that provides both a visual and physical connection from the Tickle Building to the heart of the engineering campus on “The Hill.”

The classrooms, labs, conference rooms, and spaces throughout this building provide opportunities to recognize individual or corporate donors or to honor special faculty, family, or friends. Gifts will be used to build an excellence endowment in each department that will ensure a strong foundation for educating future generations of well-prepared engineers.

The John D. Tickle Engineering Building

John and his wife, Ann, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree from the UT College of Education, have contributed to UT academic and athletic endeavors for over forty years and continue to serve the university community in a diverse number of areas. John has served as a member of the UT Athletic Board and the College of Engineering’s Board of Advisors. He is a member of the college’s Executive Committee during the Campaign for Tennessee. Ann has been an active member of the Development Council and the Alliance of Women Philanthropists.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Tickle
John and Ann Tickle define the word philanthropist. Their substantial gift to the engineering college during the Campaign for Tennessee, which provided the necessary funding that made possible the approximately one-hundred thousand square foot John D. Tickle Engineering Building, is only a portion of their generosity to the University of Tennessee. Ann Tickle’s compassion and love for animals is reflected in their support for veterinary medicine at the university, where the small animal hospital is named in their honor. Avid Volunteer athletics fans, the Tickle name is also found throughout UT’s athletic facilities.

Tickle’s commitment to engineering education fires his determination to propel excellence at his alma mater.

“I want to be sure that UT’s College of Engineering is nationally recognized for the excellent education it is already providing. Buildings help to enhance that reputation and we are excited to be a part of this momentum,” Tickle said.

A UT Bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering in 1965 launched John Tickle’s career, beginning with a job at Owens Corning immediately after graduation.

“Had a family, there was no time to take off,” Tickle noted, revealing the characteristic determination and work ethic that would lead him to positions at Justin Enterprises and Kuebler Metal Products before returning to his hometown of Bristol, Tennessee, to assume the presidency of Horton Molded Fiber Glass Company (HMF). He stayed with HMF/G for acquisition by Shell in 1983 and eventually purchased the company outright. In 1993, Tickle renamed the company Strongwell and began developing the technology that has made it a world-wide leader in pultrusion manufacturing, with the Bristol division serving as Strongwell’s largest facility and corporate headquarters.

In the spring of 2013, Tickle was presented with the Nathan W. Dougherty Award, the College of Engineering’s highest honor given annually to an engineer who has brought distinction to the college through his or her achievements and who has made significant contributions to the engineering profession in Tennessee through professional activities.

He also recently received the 2013 American Composites Manufacturers Association (ACMA) Lifetime Achievement Award, the industry’s largest trade organization in the world.

Additional accolades include the UT Distinguished Alumni Award (together with Ann) in 2012. During that same year, Tickle, who earned the rank of Distinguished Eagle Scout, received the award. Awarded from the National Court of Honor of the Boy Scouts of America. The Mall at Bristol Regional Medical Center was named in his honor in 2004 and he was also designated a Laureate in the Junior Achievement Hall of Fame in 2000. In 1999, the Virginia Chamber of Commerce presented him with the Torchbearer Award for Western Virginia.

Mr. John Tickle at his Strongwell Corporation Headquarters
The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, one of the most established academic departments on campus, had its beginnings in 1838 when the first lecture in the civil engineering area of surveying took place at what was then East Tennessee University. When East Tennessee University officially became the University of Tennessee in 1879, trustees authorized the granting of advanced degrees in civil engineering. Almost 100 years later, the Master of Science in environmental engineering was added to the department in 1970.

The John D. Tickle facility consolidates classrooms, laboratories, and offices, giving students and faculty better opportunities for interaction. More importantly, the new building is equipped for more efficient and technologically advanced operations, preparing engineering students for future careers in industry, government, or as engineering educators.

The Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering

Industry demand for the skills and capabilities of industrial engineers is high as business leaders look for ways to deliver products and services more efficiently and economically. Operating with an emphasis on lean management, streamlined processes and sound evaluation, industrial engineers are at the forefront of revitalizing our nation’s business and manufacturing processes.

The Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering was established at UT in 1948. Classes and labs have been located throughout the college complex, notably in both Perkins Hall and Estabrook Hall. For over a decade, ISE was headquartered in East Stadium Hall, operating in space that was originally built as dorm rooms for athletes. The fifth floor of the John D. Tickle Engineering Building is now dedicated space for industrial and systems engineering faculty and graduate student offices and laboratories, providing a setting for collaboration and growth.
Endowments in higher education provide enduring support, enabling a college, department, or program to make strategic decisions to better serve students and faculty. In addition to department-based endowments, endowments may be created for faculty chairs and professorships, scholarships and fellowships, and program support. Based on guidelines approved by the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees, the naming of a college, school, department, or program may be granted to a donor who provides a significant endowment that will provide a permanent income stream to an individual unit.

We are pleased to announce additional opportunities for donors to be recognized for their investment in the future of the College of Engineering and its programs.

**Faculty Endowments**
- Chair: $2,000,000 and above
- Professorship: $1,000,000 and above
- Faculty Fellow: $250,000 and above
- Faculty Award: $100,000 and above

**Student Support**
- Graduate Fellowships: $250,000 and above
- Undergraduate Scholarship: $25,000 and above

**Program Support**
- Various: $25,000 and above