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College of Engineering

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The Jerry E. Stoneking
engage™
ENGINEERING FUNDAMENTALS PROGRAM



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A Message from the Program Director

Engineering is the natural extension of your childhood curiosity about how things work. The purpose of engineering study is to enhance your abilities to explore, experiment, design and produce.

The engineering curriculum trains you to use physical laws for creating objects and processes that offer solutions for industry, business and individuals. It takes dedication and hard work to learn about these structures that govern the world we live in, and how to simplify and apply them creatively. It also involves taking appropriate risks, learning from failures and developing a keen sense of the aesthetics of good design.

As **Engage** instructors, we appreciate that working on an engineering project is a creative act (the words engineer and ingenious share the same Latin root). We also recognize that even as beginning engineering students the accomplishment of real solutions to genuine problems is a necessary—and fun—part of your education.

Sincerely,
Dr. Roger Parsons, Engineering Fundamentals Division Director



Why is the Engage Program Unique?

The UT College of Engineering is home to the **Jerry E. Stoneking Engage Engineering Fundamentals Program**—one of the nation's most innovative approaches to freshman engineering education. In this success-oriented environment, students are engaged to learn by interacting with others to create solutions to engineering problems. **Engage** provides an excellent foundation for all of UT's undergraduate engineering degree programs, which are fully accredited by the ABET Engineering Accreditation Program.



Project Orientation—The **Engage** curriculum is designed to allow students to gain practical experience by working on team projects involving physics, computer tools and engineering design.

These topics are integrated into two four-hour courses that focus on “design, build and test” projects. These activities provide realistic, mind-engaging problems that introduce students to the engineering design process and allow them to develop decision-making skills vital to practicing engineers.

Teamwork—With the increased complexity of modern engineering tasks, the work team has become more important than ever. Learning to be an effective team member can sometimes be as difficult as learning the physical laws and computational tools of engineering. Each **Engage** coursework module emphasizes the team process and encourages communication of ideas through a variety of challenging activities.

Even the dedicated professors and graduate student assistants use a team approach to teaching these unique engineering fundamentals classes.



Learning Community—In an effort to increase the success of our students, Estabrook Hall, a historic building on the engineering campus, has been transformed into the center of the **Engage Engineering Fundamentals Program**. Estabrook features classrooms with large open spaces for hands-on activities, a student project area and two computer classrooms.



The **Engage** instructors all have offices in Estabrook and are always available to support students of diverse backgrounds and skill levels. Help sessions, information boards and extensive web-based supplemental materials are just some of the additional resources that make Estabrook a truly unique learning community.



Living Community—All qualified first-year engineering students have the option to live in the **Engage Community**, a residence hall floor dedicated to those in the **Engage** program. This environment allows students to be conveniently located near others taking the same core classes, making it easier to share notes, form study groups and develop a sense of camaraderie.

Engage Community residents will have access to the educational, social, and recreational programs available to all residence hall students and will be able to participate in special **Engage Community** activities like pizza parties, movie nights, group outings and guest dinners with engineering faculty. For more information, visit the UT Housing web site at <http://uthousing.utk.edu/futurelearningcom.shtml>.

This combination of project-based learning, team skills development and a focused support community creates a uniquely engaging environment that prepares students for continued success in their engineering studies as well as their career.

