175 Years of Engineering at the University of Tennessee


The University of Tennessee College of Engineering's origins date back to the 1800s, with the first engineering classes offered in 1836. Outstanding teachers and educators, innovative researches, and trailblazing innovations are all part of engineering's amazing 175-year journey at UT.

Engineering was initially located in Estabrook Hall in 1888. Ten years later, classes were moved to Reese Hall, which eventually became the John D. Tickle Engineering Building, and stretches from the area north of Cumberland Avenue to Neyland Drive. The newest facility, the John D. Tickle Engineering Building, will be dedicated in October of 2013. The growing college serves the educational and research goals of almost four thousand students, faculty, and staff.

The college's most outstanding achievements, however, are the thousands of young men and women, who have received their engineering education at the University of Tennessee and have gone on to successful futures, and the unlimited contributions that they have made to their communities, the nation, and the world.

Estabrook Hall is constructed to initially house the Department of Mechanical Arts. A highly successful program, EDP celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2013. In 1957, Dr. William W. Dougherty is added to support the growing engineering doctoral degrees in Tennessee.

The Center for Technology Transfer (CTR) is founded. CTR's mission is to promote the transfer of university research and technology, and a professor with Battelle, which is named dean of engineering.

Dr. Robert E.C. Way Kuo, a former associate dean, is named dean of the College of Engineering.

The Center for Space Technology and Applied Research (CSTAR) is founded. CTR's mission is to promote the transfer of university research and technology, and a professor with Battelle.

The programs are established.

The Center for Research in Engineering Design (CRED) is founded.

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in 1976, is named dean of engineering. The Tennessee Space Institute is established.

The Tennessee Engineering and Science Foundation.

The Jerry E. Stoneking Computer Science Building is constructed.

The Center for Environmental Science and Engineering.

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