Fred Brown Scholar Found
Success in Engineering
Scholarship Enables an Engineering Student to Pursue His Calling as a Leader

Growing up in Nashville, Nate Ige watched his three older siblings head off to UT. “I thought I didn’t want to go to UT,” he says. “But I attended a UT program as a high school junior and fell in love with the campus.”

Ige is now a senior computer science major. He has served as webmaster for UT’s African Students Association. He was a residence hall assistant, mentoring freshmen engineering majors.

Last year, he was awarded the Fred D. Brown Jr. Scholarship. “I give me peace of mind,” says Ige, “since I didn’t have to work, as much as to be financially stable.” He also appreciated the legacy that the scholarship represents. “When I learned about Fred Brown,” Ige says, “all the things he did, that he made the Tickle College of Engineering, it fed it inspired me to carry on his legacy.”

Fred Brown Jr. Scholarship.

possibilities progress with diversity challenge

The Office of Engineering Diversity Programs operates to enable the successful recruitment, retention, and graduation of underrepresented (African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women) students in the college. Three distinct endowments have been created to support the programs’ achievement of this mission. The Engineering Diversity Excellence Endowment strengthens all elements of the program. The Fred Brown Jr. Minority Academic Endowment provides direct student support through scholarships. The James Pippin Pre-College Program Endowment prepares middle- and high-school students for admission to UT—visit www.engr.utk.edu/give/diversity.html. All pledges documented by December 31, 2018, regardless of their end-date, will be counted in total toward the $1,000,000 goal.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students to facilitate these relationships, the office of EDP was able to bring in two new staff members in 2016.

“With the expansion will allow the Tickle College of Engineering to have more administrative support to focus on recruitment programming, analyzing data patterns, and make improvements on retention of underrepresented students,” said Travis Griffin, EDP Director.

Jalonda N. Thompson joins the university as the first assistant director for the diversity office. She comes from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, where she was an academic advisor for women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the office of EDP was able to bring in two new staff members in 2016.

“The staff expansion will allow the Tickle College of Engineering to have more administrative support to focus on recruitment programming, analyzing data patterns, and make improvements on retention of underrepresented students,” said Travis Griffin, EDP Director.

Jalonda N. Thompson joins the university as the first assistant director for the diversity office. She comes from the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, where she was an academic advisor for women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.

Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members

Diversity Programs (EDP) has played an active, successful role since 1973 in recruiting, retaining, educating, and graduating African American, Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, Pacific Islanders, and women engineering students. To facilitate these relationships, the Office of Diversity Welcomes Two New Staff Members.
Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Research Conference

The Office of Engineering Diversity Programs hosted the 13th Annual Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP) research conference February 25-26, 2016. The theme of the conference was “Education and Research: Parallel Paths to Excellence,” with the purpose of bringing together students, faculty, staff, administrators, and professionals in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

The conference featured a networking dinner, an undergraduate research poster competition, an undergraduate research oral competition, and a keynote address from Howard Adams, founder and president of H.G. Adams & Associates, Inc. Other speakers for the conference included Lonnie Sharp, John Hopkins, Desmond Stubbs, Gladys Alexandre, Kelly Beckemann, and Carolyn Hodges.

The conference was able to provide students the opportunity to learn about undergraduate research and gain information about graduate school preparation through speakers, research presentations, and a networking fair. The conference also provided students with information about international research experiences. Plans for future conferences may include corporate representatives to offer summer internship opportunities, Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) representatives to offer summer research experiences, Bridge to Doctorate graduate schools to recruit TLSAMP scholars, joint institutional participation in hosting the conference, and recognition of graduating seniors at the conference.

The conference reconvened on Friday, February 26, 2016, with an opening address from Dr. John Hopkins, keynote address from Dr. Gladys Alexandre, and opening breakfast and plenary address from Dr. Howard Adams. The conference also featured a closing dinner featuring university and conference welcomes by Dr. Gladys Alexandre, Desmon Stubbs of Oak Ridge Associated Universities, international research poster competition and oral competition Awards.

TLSAMP Poster Competition Winners

**Science**
- First Place: Hannah Houle (Middle Tennessee State University)
- Second Place: Alekzander Garcia (Tennessee State University)
- Third Place: Taylor Harris (FISK University)

**Engineering**
- First Place: Tina Anjorin-Ohu (The University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
- Second Place: Trevor Jones (Vanderbilt University)
- Third Place: Ashley Lipford (The University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

TLSAMP Oral Competition Winners

**Science**
- First Place: Chima McGruder (The University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
- Second Place: David Ray (University of Memphis)
- Third Place: Forest Ogunyankin (Vanderbilt University)

**Engineering**
- First Place: Mamadou Diallo (University of Memphis)
- Second Place: Samantha Medina (The University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
- Third Place: Reginald Pruitt (University of Memphis)
UT Hosts Sixth Annual TLSAMP Awards Banquet

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, hosted its sixth annual Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP) Awards Banquet on Monday, April 4, 2016, at The Foundry in downtown Knoxville. Gilbert Wheeler, a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering, and Amatullah Russell, a sophomore majoring in biological sciences, moderated the event. The goal of the TLSAMP program is to increase the enrollment and graduation rate of underrepresented ethnic minority students (Hispanic, African American, American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Pacific Islander) in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) by at least 100 percent at the end of the five-year period.

Students and faculty were recognized for their exceptional involvement in the TLSAMP program. Dr. Jerri Marr, assistant director for recreation for the USDA Forest Service in Washington, DC, was the evening’s guest speaker. Marr serves as an expert and program authority in the planning and coordination of outdoor recreation program policies and is responsible for providing technical leadership and guidance to the national recreation program. Her words of inspiration focused on the initial vision of TLSAMP and the importance of research in STEM.

The program included recognition of faculty and students receiving special honors from TLSAMP Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS), the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE). The ceremony also featured a slideshow during dinner of TLSAMP MANRRS, SHPE, and NSBE activities that took place throughout the school year. Before the conclusion of banquet, Travis Griffin, program director of the Office of Engineering Diversity Programs, provided closing remarks.

STEAM Mentee Awards

From left, Quentin Natton and Dr. Jerri Marr

From left, Craig Pickett, Andrew Chapman, Jasmine Morrisette, Cresa Lemos, Dr. Sharon Jean-Phillipare

Andrew Chapman, freshman of the year award, Jasmine Morrisette, the Isaac Bennett Member of the Year Award

MANRRS Awards

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta presents Alex Cauthen with the Unsung Hero Award

SHPE Merit Awards

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta presents Alex Cauthen with the Unsung Hero Award

SHPE Executive Awards

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta presents Justin Nguyen with the Liderato Award

NSBE Merit Awards

From left, Amber Nixon with NSBE freshman of the year Travis Bass, Volunteer Award winner Chris Elgy, Golden Torch Award winner Diamond Wallace, and Nathaniel Ige

NSBE Executive Awards

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta presents Alex Cauthen with the Unsung Hero Award

TLSAMP 2015-16 Outstanding Instructor Awards

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta, electrical engineering, 2015-16 TLSAMP President; and Nathaniel Ige, biological engineering, 2015-16 NSBE President.

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta

TLSAMP 2015-16 Student Research Awards

From left, Justin Nguyen, Dr. Christine Barnes, Department of Chemistry; Danielle Burton, Department of Mathematics; and Morgan Jeffries

TLSAMP 2015-16 Research Scholar Awards

From left, Isaac Ige, Amber Nixon, Corey Williams

From left, Craig Pickett, Andrew Chapman, Jasmine Morrisette, Cresa Lemos, Dr. Sharon Jean-Phillipare

From left, Stephanie Steren-Ruta, electrical engineering, 2015-16 TLSAMP President; and Nathaniel Ige, biomedical engineering, 2015-16 NSBE President.

From left: Isaac Ige, Amber Nixon, Corey Williams

TLSAMP Graduating Students Awards

From left, Austen Wyer, Alex Cauthen, Miles Gepner, Justin Nguyen, Daniel Caballero, Stephanie Steren-Ruta, Laura Ferrer, Sharon Solomon

From left: Justin Nguyen, Dr. Christine Barnes, Department of Chemistry; Danielle Burton, Department of Mathematics; and Morgan Jeffries

From left: Isaac Ige, Amber Nixon, Corey Williams

From left: Austen Wyer, Alex Cauthen, Miles Gepner, Justin Nguyen, Daniel Caballero, Stephanie Steren-Ruta, Laura Ferrer, Sharon Solomon

From left, Amber Nixon with NSBE freshman of the year Travis Bass, Volunteer Award winner Chris Elgy, Golden Torch Award winner Diamond Wallace, and Nathaniel Ige

From left, Craig Pickett, Andrew Chapman, Jasmine Morrisette, Cresa Lemos, Dr. Sharon Jean-Phillipare
A team from the University of Tennessee Tickle College of Engineering (TCE) competed in the 2015 Chem-E-Car Competition at the AIChE Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. The five students competed against 33 other Chem-E-Car teams from around the world. They faced a few challenges in preparation for the competition, with changes in altitude and temperature, and staying cool, but they worked through the problems and came up with solutions as a team. The team’s E-Car Orange Car was extremely well built and ran well, although it’s stopping mechanism didn’t perform as well as it had in training runs. Although they didn’t win the competition, the students were extremely proud of how well the car performed and how much they learned throughout the entire process. They look forward to implementing design improvements to their car for the regional competition in Spring 2017.

Team members Melanie Lindsey and Samantha Medina had the opportunity to present research amongst hundreds of students from other universities and colleges. The students presented their research involving technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) field from across the world. During the award reception, students had the opportunity to hear different experiences from many women having a STEM major in college and a job in the STEM field. The STEM undergraduates found it extremely influential to hear about how powerful women speak about their experiences and the respect they are earning in the world. The conference offered many different types of seminars for students to attend. These seminars were a way students could receive additional information and network with professionals in a certain field of interest. Seminar topics included resume writing, computer science, business and financial operations, interviewing skills, and life sciences.

The attendees of the conference from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, had the pleasure of meeting with Anthony Howard, a UT alumnus who currently works for General Motors. Leadership, involvement in the community, and tips when approaching a company during a career fair were some of the topics discussed during Howard’s presentation. Howard encouraged students to take leadership skills in college. It is essential to be able to lead a team and have the ability to express and share one’s ideas. Howard encouraged involvement in the community when working with a company. It is important to find a company that shares the same community service to be important and supports one’s interests. For example, General Motors teams up with organizations such as YouthBuild, Urban Gardens and others to help those who are less fortunate. The attendees were able to gain a new perspective on learning more about companies, graduate school, and research opportunities. Howard encouraged students to be proactive in taking a leadership role and further show one’s interest. Students found the meeting with Howard to be a very valuable experience.

The students at the conference attended the extremely valuable portion of the WOC conference. There were numerous companies and graduate programs that were interested in the STEM field for internships, co-ops, and even full-time positions. The career fair was a great chance for individuals to network and learn about companies, graduate school, and research opportunities. Morgan, General Motors, IBM Corporation, Goodyear, Boeing, and United Way, which allows their employees to volunteer and help those who are less fortunate. The students were able to gain a new perspective on learning more about companies, graduate school, and research opportunities. Howard encouraged students to be proactive in taking a leadership role and further show one’s interest. Students found the meeting with Howard to be a very valuable experience. The Conference Fair held on site for the attendees was an extremely influential part of the WOC conference. There were numerous companies and graduate programs interested in the STEM field for internships, co-ops, and even full-time positions. The career fair was one of the best chances for individuals to network and learn about companies, graduate school, and research opportunities. The students were able to gain a new perspective on learning more about companies, graduate school, and research opportunities. Howard encouraged students to be proactive in taking a leadership role and further show one’s interest. Students found the meeting with Howard to be a very valuable experience.
The 2016 Intercollegiate Summer Bridge (ISB) Program took place June 10–July 1, 2016, for its third year. This residential summer program seeks to increase retention for underserved student populations studying in areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Twenty-eight students attended the program to prepare for the college environment through academic classes, college life workshops, and STEM-related field trips.

Attending students felt the program gave them important insight and connections for their upcoming college experience. "I gained more knowledge than about the subjects we were learning than anywhere else," said Adiyan Cartagena, an incoming freshman biomedical engineering major with a pre-med concentration. "It also gave me a good idea on how much work I would have to do in order to succeed in college."

“My favorite part of the ISB program was interacting with all the great people I met there," said Frenando Blivins, who plans to pursue an industrial engineering major, with a potential double minor in entrepreneurship and Spanish. "The professors were fantastic and I learned a lot from them, but even more so I learned a lot from my peers."

“When someone needed help and asked, if one person didn’t know then they would move on until someone knew," added Jaron Burns, who plans to major in chemical engineering. ISB is a collaboration with the Tickle College of Engineering, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the College of Arts & Sciences. The program uses a model established by the Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TLSAMP) to provide an overview of fundamental academic subjects for STEM majors, particularly in math and chemistry. Those subjects have been the main academic focus for the past several years. This year a chemistry lab was added to compliment the lecture portion and expose students to college-level laboratory settings and instruction methods.

“The new experience that stood out to me in this program were the classes and the course work,” said Blivins. “Had it not been for the ISB, I definitely would not have been prepared to take on all this work.”

College life workshops were also part of the ISB, focusing on various campus departments. Presenters came from offices such as the Center for Career Development, Office of Greek Life, Student Leadership, and various others. The emphasis was to provide students a glimpse of the many resources at UT, and the benefits of developing experiences outside the classroom room to compliment what they study inside the classroom.

“I have always known that being an engineering major was going to be hard,” said Cartagena. “But now I know that I have resources at my disposal that will help me succeed. The Tickle College of Engineering does not play around when it comes to helping students, and I couldn’t be more grateful.”

Several STEM site visits are incorporated into the program, including the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), and DENG0 Manufacturing. Also, leadership development opportunities with New Horizons Experiential Learning Center focused on team-building and communication skills.

At ORNL, students were able to view the Additive Manufacturing Integrated Energy (AMIE) Demonstration Project with Dr. Roderick Jackson, which focused on rethinking ways that energy is generated, stored, and used. The AMIE project utilizes an integrated energy system between a building and a vehicle.

“I learned how important their research is, not only to the US, but the entire world,” said Blivins. “It was a fantastic experience overall.”

Students were given a tour of the Oak Ridge Leadership Computer Facility, which provided an opportunity to see several super computers on site and a tour of the Aquatic Ecology facility.

DENG0 Manufacturing partnered with ISB for another year to allow students to tour their facility, meet staff, and provide students insight into how various disciplines of engineering play roles for the auto-parts industry. Students were able to meet current co-op interns from UT and Tennessee Tech University. The co-op students provided their personal perspectives on how to find co-op programs, navigate the interview process, and how involvement in student organizations helped build the pre-professional skills.

ISB participants visited Eastern Tennessee State University’s College of Medicine to learn about continuing their education in the medical field. They had the opportunity to meet with admissions staff, talk with current medical students, and participate in hands-on activities.

At the culmination of the program, an awards luncheon was provided for participants, family, friends, and various university faculty and staff. Gifts were presented to the deans of each sponsoring college (engineering; arts & sciences; and agriculture and natural resources). Instructors, ISB student counselors, and staff members. Several students were honored for top performance and being most improved for the math and chemistry courses.

Key customers include Toyota, Honda, the Detroit 3, and Harley-Davidson.

Engineering and co-op positions available include the following:

- Electrical
- Mechanical
- Industrial

DENSO is proud to call some of your finest alumni “our Associates.” We are always seeking talent.

Join our team!
National Society of Black Engineers
Chapter Officers
2016-2017

Imani Jackson, President
Email: president@nsbeutk.com

Sierra Ellis, Vice President
Email: vicepresident@nsbeutk.com

Corey Williams, Secretary
Email: secretary@nsbeutk.com

Elvis Offor, Treasurer
Email: secretary@nsbeutk.com

Tina Anjonrin-Ohu, Programs Chair
Email: programschair@nsbeutk.com

Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
Chapter Officers
2016-2017

Lauren Cuevas, President
Email: lcuevas1@vols.utk.edu

Daniel Caballero, First Vice President
Email: dcaballe@vols.utk.edu

Miles Gepner, Second Vice President
Email: mgepner@vols.utk.edu

Justin Nguyen, Secretary
Email: jnguye11@vols.utk.edu