



*David Hahn, Ronald Garan (Distinguished Alumnus Lecturer), William Pennell, Keith Boyer
Jennifer Rhatigan, Yolanda Mack (Young Alumna), Crystal Pasilio (Young Alumna), Tushar Goel (Young Alumnus) (Not Shown)*

2017 Distinguished Alumnus Lecture and Outstanding Alumni Awards

Col. Ronald J. Garan, Jr. (USAF, Retd) - Distinguished Alumnus Lecturer

- MAE Alumnus (2005 BS Aerospace)
- 2016 MAE Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
- 2016 UF Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
- Asst. Director for Open Innovation – White House Office of Science and Technology (Since 2014)

Col. Keith Boyer (USAF, Retd)

- PhD Mechanical Engineering – Virginia Polytechnic Institute – 2001
- MS Aerospace Engineering – Air Force Institute of Technology – 1992
- BS Aerospace Engineering – University of Florida – 1987
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Career Highlights

- Vice President for Propulsion/Propulsion Director, Practical Aeronautics, Inc. (Since 2012)
- Associate Dean for Students at the Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB ('09-'011)
- Director of Propulsion at the US Air Force Academy ('02-'09)
- Chief of Force Management with Coalition Air Force Training Team in Iraq ('07-'08)
- 2007 Outstanding Senior Academy Educator selected by Graduating Class, US Air Force Academy
- 2003 Outstanding Academy Educator, US Air Force Academy

Dr. William Pennell

- PhD Mechanical Engineering – University of Minnesota – 1970
- MS Mechanical Engineering – University of Minnesota
- BS Mechanical Engineering – University of Florida – 1964

Career Highlights

- Worked with physicists, mathematicians, and other engineers at National Center for Atmospheric Research in order to improve medium-range weather forecasting
- As a member of the Pacific Northwest NL, lead development of a research plan to detect the human contribution of rising global average surface temperatures
- In 2004, was named Management Coordinator of the North American Research Strategy for Tropospheric Ozone, a public/private partnership created by NAFTA to study pollutants affecting air quality across North America

Dr. Jennifer L. Rhatigan

- PhD – Case Western Reserve University – 2001
- MS Mechanical Engineering – NC State University – 1987
- BS Mechanical Engineering – University of Florida – 1982

Career Highlights

- Visiting Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Naval Postgraduate School (Since 2013)
- As Special Assistant of the NASA Constellation Program, oversaw and led the development of the project framework for various components of the Constellation Program
- Established the Office of the International Space Station Program Scientist
- 2008 NASA Blue Marble Recipient (team lead) – Highest agency award for energy and environment

Dr. Tushar Goel (*Young Alumnus*)

- PhD Mechanical Engineering – University of Florida – 2007
- MS Aerospace Engineering – University of Florida – 2004
- MT Mechanical Engineering – Indian Institute of Technology – 2001
- BT Mechanical Engineering – Indian Institute of Technology - 1999

Career Highlights

- Director, Head of Statistical Modeling for Barclays in India (Since 2016)
- As a Vice President at Barclays Capital, developed new trading strategies based on algorithmic technologies researched at UF
- Reached an H-Index of 13 based on work published during his time in the PhD program
- 2001 Best Master's Thesis, Mechanical Engineering India Institute of Technology, Kanpur
- 1999 Achieved 7th Rank (99.93 PCTL), Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering National Exam

Dr. Yolanda Mack (*Young Alumna*)

- PhD Aerospace Engineering – University of Florida – 2007
- MS Mechanical Engineering – University of Florida – 2004
- BS Mechanical Engineering – University of Florida – 2002

Career Highlights

- Simulation Technical Authority for Raytheon Missile System (Since 2016)
- As a Technical Authority, provide technical direction for the Redesigned Kill Vehicle Program
- Functioning as a co-instructor, produced and presented course material for the Design and Analysis of Simulation Experiments course
- 2017 Black Engineer of the Year – Outstanding Technical Contribution
- 2006 Amelia Earhart Fellowship Recipient

Dr. Crystal L. Pasillio (*Young Alumna*)

- PhD Aerospace Engineering – University of Florida – 2009
- MS Aerospace Engineering – University of Florida – 2005
- BS Aerospace Engineering – University of Oklahoma - 2003

Career Highlights

- Assistant Chief Scientist for Air Force Research Labs at Eglin Air Force Base (Since 2015)
- As a Technical Advisor, has directed and developed projects with a collective budget of \$17M with collaborators all over the US
- Contract Manager of the UF Research & Engineering Education Facility located adjacent to Eglin AFB
- 2014 Air Force Research Lab/RW Publication of the Year
- Member of MAE External Advisory Board (Since 2015)