2023 MAE Outstanding Alumni Awards

Dr. Gregg Abate

M.S. (1989) Aerospace Engineering – UF PhD (1999) Aerospace Engineering- UF

Professional Career

Air Force Office of Scientific Research-Arlington, VA July 2018-Present

Program Officer

Air Force Office of Scientific Research- Colorado Springs, CO July 2015-July 2018

• Visiting Professor

European Office of Scientific Research- London, UK July 2012-June 2015



• Technical Director

European Office of Aerospace Research and Development- London, UK August 2010-June 2015

• International Program Officer

Air Force Research Laboratory Munitions Directorate- Eglin Airforce Base August 2002-August 2010

• Chief, Airframe Dynamics & Robust Control Team

Air Force Research Laboratory November 2008-July 2010

• Chief Engineer for Micro Air Vehicles

Exchange Engineer- Freiburg Area, Germany August 2002-August 2004

• Exchange Engineer

Air Force Research Laboratory-Eglin Airforce Base January 1987-July 2002

• Aeroballistics Research Engineer

Dr. Alison Dunn

B.S. (2004) Mechanical Engineering – UF M.S. (2006) Mechanical Engineering – UF PhD (2013) Mechanical Engineering-UF

Professional Career

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign August 2021-Present

Associate Professor

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign January 2022-May 2022

- Interim Director, Women in Engineering
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign August 2014-August 2021
 - Assistant Professor

University of Florida- Gainesville, Florida August 2013-July 2014

• Tribology Laboratory Supervisor

University of Florida- Gainesville, Florida August 2009-July 2013

Research Assistant

US Peace Corps- Gansu, P.R. China July 2007-July 2009

• Volunteer (University English Teacher)

University of Florida- Gainesville, Florida June 2003-June 2007

Research Assistant

Department of Navy- Panama City Beach, FL June 2002-August 2002

• Intern (NREIP)

Dr. David Burris

PhD Mechanical Engineering – UF

Professional Career

University of Delaware- Newark, DE September 2014-Present

Associate Professor





Mr. Chuck Jackson

B.S. (1995) Mechanical Engineering – UF

Professional Career

GE Aviation-Cincinnati, OH July 2022-Present

• Strategy Executive

GE Aviation-Cincinnati, OH December 2018-July 2022

• Executive Director of Services

GE Aviation-Cincinnati, OH August 2016-December 2018

• Executive Director GE9X Product Management GE Aviation- Seattle, WA May 2013-August 2016

- Executive Director-GE9X Program
- GE Aviation- Cincinnati, OH October 2009-May 2013
- Executive Director- CF6 Strategy & Product Management
- GE Aviation- Cincinnati, OH March 2007-October 2009
 - Director-CFM Commercial Operations
- GE Aviation- Cincinnati, OH August 2004-March 2007
 - Customer Support Manager
- GE Aviation- Cincinnati, OH January 2003-August 2004
 - Senior Product Support Engineer
- GE Aviation- Cincinnati, OH September 1998-September 2001
 - Mechanical & Aeromechanical Engineering
- GE Aviation- Cincinnati, O & Hamburg, Germany- February 1996-September 1998
 - Edison Engineering Development Program

Dr. Chris Lightcap

M.S. (2006) Mechanical Engineering – UF PhD (2008) Mechanical Engineering – UF

Professional Career

KCL Solutions, June 2018- Present

- Consultant
- ADEX Technologies November 2012-May 2018
 - CTO & Co-Founder
- Mako Surgical Corp. July 2008-April 2013
 - Senior Robotics System Scientist
- University of Florida August 2004-May 2008
 - Graduate Research Assistant





Dr. Angela Pitenis

B.S. (2012) Engineering Mechanics – UFM.S. (2014) Engineering Mechanics – UFPhD (2016) Engineering Mechanics – UF

Professional Career

UC Santa Barbara

• Assistant Professor

