High Honor
Chiao receives prestigious O’Donnell Award

UT Arlington electrical engineering Professor J.C. Chiao received the 2011 Edith and Peter O’Donnell Award in Engineering from the Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Science of Texas. The O’Donnell Awards in medicine, engineering, science, and technology innovation recognize rising Texas researchers who address the essential roles that science and technology play in society and who build a stronger identity for Texas as an important destination and center of achievement in the fields of medicine, engineering, and science. The award winners were honored January 6 at a banquet in Austin; the following day, they presented their research.

Ron Elsenbaumer, UT Arlington Vice President for Research and Federal Relations, believes that the O’Donnell Award is a worthy recognition of Dr. Chiao’s many activities.

"Dr. Chiao is a very creative scientist and engineer as well as a wonderful faculty member," Dr. Elsenbaumer says. "The discoveries he’s made and the medical devices he’s built are designed to diagnose and help treat many diseases. His pioneering approaches have led to the development of implantable devices for pain management and batteryless and wireless implantable esophageal sensors. He is also developing medical diagnostic devices designed to help with personalized treatment of some types of cancer."

Elsenbaumer also notes that Chiao is prolific in sharing his discoveries and developments with the scientific community.

"He is a model faculty member and terrific mentor," Elsenbaumer says. "He is training some of the brightest young minds in Texas. He supervises doctoral and master’s students across multiple disciplines, and he even works with high school students who are interested in medical devices. He’s a perfect role model for up-and-coming bioengineers."

"I believe there are many excellent researchers at UT Arlington who deserve this award more than I do," Chiao said in his acceptance speech. "I would like to share this honor with all my collaborators, colleagues, and students. I enjoy doing my research and am thankful for having a great environment at UT Arlington in which to work."