Chiao Recognized as Texas’ Top Innovator in Engineering

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Electrical Engineering Professor J.-C. Chiao received the 2011 Edith and Peter O'Donnell Award in Engineering presented by The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas. The O'Donnell Awards recognize rising Texas researchers who address the essential role 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.

Dr. Chiao was cited for his “pioneering achievements in RF MEMS and polymeric millimeterwave components enabling low-loss reconfigurable radar systems, and implantable telemetric micro-sensors and stimulators for clinical applications in medicine.”

Recipients of the 2011 O'Donnell Awards in Medicine, Engineering, Science and Technology Innovation were honored at a banquet on yesterday in Austin and presented their research to conference participants today.

UT Arlington Vice President for Research and Federal Relations Dr. Ron Elsenbaumer said that the O'Donnell Award is a worthy recognition of Dr. Chiao's many activities and achievements. "J.-C. Chiao is a very creative scientist and engineer as well as a wonderful faculty member," said Dr. Elsenbaumer. "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 battery-less and wireless implantable esophageal sensors. He is also developing medical diagnostic devices designed to help with personalized treatment of some types of cancer."

"J.-C. is also a model faculty member and terrific mentor," Dr. Elsenbaumer continued. "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."

Dr. Elsenbaumer also noted that Dr. Chiao is prolific in sharing his discoveries and developments with the scientific community, the medical community and general public through his many publications, conference presentations and civic appearance.

In accepting the O'Donnell Award in Engineering, Dr. Chiao stated "I felt extremely humbled with this award. I believe there are many excellent researchers at UT Arlington who deserve this award more than I do. 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."

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