



**Peter Nelson**  
Dean and Professor

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the UIC College of Engineering, congratulations! This weekend is a celebration of your hard work and persistence in one of the most demanding curricula at this university. It is an achievement of which you and your family can be justly proud.

I know you will find that your education has prepared you well for the demands of our profession. You will find that you can compete with anyone out there in the work place. You will also find that the time management skills you have had to develop as an engineering student will set you apart from others. Many UIC engineering graduates have risen rapidly in their careers, and I know many of you will do the same. However, remember that your education does not end when your formal education is over. The rapid changes in technology, coupled with global competitiveness, will require a commitment to lifelong learning and to the applications of a new and expanding body of knowledge.

So, welcome to the ranks of the 22,000-plus living men and women who have graduated from the UIC College of Engineering. I encourage you to become active alumni, to come back often, and to continue to engage with our students and faculty.

With most sincere congratulations and best wishes for success in your careers,

Peter Nelson  
Dean and Professor

**CLASS OF 2016**

**Master of Ceremonies** ..... **Ludwig C. Nitsche**  
ASSOCIATE DEAN

**PROCESSIONAL**

**UIC Wind Ensemble** ..... **José O. Riojas**  
DIRECTOR

**DEANS, FACULTY, AND HONORED GUESTS**

**LED BY FACULTY MARSHALS**

|                          |  |                     |  |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Vladimir Goncharoff..... | Electrical and<br>Computer Engineering | Michael Scott ..... | Mechanical and<br>Industrial Engineering |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|--|

**STUDENTS**

All MS, MEng, and PhD graduates are led by a marshal and grand marshal. Groups of BS graduates are led by their respective departmental faculty marshals and grand marshal.

**DEPARTMENT FACULTY MARSHALS**

|                           |  |                       |  |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| Daniela Valdez-Jasso..... | Bioengineering                         | Quintin Williams..... | Mechanical and<br>Industrial Engineering   |
| Alan Zdunek .....         | Chemical Engineering                   | Dale Reed .....       | Doctor of Philosophy,<br>Master of Science,<br>Master of Energy<br>Engineering, and<br>Master of Engineering |
| Joseph Schulenberg .....  | Civil and Materials<br>Engineering     |                       |  |
| Stephen Checkoway .....   | Computer Science                       |                       |  |
| Amit Trivedi .....        | Electrical and<br>Computer Engineering |                       |  |

**“The Star-Spangled Banner”** (WORDS ON PAGE 44)..... **UIC Wind Ensemble**  
**Kathy Corcos**  
ENGINEERING CAREER CENTER

**Welcome and Opening Remarks** ..... **Peter Nelson**  
DEAN AND PROFESSOR

**Greetings from the University** ..... **Michael D. Amiridis**  
CHANCELLOR

**Commencement Address** ..... **John J. Tracy**  
CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER  
THE BOEING COMPANY

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

**UIC Silver Circle Award for Excellence in Teaching** ..... **Peter Nelson**  
**Hereford Johnson**  
BS IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Mechanical  
and Industrial Engineering

Yeow K. Siow.....

**Harold A. Simon Award for Excellence in Teaching** ..... **Peter Nelson**  
Assistant Professor, Mechanical and  
Industrial Engineering

Lin Li.....

**Bell Honor Award** .....  
Ines Torra .....  
Justo L. Diaz-Esquivel .....  
Wali Badar .....

**Peter Nelson**  
BS in Bioengineering  
Magna cum Laude, Summer 2015  
BS in Computer Science  
Summa cum Laude, Fall 2015  
BS in Bioengineering  
Summa cum Laude, Spring 2016

**Recognition of Special Student Achievements** .....  
• Members of Eta Kappa Nu, Pi Tau Sigma, Tau Beta Pi,  
Alpha Eta Mu Beta, and the Honors College  
• University Honors  
• Student Leadership Activities

**Ludwig C. Nitsche**

**Student Address for the Class of 2016** .....

**Hereford Johnson**

**CANDIDATE PRESENTATIONS, HOODING, AND  
DEGREE CONFERRALS** (SEE LIST ON PAGE 18)

**Conferral of Degrees** .....

**Michael D. Amiridis**

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

PhD Degree Candidates ..... Jonathan Art, Associate Dean, Graduate College  
MEE and Professional MEng Degree Candidates ..... Peter Nelson  
BS Degree Candidates ..... Peter Nelson  
MS Degree Candidates ..... Jonathan Art

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Bioengineering ..... Thomas Royston  
Chemical Engineering ..... Vikas Berry (Interim)  
Civil and Materials Engineering ..... Karl Rockne (Interim)  
Computer Science ..... Robert Sloan  
Electrical and Computer Engineering ..... Rashid Ansari  
Mechanical and Industrial Engineering ..... Farzad Mashayek

**Closing Remarks** .....

**Ludwig C. Nitsche**

**Recessional** .....

**UIC Wind Ensemble**

**AUDIENCE IS REQUESTED TO REMAIN SEATED UNTIL THE ACADEMIC RECESSION IS COMPLETED.**

**Reception** .....

**Student Services Building**  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CEREMONY

**Slide show presentation** .....

**Ronald Fernandez**  
Engineering Media Center

## ENGINEERING HONORS

**Harold A. Simon Award for Excellence in Teaching** is presented by the College of Engineering to a faculty member who exemplifies the dedication, distinguished service, and excellence in teaching that were the hallmarks of the late Dr. Simon's career. This award was established in 1985 to honor the memory of Dr. Harold A. Simon, a professor of mechanical engineering who served the college during its early years.

**Bell Honor Award** represents the oldest tradition in the College of Engineering. It predates the formation of the university on the current site. The award has been given since 1951 to the engineering student with the highest projected cumulative grade point average of each semester's graduating class. Recipients' names were formerly inscribed on a historic locomotive bell donated by friends of the university. Since no room for engraving remains on the bell, recipients' names are now added to a permanent plaque donated by the Engineering Alumni Association.

**Alpha Eta Mu Beta** is the national honor society for biomedical engineers. Election to the National Biomedical Engineering Honor Society is based upon distinguished scholarship, leadership, and exemplary character.

**Eta Kappa Nu** is the international honor society for electrical engineers. Election is based upon scholarship, character, voluntary service, and distinguished accomplishments.

**Pi Tau Sigma** is the national honor society for mechanical engineers. The society values ethics, concern for the environment, and community as important characteristics for membership.

**Tau Beta Pi** is the national engineering honor society to which students are elected by their peers on the basis of outstanding scholastic achievement, exemplary character, and community service.

**Student Leaders** in the college and elected student leaders in one of the professional engineering societies are recognized for their contributions.



**John J. Tracy**  
Chief Technology  
Officer, The Boeing  
Company

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

John J. Tracy, PhD, is chief technology officer of the Boeing Company. In this role, Dr. Tracy is the top technology leader at Boeing, the world's largest aerospace company. He reports to Boeing chairman, president, and CEO Dennis Muilenburg and serves on the company's executive council.

Dr. Tracy's 35-year career at Boeing includes serving in the dual roles of CTO and the senior vice president of engineering, operations & technology (EO&T), from 2006 to 2016. As the leader of EO&T, Dr. Tracy provided strategic direction to several functions and business organizations comprising more than 100,000 employees. These include the engineering, operations, and supplier management functions and also the information technology; test & evaluation; enterprise technology strategy; intellectual property management; research & technology; and environment, health & safety organizations.

Previously, Dr. Tracy was vice president of engineering & mission assurance for Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, where he had functional management responsibility for the IDS engineering processes, engineering tools, and the 32,000-person engineering team.

Dr. Tracy is an elected member of the National Academy of Engineering and is a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and the Royal Aeronautical Society. He is also a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and the past chair of the ASME 6,000-member Aerospace Division.

Dr. Tracy has authored more than 35 publications in the areas of composite structural mechanics, launch vehicle structures, smart structures, and aging aircraft. He has received numerous Hispanic engineering honors, including being named to the HENAAC Hall of Fame in 2009 and being presented the Renaissance Engineer Award from the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers in 2014. He was named to the 2015 STEM Leadership Hall of Fame by *US News & World Report* for his "measurable results in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields; challenged established processes and conventional wisdom; inspired a shared vision; and motivated legions of aspiring STEM professionals." He currently serves on the board of trustees for the Illinois Institute of Technology and on the engineering advisory board for several leading universities.

Dr. Tracy earned his doctorate in engineering (1987) from the University of California, Irvine; a master's degree in physics from California State University, Los Angeles (1981); and a bachelor's degree in physics from California State University, Dominguez Hills (1976).

Dr. Tracy is married to Katherine Katsumata Tracy, and they have two grown children, Scott Tracy and Wendy MacGinnis.