Xiaobo Tan named to prestigious IEEE honor

Xiaobo Tan, Michigan State University Foundation Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been named a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the world’s largest professional organization for the advancement of technology.

The honor, which is effective Jan. 1, 2017, is the highest grade of membership in IEEE and is recognized by the technical community as a prestigious honor and an important career achievement. IEEE selects less than 0.1 percent of its voting members for this designation each year.

Tan was named a Fellow “for contributions to modeling and control of smart materials and underwater robots.”
Tan said he is thrilled and humbled to receive this recognition. "I will continue to do my small part to advance our profession," he added.

Tan came to MSU in August 2004. He is the founder and director of the Smart Microsystems Laboratory in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. His research focuses on electroactive polymer sensors and actuators, modeling and control of smart materials, and bio-inspired underwater robots and their environmental sensing applications. His work on robotic fish was recently featured in a video on the Big Ten Network.

The National Science Foundation (NSF), Office of Naval Research, U.S. Geological Survey, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and other agencies and organizations have supported his research. He received an NSF CAREER Award in 2006 and the MSU Teacher-Scholar Award in 2010. He has received several best paper awards.

Tan has served as an associate editor/technical editor for Automatica, IEEE/ASME Transactions on Mechatronics, and International Journal of Advanced Robotic Systems. He has also served as a guest editor for five international journals and served on the organizing or program committees for a number of international conferences.

His education and outreach activities include directing the NSF-funded Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) site program at MSU from 2009 - 2016 and serving as curator of a robotic fish exhibit at MSU Museum in 2016.

He received a bachelor’s (1995) and a master’s (1998) degree in automatic control from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, and a PhD (2002) in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Maryland. From September 2002 to July 2004, he was a research associate with the Institute for Systems Research (ISR) at the University of Maryland.

Related Website: [IEEE](http://www.ieee.org)  
[MSU Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering](http://www.egr.msu.edu)  
Communications contact: Patricia Mroczek