

## Welcome ADS & UDS Scholars

Aug. 24, 2018

### Engineering welcomes six of MSU's top incoming student scholars

Six of the 22 incoming students awarded an MSU Alumni Distinguished Scholarship (ADS) or University Distinguished Scholarship (UDS) for 2018-19 are headed to the College of Engineering.

The scholarships, considered among the most competitive awards in the country, are valued at about \$120,000 for in-state and \$220,000 for out-of-state students.



Scholars receive full tuition, room and board and a stipend for up to eight semesters of study at MSU. All students receiving an Alumni Distinguished Scholarship or University Distinguished Scholarship will be members of the Honors College.

Engineering Dean Leo Kempel said being the preferred choice for such talented students is a reflection on the exceptional quality of the College of Engineering.

"I am pleased and honored that so many of the university's most talented new Spartans have chosen the College of Engineering for their major studies," Kempel said. "I know over the next four years that they will learn much from our faculty, staff, and students and we will learn much from them. I look forward to meeting these students and working with them over the next four years."

The six top scholars are joining the college during [a benchmark enrollment year for welcoming women and underrepresented minorities](#). There will be 383 women, or 23 percent, of the entering freshman class; there will be more than 1,300 women or 22 percent of this year's engineering undergraduate student body; the college's domestic underrepresented minorities enrollment is nearing 20 percent; and the college will also welcome more than 900 graduate students – another enrollment benchmark.

Alumni Distinguished Scholars were selected from more than 1,300 of the top high school seniors who applied to MSU, participated in interviews and took an intensive general knowledge exam this past winter.

The Alumni Distinguished Scholars headed to MSU Engineering are:

- Claudia Chen of Canton, Michigan. Chen is graduating from Salem High School. She plans to major in

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Published on College of Engineering, Michigan State University (<https://www.egr.msu.edu>)

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- mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering.
- Andrew McDonald of Hudson, Ohio. McDonald is graduating from Hudson High School. He plans to major in computer science in the College of Engineering.
- Emma Smith of Brighton, Michigan. Smith is graduating from Hartland High School. She plans to double-major in chemical engineering and biosystems engineering in the College of Engineering.
- Kelli Weigold of Farmington Hills, Michigan. Weigold is graduating from Farmington High School. She plans to major in chemical engineering in the College of Engineering.

University Distinguished Scholars were selected from an MSU applicant pool by the executive director of admissions and recruitment and the dean of the Honors College based on high school programs, achievements, standardized test scores and interviews with the finalists.



The University Distinguished Scholars coming to the College of Engineering are:

- Shay Ladd of Blacksburg, Virginia. Ladd is graduating from Blacksburg High School. She plans to major in chemical engineering in the College of Engineering.
- Jason Scott of Laramie, Wyoming. Scott is graduating from Laramie High School. He plans to major in mechanical engineering in the College of Engineering.

See MSUToday for more on this year's [ADS and UDS scholars](#).

See MSUToday: [Campus comes alive as students return to MSU](#).

*Story and photos courtesy of MSUToday and Honors College.*

**Related Website:** [Communications contact: Patricia Mroczek](#)

**Source URL:** <https://www.egr.msu.edu/news/2018/08/24/welcome-ads-uds-scholars>

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