Tan is ASME Fellow
Feb. 26, 2019

Xiaobo Tan awarded Fellow designation by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers

MSU Foundation Professor Xiaobo Tan has been named a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). Tan, who is a professor of electrical and computer engineering with a courtesy appointment in mechanical engineering, is being honored for his “significant contributions to the development, modeling, and control of electromechanical systems in the areas of smart materials, soft robotics, and underwater robotics,” according to the Fellow citation.

The ASME Board of Governors confers the Fellow grade in recognition of outstanding engineering achievements. Only 3 percent of ASME’s 107,000 members have attained the designation of Fellow.

Tan is the founder and director of MSU’s Smart Microsystems Lab. His research has focused on underwater robotics, soft robotics, and modeling and control of smart materials. In particular, his group is exploring the use of gliding robotic fish for applications ranging from monitoring harmful algal blooms, to tracking invasive fish species, to facilitating underwater search and rescue. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, Office of Naval Research, U.S. Geological Survey, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and Toyota.

An award-winning faculty member, he is also a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), and received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award, an MSU Teacher-Scholar Award, a Withrow Distinguished Scholar Award from the College of Engineering, and a Distinguished Alumni Award from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at University of Maryland, among others.

Tan is a senior editor for IEEE/ASME Transactions on Mechatronics and an associate editor for Automatica. He has...
served as a guest editor for six international journals and on the organizing or program committees for a number of international conferences, including as the general chair for the 2018 ASME Dynamic Systems and Control Conference.

He received bachelor’s (1995) and master’s (1998) degrees in automatic control from Tsinghua University, Beijing, China, and a PhD (2002) in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Maryland. He served as a research associate with the Institute for Systems Research (ISR) at the University of Maryland from 2002-2004.

About ASME Fellow Membership
The ASME Board of Governors confers the distinction of Fellow grade membership to candidates who have been nominated by their peers and selected by the Fellow Review Committee with final approval of the Committee of Past Presidents. These individuals are recognized for their distinguished career and engineering achievements.

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