



Mechanical Engineering
Academy of Distinguished Alumni

Janet Ellzey, Ph.D., P.E.

Distinguished Mechanical Engineer, 2011

BSME, The University of Texas at Austin, 1978
MSME, The University of Texas at Austin, 1980
Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley, 1985

*Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Engineering
Foundation Centennial Teaching Fellow*
The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Janet Ellzey was born and raised in Alice, Texas. She received her BS and MS degrees in mechanical engineering from The University of Texas at Austin and her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. Prior to joining the faculty of UT Austin in 1990, she was on the faculty at the University of Wisconsin and then was a staff scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. She is currently a professor of mechanical engineering and holds the Engineering Foundation Centennial Teaching Fellowship at The University of Texas at Austin.

Her research has spanned a broad range of topics in the field of combustion, and she currently studies low emissions burners and additive manufacturing of novel combustors. She has presented her work in numerous international venues and was awarded a Faculty Research Assignment to conduct research at the *Laboratoire de Combustion et de Detonique* in Poitiers, France in 1999-2000. She initiated a collaboration with Cranfield University in the UK in 2000 and was awarded the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council Research Fellowship in 2001. In 2011 she was inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Alumni of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin.

In addition to teaching and research, Dr. Ellzey has made many contributions through administration and leadership. She is a strong advocate for international educational experiences and has led a summer program in Toulouse, France for 13 years for engineering students. In 2004, as associate director for international studies for UT Austin's Chair of Free

Enterprise and then as assistant dean for the Cockrell School of Engineering, she founded International Engineering Education, which now sends over 400 engineering students a year abroad. She created an innovative academic program, Projects with Underserved Communities, in which undergraduate student teams partner with communities around the world to solve technical challenges. The teams work through the academic year selecting a project, designing, and planning implementation, and in the summer travel to implement with their partner community. From 2009 to 2017, she served as vice provost for international programs at The University of Texas at Austin. In this capacity, she led the international academic strategy for the university and was head of the International Office, which includes English as a Second Language, Study Abroad, Global Risk and Safety, and International Student and Scholar Services. Under her leadership, international education expanded significantly, particularly for underrepresented groups.

Dr. Ellzey is the 13th woman to receive a mechanical engineering degree from UT Austin, and she has been a mentor and role model for many women in her field. She is a passionate advocate for the advancement of women, and launched Women in Mechanical Engineering in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at UT Austin. She served on the Gender Equity Task Force for The University of Texas in 2008. In addition, she founded Women in Combustion as part of the Combustion Institute, the primary professional organization for researchers in her field.