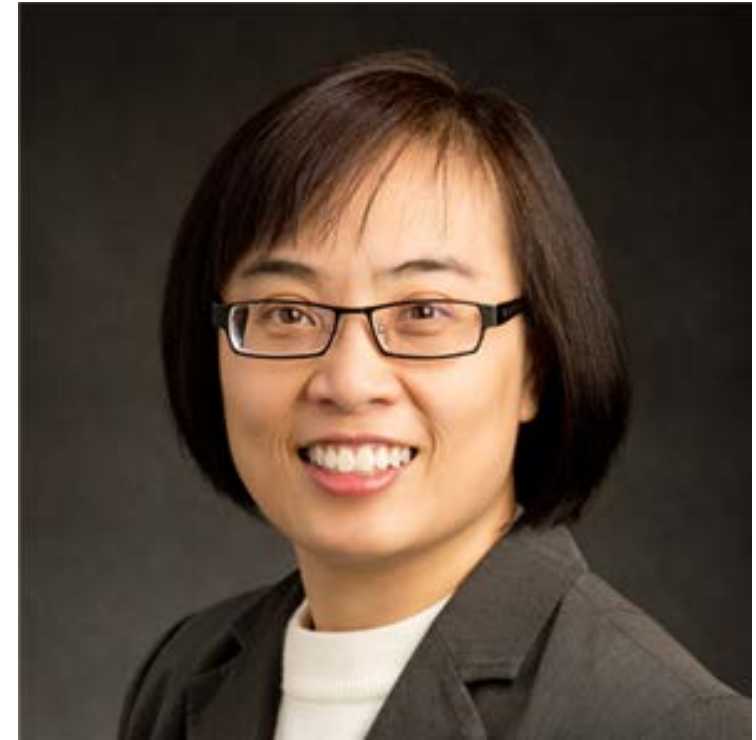


Elizabeth Hsiao-Wecksler - Grayce Wicall Gauthier Professor

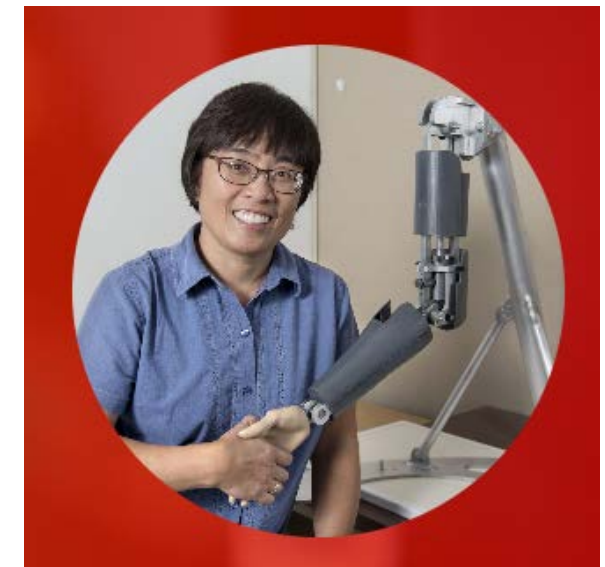
Hsiao-Wecksler joined MechSE as assistant professor in 2002, was promoted to associate professor in 2009, and became professor in 2015. She is *internationally recognized for her research and leadership in musculoskeletal biomechanics*, with a focus on gait, posture and balance, and more recently for her development of user-centered assistive technologies and robotics. She served MechSE for a decade on the *Faculty Recruiting Committee*, served as *Associate Head for Undergraduate Programs*, and currently chairs the department's *Promotion and Tenure Committee*. Hsiao-Wecksler currently serves on the *GCOE Promotion and Tenure Committee* and as the *Interim Director of the Health Care Engineering Systems Center*. She is a *Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers*, and *Fellow and past President of the American Society of Biomechanics*.



Community, Service, Impact

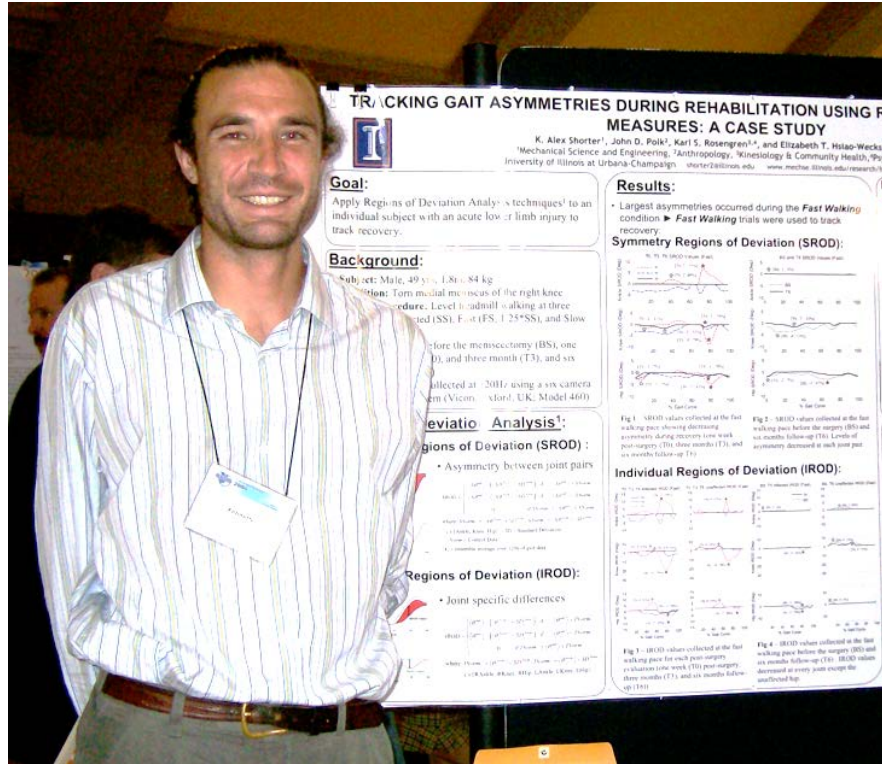


“Our researchers are working on issues really critical for the world. A lot of what we do is based on the world we live in and putting our research in that context. In the work of our women faculty especially you’ll really get a chance to see that,” Ertekin said. “What’s unique about our program is that we try to be a supportive family and we work together. Our collaborative nature is a really special thing about our department. We have a positive culture and conduct our research in a way that’s really supportive.”

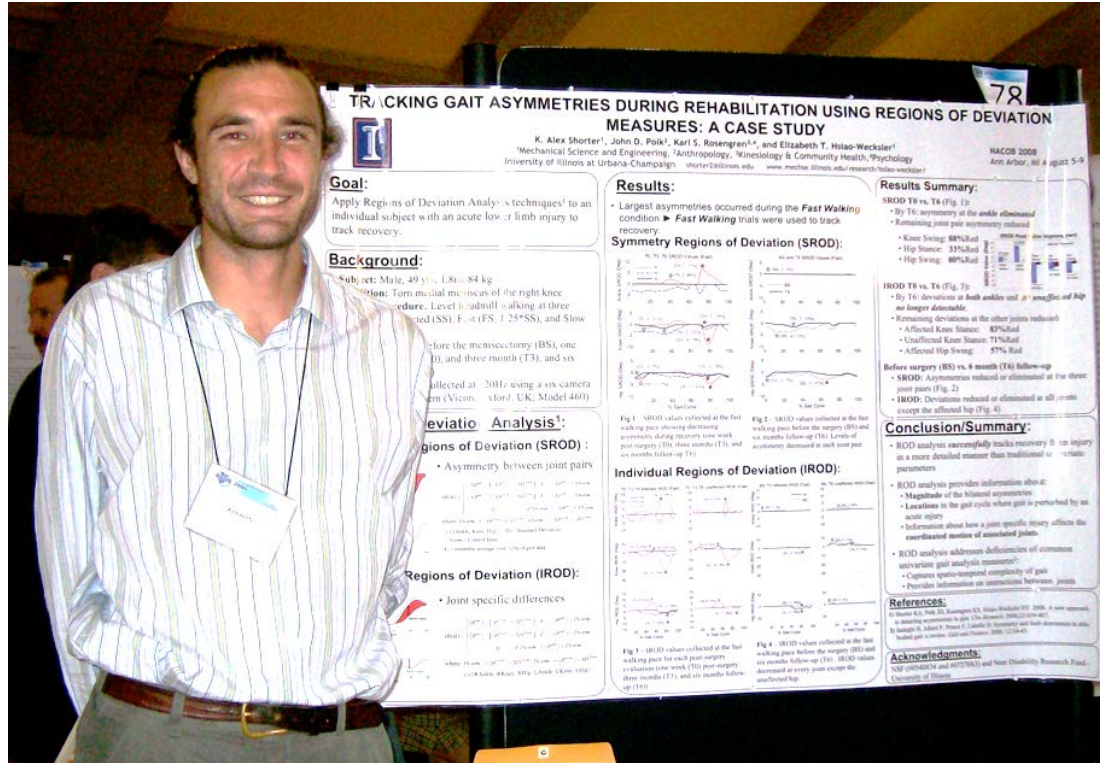


The Grainger College of Engineering
Health Care Engineering Systems Center

How we have been impacted by Liz



How we have been impacted by Liz



*Alex Shorter
Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering
University of Michigan*

How we have been impacted by Liz



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How we have been impacted by Liz

Liz was a tireless mentor to me and other grad students in the lab. *I saw her pour her heart into creating opportunities for us, and making certain that we had everything that we need to accomplish what we set out to. Liz took a chance on me when I showed up in her office with a crazy idea for a startup company in the Durable Medical Equipment space, and I thank her for that.* By taking me under her wing, she set me on a path to get the company off the ground while in a nurturing grad school environment. Life has since taken me in a different direction, but I'll always look back to those years fondly.



Scott Daigle
Co-Founder IntelliWheels, Inc.

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Co-Founder IntelliWheels, Inc.



Scott Daigle
Engineering Manager at Sealed Air Corporation

How we have been impacted by Liz

I am extremely grateful and feel very fortunate to have Liz as my PhD mentor. As an entrepreneur in the automotive and robotics industry, having a PhD degree in Biomechanics is often the last thing people would have guessed. I have been asked many times, ***“did you wish you had started the business earlier, without going to grad school?” my answer is always, no, that would have been my biggest loss, because Liz had taught us way more than just biomechanics.*** Yes it is true that I probably barely remember any of the biomechanics terms after so many years, but I feel like my PhD training under Liz was the best gift ever to my career and my life. Her attention to the greatest details and pursuit to perfection, her systematic ways of approach complex technical problems, her methodologies in helping people across different disciplines to quickly understand a specialized academic topic, and ***her passion to bring a team together and encourage us to go after goals that seemed too far in the beginning but all came true in the end.....these are exactly the things I try to do in my daily entrepreneur life. I could not have done any of it, if I had not learnt so much from her during my PhD. She also gave us tremendous love and caring like a mom.*** When I told her that I would leave academia into industry, and even starting my own company, I know she must be somewhat disappointed that I will no longer be contributing to the domain that I was trained for, but she congratulated me and feel happy for me, because she knew I am pursuing my dreams and she knew I could make them happen. ***Thanks Liz, for everything you did for us. I am so fortunate to have worked under you, and we are so proud of you.***

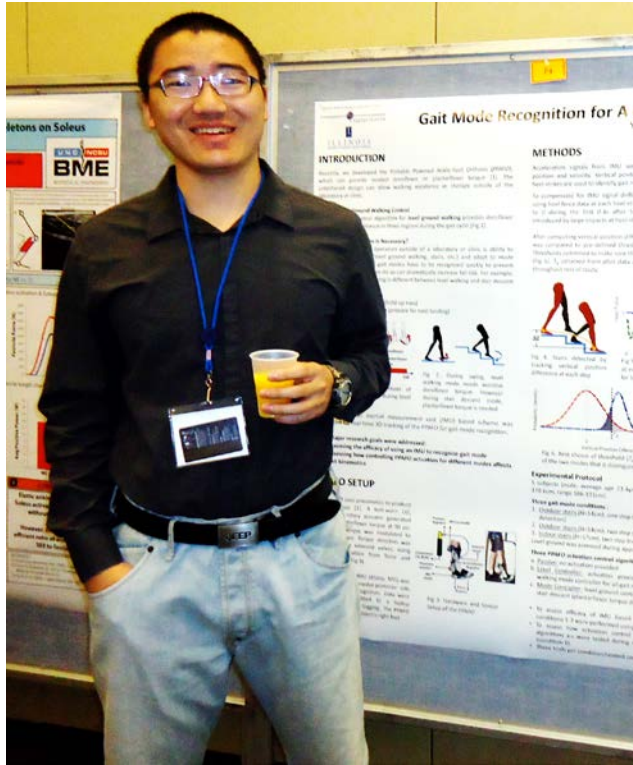
David Li

PhD at HDCL from 2009-2013, now

co-founder and CEO of Hesai, Global leader for automotive 3D sensors (LiDAR), Nasdaq listed.



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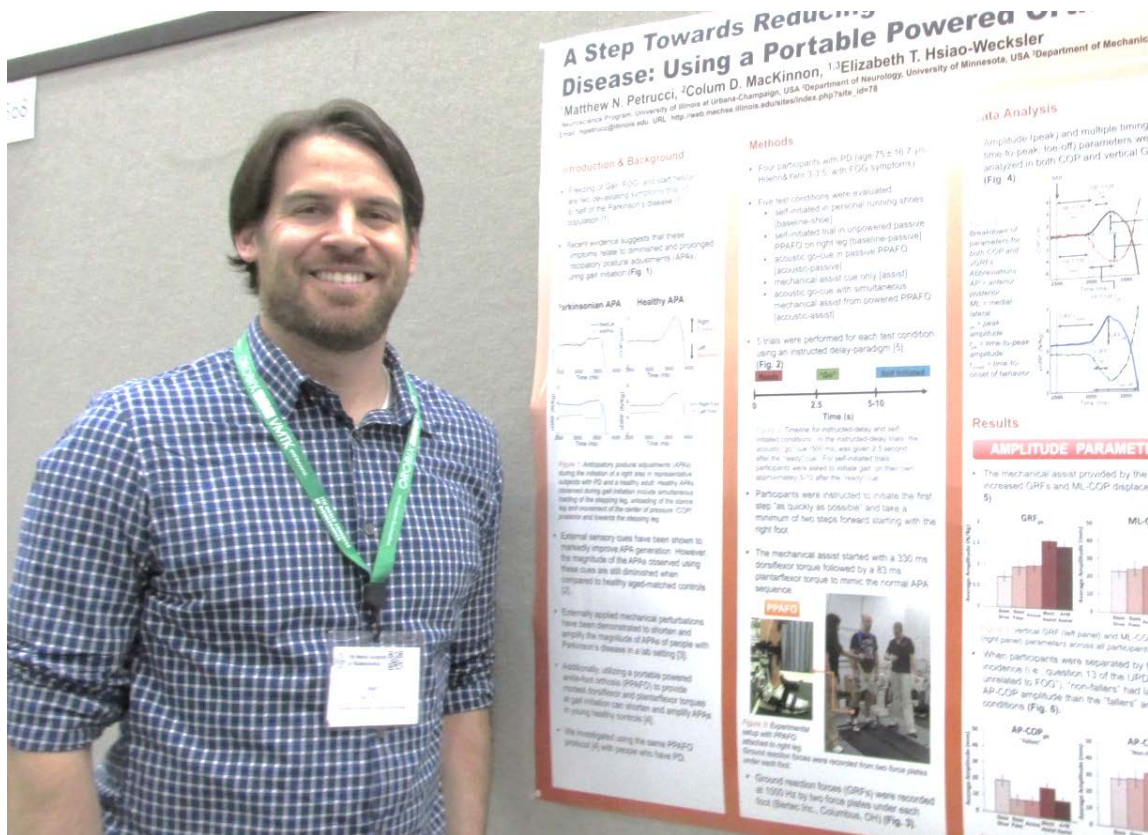
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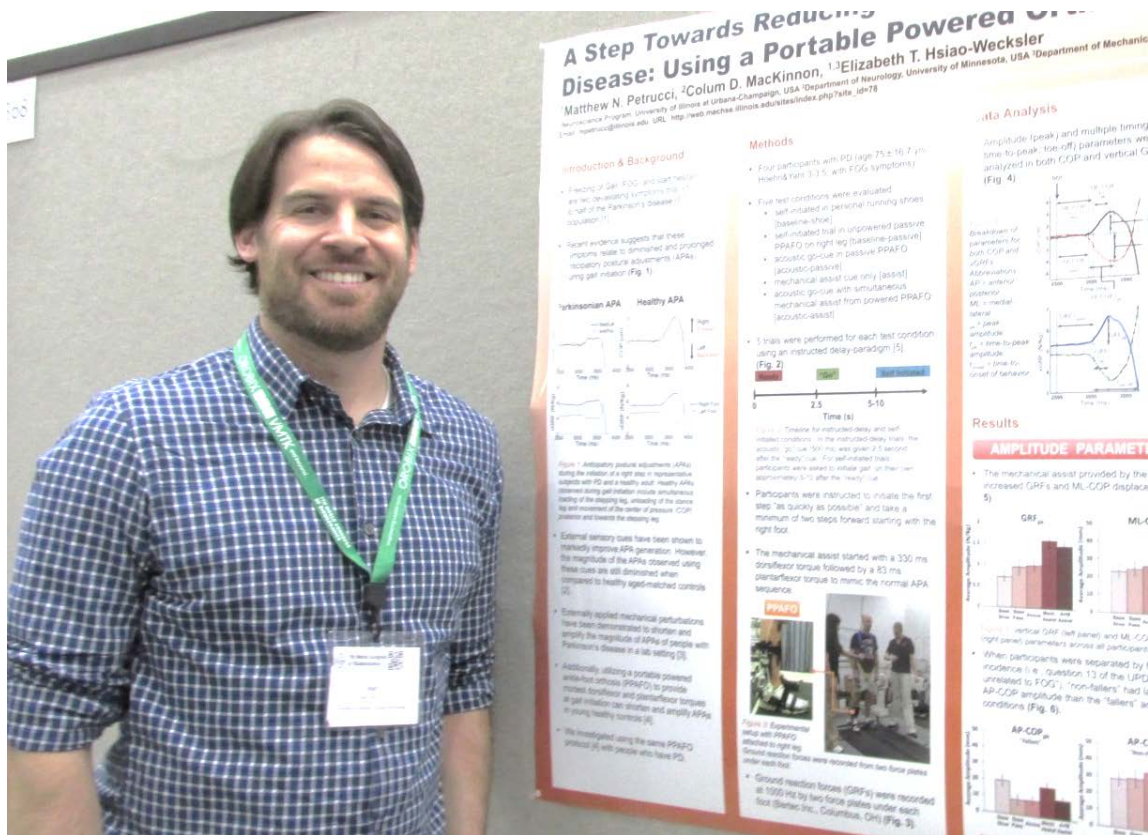
What I appreciate the most about Liz is how much she deeply cared about us and our development. She always did (and still!) wants the best for her students. She saw my personal potential and was always very supportive. I will forever be grateful for her being willing to take a chance on me and expand her research into neuroscience and Parkinson's disease.



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Research Engineer and Senior Program Manager
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I met Liz in a very challenging time in my studies at UIUC and she took me under her wings and I became her first Ph.D student. Liz helped me not only academically but also on many other levels. *I think one of your strengths is finding good people.* In the time in her lab a met new people and made friends that go with me even today. *Liz it is my honor to be your former student, I learned allot form you and mostly I don't think I would made it with out your help and support.*



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Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Dept of Industrial Engineering and Management

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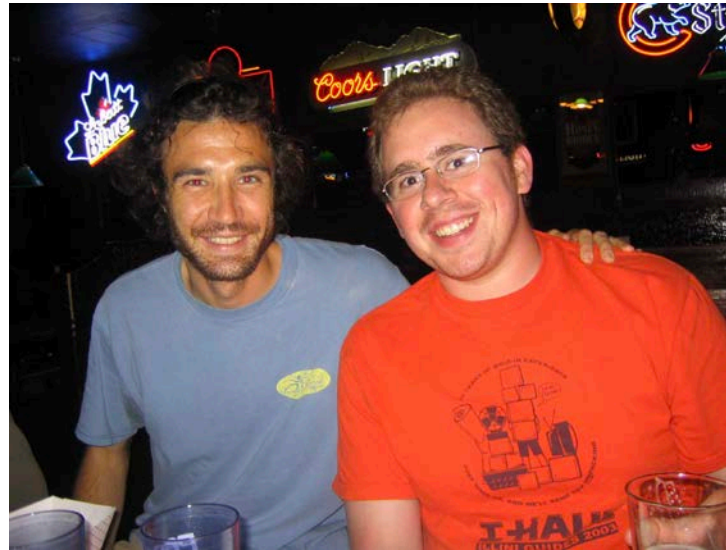
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How we have been impacted by Liz

Liz was a great driving force in shaping my career. During my PhD I realized that I wanted a faculty position at a teaching-focused, student-centered institution. Liz went out of her way to help me obtain many teaching experiences, from numerous TA positions, teaching fellowships, and even involving me in the planning and execution of her biomechanics elective while I was her TA. Liz helped form the basis for my instructional knowledge, which was instrumental in my future job placement. Liz is also a friendly and inclusive advisor. The students in her lab were like a family, even though many of us were working on different research projects. The highlights of my time at conferences are catching up with former lab mates, sharing meals, and of course seeing Liz!



*Louis DiBerardino
Associate Professor of Mechanical engineering
Ohio Northern University*

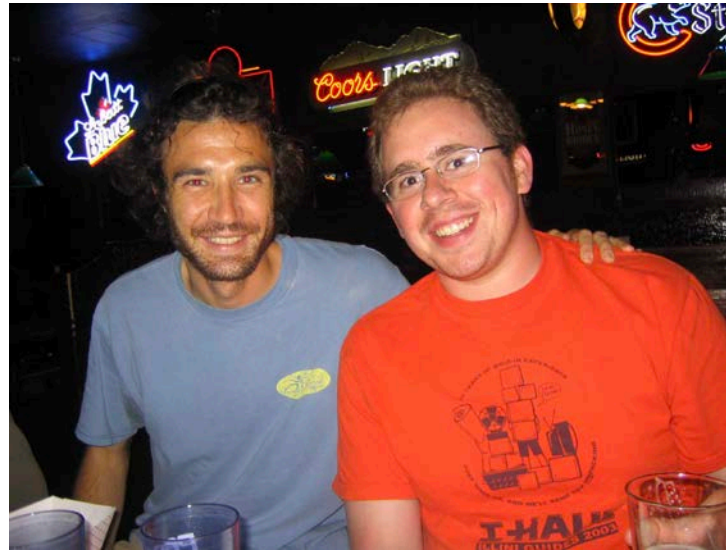


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How we have been impacted by Liz

She gives opportunities to all her students to learn and grow. A lot of students who have been working in her lab, had not have any knowledge in their projects at the beginning. A lot of advisors expect you to already have some prior knowledge and expertise in the field, but Liz is that type of advisor who gives this chance to the students to gradually learn, and become experts in their field, *and trusts them that they can successfully handle their projects.* She also makes sure to appreciate the students' work in the lab by having lab parties at the end of each semester (a lot of times, she has invited us to her house which is very nice of her).

She cares a lot about having diversity in her lab. The students working in HDCL are coming from different countries with different cultures, and now her lab is half female and half male. A lot of engineering labs are male-dominant and the fact that she cares about bringing females into STEM and supports them along the way is indeed admirable.

Lastly, as a female mechanical engineering student who is considered as a minority in STEM, I'm very proud of her success in her field as a female! In a male-dominant major, it's not easy to compete with your male peers as you always have to prove that you can do as good as a male peer. Often, females are underestimated and they have to work harder to prove themselves to others. *Liz is definitely an example of a successful and tireless female in her field which is truly admirable, and I see her as a role model in my life!*

Congratulations on your named professorship, Liz! You deserved it a lot!

Mahshid Mansouri

Current Phd Student in the HDCL



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Lastly, as a female mechanical engineering student, I see her success in her field as a female! In a male-dominated field, we have to prove that you can do as good as a male. Liz has helped me prove themselves to others. *Liz is definitely admirable, and I see her as a role model in my field.*

Congratulations on your named professorship!

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