

Jennie S. Hwang Establishes New Endowment

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The National Academy of Engineering has established the Dr. Jennie S. Hwang Endeavor Fund. The fund was made possible through a generous donation from Jennie S. Hwang, CEO, H-Technologies Group.

This endowment will fund programs that support high school and college students—with a preference for women and underrepresented minorities (URMs)—to enhance exposure to diverse and/or international perspectives in engineering education, networking, and the profession.

While the number of women earning degrees in STEM has increased in the past 20 years, women are still well below men in degree levels and in all fields of engineering. Decreasing this gap for women and URMs is a priority for the field and profession and the Dr. Jennie S. Hwang Endeavor Fund is a positive step in addressing this issue. “As one of the ‘earlier’ women pursuing engineering education and business practice, I am blessed to have the opportunity to contribute to the NAE in pursuance of its ultimate mission,” said Hwang.

Hwang, inspired by Winston Churchill, quoted him when asked what inspired her to create this new fund. “It is no use saying we are doing our best. You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary” and “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Her passion and support for the work the NAE does is evident through her philanthropy. “The NAE is a unique institution in an exceptional position to provide valuable services to the nation. The NAE helps advance engineering education, the engineering profession, and the engineering practice to achieve the continual betterment of human life while enhancing the well-being of the nation. I am also happy to support President Anderson’s initiatives and the relentless work by the staff of the Development Offices of NAE and NASEM,” shared Hwang.

In addition to this new fund, Hwang’s philanthropy includes the Dr. Jennie S. Hwang Award for Faculty Excellence at Cleveland State University, the Dr. Jennie S. Hwang Award for Women

Students in STEM at YWCA Cleveland, and the Dr. Jennie S. Hwang Endowment Fund at the Engineering School of Case Western Reserve University where Hwang was the first woman to earn a Ph.D. in materials engineering and later served on its Board of Trustees for 20 years.

Hwang was elected to the NAE in 1998, and at the National Academies she currently chairs both the Assessment Board of Army Research Laboratory and the Army Research Program Review and Analysis Committee. She also chairs the Materials Engineering Peer Committee, and serves on the Committee on NIST Technical Programs, and the Laboratory Assessments Board.

Hwang has served on the boards of NYSE-, NASDAQ-, and TSX-listed public companies and other private companies, as well as on the board of trustees of a number of universities and nonprofit organizations. Currently, she is the CEO of H-Technologies Group, providing business, technology and manufacturing solutions to the electronics/microelectronics industry. Previously, she has held various senior executive positions with Lockheed Martin Corp., Sherwin Williams Co., SCM Corp., and CEO of International Electronic Materials Corp. and interim CEO of Asahi America Inc.

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