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News Release

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UTEP College of Engineering Hosts Homecoming 2012 Activities

Engineering Alumni from The University of Texas at El Paso have completed plans for their biggest and best Homecoming beginning Friday, October 19.

This year's events include "Engineering Luncheon on the Lawn", College Open House, UTEP Distinguished Alumni Dinner, and Engineering Breakfast and Gold Nugget Award Program. Alumni will have an opportunity to visit the College of Engineering, rekindle friendships and share memories during various events. Homecoming events will also recognize outstanding alumni from the College of Engineering.

On Friday, October 19 at the Distinguished Alumni Dinner in the Don Haskins Center, Mr. Dennis C.K. Poon, P.E. Civil Engineering Class of 1977 will be recognized as one of the University's Distinguished Alumni. Mr. Poon is Vice Chairman and Managing Principal – Thornton Tomasetti. The structural engineering design firm headquartered in New York City is responsible for engineering some of the tallest, biggest and most iconic structures in the world including Tapei 101, Petronas Towers, the MGM CityCenter Block A and Yankee Stadium. Over his engineering career he has been responsible for the design and construction of super high-rise structures, mixed-use buildings, hotels, airports, arenas and residential buildings worldwide.

On Saturday, October 20 at 8:00 AM College of Engineering Gold Nugget Award recipients will be recognized during the Annual Engineering Alumni and Gold Nugget Breakfast. Thanh "Tommy" Hodinh, Mechanical Engineering class of 1976, and Jesus A. "Antonio" Rico, P.E., Electrical Engineering class of 1980, are the 2012 selections. The lively, traditional event brings alumni, faculty and current students together to celebrate the College's heritage and future.

Thanh "Tommy" Hodinh, CEO and founder of MagRabbit, a software development and logistics company headquartered in Austin, Texas. Originally from Vietnam, Tommy embarked on a successful fifteen-year career at IBM before founding MagRabbit in 1990. Considered as one of the top diversity-owned businesses in the U.S. by DiversityBusiness.com, the firm has provided

services to many Fortune 500 companies including Dell, Ford Motor Company, Halliburton and Lockheed Martin.

Jesus A. Rico, P.E., President and Founder of ElectroSystems Engineering Inc. ESIE, founded in 1994 and based in El Paso, provides telecommunication and IT integrated solutions throughout the U.S. Mr. Rico's long list of community service includes current Chairman of the Board of the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and President of the Engineering Chapter of the UTEP Alumni Association.

UTEP Engineering Alumni are invited to attend the Homecoming Breakfast Saturday, October 20, 2012 starting at 8:00 AM at the Tomas Rivera Conference Center in the Union East. For ticket information visit: <http://engineering.utep.edu/homecoming/index.htm>

For more information visit the Homecoming Schedule of Events.