USDLA Awards UW-Madison’s Master of Engineering in Engine Systems with the 21st Century Best Practice Award For Excellence in Distance Learning in 2009

The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Master of Engineering in Engine Systems program was recently honored by the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) with the world's most prestigious distance learning award presented for excellence in distance learning.

St Louis, MO, April 29, 2009 -- The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) yesterday presented its 2009 International Distance Learning Award to the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Master of Engineering in Engine Systems (MEES) program in conjunction with the 2009 National Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. Since 1987, USDLA has been the world's premier distance learning association. The USDLA International Awards program honored outstanding individuals and organizations for excellence in the field of distance learning, education and training.

These prestigious International Awards are presented annually to organizations and individuals engaged in the development and delivery of distance learning programs. Included in the recognition ceremony were awards for 21st Century Best Practice, Best Practice for Distance Learning Programming, Excellence in Distance Learning Teaching, Outstanding Leadership by an Individual, Hall of Fame and Eagle Awards.

"As a premier organization for the entire distance learning profession, we are honoring the MEES program as a leader in the industry," said Dr. John G. Flores, CEO of USDLA. "MEES has raised the bar of excellence and we are truly honored by the MEES program’s contributions to the distance learning industry."

The USDLA Awards were created to acknowledge major accomplishments in distance learning and to highlight those distance learning instructors, programs, and professionals who have achieved and demonstrated extraordinary results through the use of online, videoconferencing, satellite and blended learning delivery technologies.

Dr. Sandra Ashford, Ph.D., MEES program director, said, “We are proud and honored to accept the 21st Century Best Practice award from USDLA. This prestigious recognition is a testament to the dedication of the MEES faculty, staff and students to the continual improvement of distance learning in higher education.”

Mr. Reggie Smith III, USDLA board member and chair of the awards committee, noted that, “We look forward to seeing how the MEES program will inspire the 2010 award entries as they are recognized in Distance Learning Today to 3.5 million readers and via
their participation in National Distance Learning Week (http://www.ndlw.org), November 9-13, 2009.”

About the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Master of Engineering in Engine Systems (MEES)
The University of Wisconsin’s Master of Engineering distance degree programs offer a world-class degree via the Internet. MEES provides a unique blend of technical skills and advanced leadership abilities, taught by instructors from the Engine Research Center, the Powertrain Control Research Laboratory and some of the top engine companies in the world. The program features a high level of collaboration and project-based learning that applies directly and immediately to student’s real-life work. http://mees.engr.wisc.edu

About United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA)
The United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA) is a non-profit association formed in 1987 and is located in Boston, Massachusetts. USDLA promotes the development and application of distance learning for education and training and serves the needs of the distance learning community by providing advocacy, information, networking and opportunity. Distance learning and training constituencies served include pre-k-12 education, higher and continuing education, home schooling as well as business, corporate, military, government and telehealth markets. The USDLA trademarked logo is the recognized worldwide symbol of dedicated professionals committed to the distance learning industry. http://www.usdla.org

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Contact: Dr. Sandra Ashford, Ph.D., Program Director
UW-Madison’s Master of Engineering in Engine Systems
E-mail: ashford@epd.engr.wisc.edu
http://mees.engr.wisc.edu
1-866-529-4967