The Cockrell School's six Distinguished Engineering Graduates for 2015 are inventors, finance experts, CEOs and worldwide thought leaders in their fields. Established in 1957, the Distinguished Engineering Graduate Award (DEG) represents the highest honor that the Cockrell School bestows on its alumni. The award recognizes honorees as highly respected professionals, dedicated engineers and supporters of higher education. Learn more about DEG honorees.

Learn more about this year's Electrical and Computer Engineering inductees:
Byron R. Baird
B.S. EE 1959
Former Chairman of the Board, Mrs. Baird's Bakeries

The Baird family has roots in Fort Worth, Texas, dating back to the early 1900s. Byron R. Baird is the grandson of the founder of Mrs. Baird's Bread, Ninnie L. Baird. In 1908, she started selling bread, cakes and pies that she baked in a wood-burning stove. Her small business soon grew into a successful company that produces bread and baked goods stocked in grocery stores throughout Texas, Oklahoma and surrounding states. Read More >>
Charles M. Sander
B.S. EE 1978
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Managed Methods

Charles M. Sander is an innovator and entrepreneur in the IT industry, and his work in hard drive development was instrumental in the creation of laptop computers. He currently serves as chairman and chief executive officer of Managed Methods, a cyber security software startup based in Boulder, Colorado. Read More >> [4]