Alumni Advocate and Ambassador awards honor Chaiser, Hamada

Alumni gathered in Bangkok to see Arun Chaiser, center front, receive the inaugural CEE at Illinois Alumni Ambassador Award, presented by Professor and Head Benito Maritnas, to the right of Chaiser.

Harold Hamada receives the inaugural CEE at Illinois Alumni Advocate Award from CEE Head Benito Maritnas in Honolulu.

Two new department awards were conferred this fall to alumni who have represented the department well throughout their distinguished careers.

Arun Chaiser (MS 60) was awarded the inaugural CEE at Illinois Distinguished Alumni Ambassador Award in Bangkok, Thailand, Oct. 20. Chaiser has been called Thailand’s most famous engineer. His designs include the Elephant Tower.

The award recognizes a distinguished alumnus or alumna who is an ambassador and leader among alumni internationally and has promoted CEE at Illinois within his or her home country.

Chaiser was honored for his distinguished career in academia, industry and government; his representation within Thailand of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign through his excellence and accomplishments; and in appreciation for his promotion of the University of Illinois to prospective students in Thailand.

Harold S. Hamada (MS 58, PhD 62) was awarded the inaugural CEE at Illinois Distinguished Alumni Advocate Award in Honolulu, Hawaii, on Nov. 3. Hamada is professor emeritus in civil engineering at the University of Hawaii.

The award honors a distinguished alumnus or alumna within the U.S. who serves as an advocate for the department and a leader among alumni.

Hamada was honored for his distinguished career in academia and consulting; his exemplary representation of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign through his excellence and accomplishments; and his leadership among his fellow alumni.