

It is now my pleasure to present the inaugural Glenn L. Martin Medals. But before I recognize tonight's honorees, let me say a few words about Glenn L. Martin.

Glenn L. Martin was one of the nation's aviation pioneers, a barnstormer who taught himself to fly. Martin lacked a formal technical education, but that didn't stop him. In the early 1900s he established the Glenn L. Martin Company to build airplanes. In 1929 he moved the organization, called the Martin Aircraft Company at that point, to Middle River, Maryland, about 45 minutes north of here.

Martin made his company the leading airplane manufacturer in the nation. How did he do it? Martin hired skilled engineers to design his planes, and talented managers to run his factories. He must have had a great eye for people. Together, they produced the bombers, flying boats and other craft that helped the Allies win World War II. In the course of doing so, Martin and his company also developed the next generation of aviation pioneers, providing training and experience to William Boeing, Donald Douglas, Lawrence Bell and James S. McDonnell, who all worked for Martin before launching their own corporations. For this reason, you could say that Glenn L. Martin was not only a great entrepreneur and businessman, but also a great educator. He certainly foresaw the value of research and education for the future of aeronautical sciences, and no one benefitted more from his foresight than Maryland, the state he made his home, and that state's university—this university.

In 1944, in commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of engineering at the University of Maryland, Glenn L. Martin made a gift to the university of \$1.7 million to establish instruction and research in the aeronautical sciences. He made a second gift of \$800,000, named in honor of his mother, Minta Martin, the following year. Today, under the university's careful stewardship, Martin's endowment is valued at approximately \$56 million and remains a major source of research funding for the faculty, staff and students of what is now the A. James Clark School of Engineering.

So tonight in the spirit of Glenn L. Martin, we recognize individuals, both alumni and friends, for either their professional distinction through outstanding leadership, contributions to the field of engineering, creativity and entrepreneurship, and service to the Clark School and the University. We are grateful for their service to society, their profession, and to the Clark School community. All of these individuals have made a contribution to the mission and ideals of the A. James Clark School of Engineering. Each has made distinguished contributions to the theory and practice of engineering or has demonstrated major accomplishments or guidance in emerging fields of *technology*.