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## OU's Andrew Alisa wins top collegiate award from Engineering Society of Detroit

Oakland University student Andrew Alisa was all smiles after finding out he'd been chosen as the **Engineering Society of Detroit's** 2016 Outstanding College Student Engineer of the Year.

The senior computer science major from Madison Heights beat out dozens of applicants for the award, which recognizes an undergraduate student who best distinguishes themselves in the engineering and scientific communities.

Alisa is the first Oakland University student to win the award since it was established in 1980.

"It is truly an honor and privilege that I got selected for this award," Alisa said. "I know there are a lot of hard working engineers that were considered as well. I feel so grateful and appreciative."

During his time at OU, Alisa has been involved in the **League of Engineers and Computer Scientists**, which he co-founded, Association for Computing Machinery, **CyberOU**, Technology and Leadership Keys, and Hackathon Hackers. The latter group hosted OU's inaugural "**GrizzHacks**" competition, a 24-hour event in which OU student teams created technology-driven projects, such as websites and social media applications. A judging panel of industry professionals evaluated the projects and awarded teams based on creativity and user experience.

Theresa Rowe, Oakland's Chief Information Officer, described Alisa as a "serious and fully engaged student" in a letter of recommendation to the Engineering Society of Detroit awards selection committee. As a student in Rowe's Computer Science and Engineering 202 Professional Ethics course, Alisa "approached each assignment with a respect for the topic . . . and consistently demonstrated the analytical thinking required for advanced assignments," Rowe wrote.

Alisa also has attended numerous technology-focused events, including OU's **Cyber Summit**, an annual event that features some of the state's top technology leaders. He regularly participates in other local events, including hackathons and technology user group gatherings. When he's not in class or engaged in extracurricular activities, Alisa works full time as a programmer at Ipsos RDA, a market research firm in Bloomfield Hills.

Alisa will receive his award June 22 at the Engineering Society of Detroit Dinner at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn. It comes with a \$1,000 scholarship.

To learn more about programs in Oakland's School of Engineering and Computer Science, visit [oakland.edu/secs](http://oakland.edu/secs).



*Senior computer science major Andrew Alisa was named the 2016 Outstanding College Student Engineer of the Year by the Engineering Society of Detroit.*