

2020 Engineers Week Awards Banquet & Exhibition

Engineering at UNH, and the 2020 Young Engineer of the Year, Jeremy Belanger, P.E., a Senior Project Engineer with TFMoran,

Inc. During the presentation of awards the audience was able to hear several recurring themes. The first being passion and how to complete tasks, both in a professional and personal aspect, with such. A key component of engineering is making the world in which we live a better place. By taking on projects and challenges which one is passionate about, we can achieve just that. During his introduction, Dr. Ray Cook, Professor of Civil Engineering at UNH, asked how many in the room have taken a class with Dr. Henry during his 40+ year tenure at the University. The sea of hands was certainly an indication of the number of individuals Dr. Henry has influenced throughout the years. Dr. Henry spoke about the University, his colleagues and his students with a passion that was inspiring. It was clear



2020 Engineer of the Year

Robert "Bob" Henry, Ph.D., P.E.

to see the positive impact Dr. Henry has brought to the engineering community throughout the State of New Hampshire.

Another recurring theme was the importance of networking,

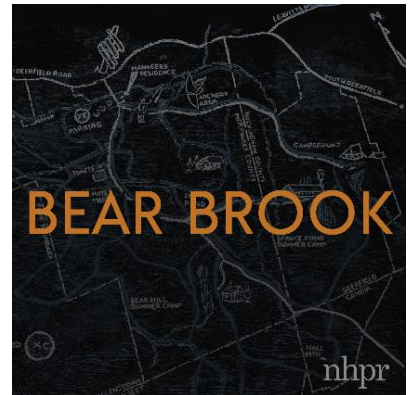


2020 Young Engineer of the Year
Jeremy Belanger, P.E.

communication, and collaborative teamwork. The Banquet was another opportunity to increase those interpersonal connections, one which was even more apparent by the number of individuals sharing stories of Dr. Henry throughout the evening.

The event concluded with Keynote Speaker, Jason Moon, of NHPR's Bear Brook Podcast, who regaled the crowd with stories of how popular genetic databases are being used to help solve decades old criminal cases throughout the country, with one local success story right here in the Granite State. Four murder victims found in Allenstown's Bear Brook State Park have remained

unknown since their discovery in the mid 1980's, until a recent breakthrough in genetic testing enabled local authorities, with the help of some



private genealogy enthusiasts, to uncover the background and eventual identities of the victims. Moon engaged with the crowd for a short Q&A session, which expanded to include exciting new methods for which genetics testing is currently assisting law enforcement in putting long thought cold cases back to the forefront.

Engineers Week provides a fantastic opportunity to reflect on why the engineering profession is critical to the betterment of society on both a local and national level and allows the opportunity to highlight those making a positive impact on their communities. Thank you to NHSPE for hosting the evening, and we look forward to the 2021 event!