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Holm receives TTU outstanding engineering staff award

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Michelle Holm was recently presented the 2016 Outstanding Staff award by the Tennessee Tech University College of Engineering at an Engineers Week banquet at the Leslie Town Centre.

Holm is an administrative associate in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, where she is responsible for the allocation of the department's \$3 million budget. She began as a temporary administrative associate in the department in 2009 and accepted a permanent position later that year. She has also worked for two years in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, before returning to mechanical engineering in 2014. During that time, she earned a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies, with a concentration in organizational management and psychology. She expects to take the Certificate of Administrative Professionals exam later this year.

She completed her degree in December 2015, graduating magna cum laude, while working fulltime and raising three children. Her colleagues described Holm as a hardworking employee who always has a positive attitude. They consider her a great example and a dependable team player who goes above and beyond every day.

"I am overwhelmed and humbled that my co-workers would take the time to nominate me for this award," Holm said. "I'm so grateful to work with such a wonderful group of people."

Holm attributes her success to Darrell Hoy, associate dean for the College of Engineering, for urging her to begin taking classes, and to faculty and co-workers who always encouraged her. She also expressed gratitude to department chairs who were flexible with her schedule, and to her children who were supportive, patient and understanding. Holm has a daughter Jordynn, who is also a TTU alumna. She has two sons, Ben and Colton, and one granddaughter, two-year-old Mia.

Founded in 1915, Tennessee Tech University is currently celebrating its centennial academic year. TTU is the state's only public technological university, offering more than 40 bachelor-level and 20 graduate degree programs to nearly 10,900 students on its 282-acre campus. Its students include outstanding high school graduates, accomplished military veterans and students from around the world, most of whom graduate debt free. Learn more at **www.tntech.edu**.

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