The UH Cullen College of Engineering held its fall convocation ceremony on Thursday, December 14, recognizing nearly 450 graduating students at the Bayou City Events Center. The ceremony featured a keynote address from UH alumna Cynthia Oliver Coleman (BSChE ’71), who spent her 33-year career at Exxon Mobil holding various positions in gas engineering, reservoir engineering, engineering applications, engineering recruiting and engineering information systems. As the first Black woman to receive a degree in chemical engineering from the UH Cullen College, Coleman remains a passionate mentor to UH engineering students as they make their way through their academic and professional careers.

Other graduation speakers included Cullen College of Engineering Dean Joseph W. Tedesco, Fritz Claydon, director of the Division of Undergraduate Programs and Student Success, and UH System Board of Regents member Durga Agrawal.

The UH Cullen College is home to many nontraditional college students, two of whom were recognized during the ceremony. Nicholas Xiong, the youngest UH Cullen College graduate at age 17, earned his bachelor’s in mechanical engineering. Ram Guliani, who walked across the stage at 48-years-young to accept his master’s in civil engineering, was the oldest graduate.

View photos and video from the Fall 2017 Convocation Ceremony.
Want to engineer YOUR future? The demand for engineering talent is higher in the city of Houston than any other major U.S. city. Starting salaries for engineers with bachelor’s degrees typically range from $60,000 to over $80,000; however, average starting salaries for alumni of the Cullen College are considerably higher. According to PayScale.com, University of Houston engineering students rank 15th in the U.S. for salary earning potential. Learn more and apply today at [www.egr.uh.edu/students](http://www.egr.uh.edu/students).

© University of Houston Cullen College of Engineering