I want to thank the Awards Committee, my nominator Rick Miller, and my colleagues and former students who wrote letters on my behalf. I am truly honored to have been selected for the ASEE Lifetime Achievement Award.

Since I entered Georgia Tech as a freshman in 1958, some 62 years ago, engineering education and the face of engineering students and faculty have changed greatly. In some areas, such as technology, change has been rapid, while in others progress has been painfully slow. We have so much more work to do, especially in attracting a diverse population of students and faculty into engineering and engineering technology – and also in emphasizing the whole student, not just their technical side.

Doing so depends upon us all. Being an educator is a privilege and a noble calling.....and a huge responsibility. Our influence ripples for generations on those whom we mentor – I'm fortunate to have academic great-great-grandchildren, and I hope you will, too.

But your influence as educators won't only be through the technical education you help enable. You also will help shape your students' values and how they apply their knowledge to make the world better. And goodness knows, recent months have brought into sharp focus how far we have to go. I certainly hope it won't take another 62 years to get it right.

So I'm happy I've had a lifetime as an engineering educator – I can't think of a better career. I just wish I could have done more.

Again, thank you for this honor – stay safe, take care of each other – and wear your masks!