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## Two Mechanical Engineering Students Named Inaugural Hino Motors Scholars

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## Two Mechanical Engineering Students Named Inaugural Hino Motors Scholars

David Biggs and Manny Dhaliwal benefit from financial and professional support

MARCH 23, 2018 BY KENNEDY GRAZER



UM students David Biggs (left) and Manny Dhaliwal are the inaugural recipients of the Hino Motors Scholarship. Submitted photo by Kennedy Grazer

Two mechanical engineering students at the **University of Mississippi** are the inaugural recipients of the Hino Motors Scholarship.

Senior David Biggs, of Norman, Oklahoma, and junior Manny Dhaliwal, of Silver Creek, each received the awards last fall. The scholarships were created following a 2015 meeting in which representatives of Hino Motors Manufacturing Inc. contacted the **UM School of Engineering** in hopes of providing a combination of scholarship and professional development opportunities to students.

The intent of the award is to identify students with leadership potential and interest in the automotive manufacturing industry. Scholarship recipients have the opportunity to complete an internship with the company, in Marion, Arkansas.

"We are thankful for the opportunity to partner with Hino Motors," said Ryan Upshaw, assistant dean for student services. Upshaw oversees the selection of the scholarship recipients and serves as a liaison with Hino Motors staff.

"This is a unique opportunity for students to benefit from financial and professional support while completing their undergraduate degree. Manny and David have been excellent representatives of the school, and we look forward to selecting a new scholarship recipient this spring," Upshaw said.

Before receiving the award, Biggs had the opportunity to visit the Hino facility and learn more about the company's operations. He said he appreciates Hino's support.

"The Hino scholarship allowed me to focus fully on my studies," Biggs said. "To pay for books and various other expenses, I often had to take on jobs and use up time that could go toward volunteer work, extracurricular activity or studying.

"With the scholarship, I was given the funds to put my full weight into school and truly work towards what I believe I can achieve. I will always be grateful to Hino for providing me that opportunity."

A member of the **Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College**, Biggs is slated to graduate in May. His plans are to either work as a supplier engineer in Tucson, Arizona, or to work as a junior developer in his hometown.

Dhaliwal, who is a student in the Haley Barbour Center for Manufacturing Excellence, also said he appreciates the opportunities Hino provided.

"When I found out I received the Hino scholarship and summer internship, I was ecstatic beyond belief," Dhaliwal said. "When I received the award, I felt blessed because Hino saw value in my diligent work ethic and personality."

Besides receiving the scholarship, Dhaliwal had an opportunity to intern with Hino last summer.

"My internship experience with Hino was great," he said. "The employees at Hino are very friendly and helpful. I enjoyed working alongside the engineers and other interns there. There is strong influence of Japanese culture at Hino, which permeates into how they operate as a company. It was truly an experience I will not forget."

Dhaliwal also credits his internship experience with helping him develop both soft and technical skills

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that will benefit him as he prepares for a career in engineering. He hopes to complete another summer internship before his senior year. After graduation, he plans to keep working in the industry for several years and eventually pursue a master's degree.

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