Ryan Thompson is an outstanding young mechanical engineer who has made significant contributions to the field of mechanical engineering. His achievements include designing, constructing, and operating several critical infrastructure projects that have established the University’s Carl J. Eckhardt Combined Heating and Power Complex as internationally-renowned for efficiency and operation. These projects include the installation of a new gas turbine generator, two new chilling stations, two thermal energy storage tanks, and underground thermal distribution systems serving the Dell Medical District. In his role as an adjunct professor at Austin Community College, teaching in the Electronics and Advanced Technologies Department, Ryan has supported the ME department by giving plant tours and serving as a guest lecturer for the benefit of engineering students.