



Mechanical Engineering
Academy of Distinguished Alumni

Noboru Kikuchi, Ph.D.

Mechanical Engineering Hall of Fame, 2017

BE, CE, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 1974

MS, General Engineering, The University of Texas at Austin, 1975

Ph.D., Engineering Mechanics, The University of Texas at Austin, 1977

Professor Emeritus

University of Michigan

President

Toyota Central R&D Labs, Inc.

Noboru Kikuchi is the President of Toyota Central R&D Labs, INC., Japan, Senior Technical Executive of Toyota Motor Corporation, Board Member of Toyota Research Institute, Cambridge, MA, USA, and the Director of TRINA (Toyota Research Institute of North America, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA). He is also the Roger L. McCarthy Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. His engineering specialty is Digital Engineering including CAD/CAM/CAE for Automotive, Mechanical, Aerospace, and Civil Engineering as well as medical applications. He is a pioneer of the Topology Optimization method for light-weight structural design using Multi-scale

Multi-Physics CAE in computational science and engineering based on Mathematical Theory of Optimal Design and Optimal Control. Further, he is a leading researcher for computer aided industrial manufacturing technologies including CT scan and 3D printing. His current technical interest is application of deep learning methods and other mathematical methods to autonomous driving of cars. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) in 2017 "For contributions to theory and methods of computer-aided engineering and leadership in their applications in the automotive industry worldwide."