Guy Fipps, P.E., is the 2019 recipient of the Lalit and Aruna Verma award for Excellence in Global Engagement for his career of long-term global engagement and strong contributions to the transfer of technology of agricultural and biological engineering to improve livelihoods, food security, and political stability around the world.

Fipps has supported numerous USAID projects and the reach of his work has been wide and effective. His career has included development of the irrigation and water framework for the Inma Project in Iraq, drip irrigation for small landholders in Tanzania, trainings and technical assistance to the Iraqi government on center pivot design and GIS tools for water planning and management, and he developed an irrigation scheme modernization plan for the National Irrigation Commission of Jamaica. Fipps served as the Senior Advisor for Water at the United States Embassy in Afghanistan where he conducted strategic analysis and water planning. There, he was instrumental in creating a national water agency, negotiated the first water treaty between Afghanistan and Tajikistan, and developed the principles for transboundary water policy which the country still uses in international negotiation.

Fipps is a 31-year member of ASABE and has been an active participant of the ASABE Natural Resources and Environmental Systems Irrigation Group and Turf and Landscape Irrigation committee among other ASABE award committees and organizing groups.

Fipps is author or coauthor of more than 200 extension, professional journal, conference proceeding papers, and other publications. Throughout his career, Fipps has received many awards including an award for superior service for outstanding achievements as an extension specialist from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and a award for Excellence in Extension Education from Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department at Texas A&M University in 2011 and 2016. For his non-career service with the Department of State in Afghanistan, Fipps received a Medal of Excellence and a Special Commendation for service in Afghanistan by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 2010. In 2015, he was named the Person of the Year by the Irrigation Association and in 2013, he received the 13th Merriam Improved Irrigation award in recognition of distinguished service to the United States Committee on Irrigation and Drainage. He received the ASABE award for the Advancement of Surface Irrigation in 2012 and the ASABE PEI Professional Engineer of the Year award in 2014.