



## Alan C. Hansen

**Alan C. Hansen, ASABE Fellow**, is the 2021 recipient of the Massey-Ferguson Educational Gold Medal for his outstanding national and international contributions to education, research and outreach in agricultural and biological engineering.

Hansen is an emeritus professor of off-road equipment engineering in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Hansen provided leadership in his department at UIUC as changes were made to the undergraduate curriculum to emphasize biological engineering. He has also been consistently recognized by both the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Grainger College of Engineering for his excellence and leadership in teaching and in student advising. He had the role of chief undergraduate adviser and chair of the courses and curriculum committee in the agricultural and biological engineering department, thus significantly impacting the quality of the undergraduate agricultural and biological engineering program. In that period, the program was ranked in the top three nationally by US News and World Report for 14 years, and ranked number one nationally for 6 years.

In 2004, Hansen established a unique project-based study abroad program to South Africa involving teams of American and University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) students addressing local community and industry needs. This program inspired four other faculty in the department to initiate similar

study abroad programs to other countries. Since joining UIUC in 1999, Hansen has been a PI or co-PI in research programs in the areas of agricultural machinery systems and biofuels with research funding of more than \$15 million.

Hansen was the director of the Appropriate Scale Mechanization Consortium, a sub-award of the Sustainable Intensification Innovation Laboratory supported by United States Agency for International Development.

Hansen has authored or coauthored more than 250 peer-reviewed articles, conference proceeding papers, and other publications. He has also authored or coauthored three books and two book chapters.

A 29-year member of ASABE, Hansen has been involved in a number of ASABE committees including serving as an associate editor of *Transactions of the ASABE* and he is a former Central Illinois Section chair and served as the University of Illinois Illini Pullers International Quarter-Scale Tractor Competition advisor for 19 years. He was inducted as an ASABE Fellow in 2015.