

## TEN YEARS OF EXCELLENCE AT THE UT SPACE INSTITUTE

In his tenth year at the UT Space Institute, **Prof. Joseph C. (Joe) Majdalani** was honored with the Abe M. Zarem Educator Award at the 51st Aerospace Sciences Meeting. The Zarem Educator Award is conferred by the AIAA Foundation to faculty members who showcase a remarkable degree of effectiveness in their mentorship and guidance efforts toward advising graduate students as demonstrated by the graduate students receiving the Abe M. Zarem Award for Distinguished Achievement..

In the past four years, Dr. Majdalani has advised seven graduate students who became recipients of eight best paper awards. In addition to Charles T. Haddad, who won the Zarem Award for Distinguished Achievement in Astronautics, Dr. Majdalani's group at UTSI has been successful at securing seven Best Papers at the 61st–64th Southeastern Student Conferences. Dr. Majdalani's team so far has entered these conferences with only seven papers, and returned with one national and seven regional awards. Such unprecedented winning streak is a testimony to the exceptional talent of students and faculty that UTSI attracts. The seven papers in question focus on advanced propulsion concepts that pertain to chemical rockets in which the flow is driven by either wall-normal or wall-tangential injection. They are sponsored, in part, by the National Science Foundation and, in part, by the UT Space Institute. "We are truly blessed," Dr. Majdalani added, "because it literally takes an act of God to repeatedly win at these highly contested paper championships."

Dr. Majdalani joined UTSI in 2003 as the Jack D. Whitfield Professor of High Speed Flows. In 2007, he was selected to fill the H. H. Arnold Chair of Excellence in Advanced Propulsion. His interests span the areas of internal aerodynamics, acoustic



Former AIAA President Paul D. Nielson and Professor Joseph Majdalani (right).

instability, high-speed gas dynamics, swirl-augmented engine technology, and singular perturbation theory. Dr. Majdalani's research activities at UTSI have materialized in approximately 145 publications in journals and conference proceedings. These have attracted 14 external awards while contributing to the fulfillment of 14 M.S. and 6 Ph.D. degrees.