

Luke D. Held

Aerospace Systems Engineering

Hometown: North Canton, Ohio

Professional/Student Organizations:

- Zips Aero Design Team
- Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society
- Engineering Student Council

Co-op/Research Experience

- NASA Glenn Research Center - *Cleveland, Ohio*
- Moog Flo-Tork – *Wooster, Ohio*
- Additive Engineering Solutions – *Akron, Ohio*
- University of Akron Research – *Akron, Ohio*
- University of Dayton Research Institute (UDRI) – *Dayton, Ohio*



Why did you choose the University of Akron?

The University of Akron's College of Engineering offered an experience I couldn't turn down. I knew that UA had a strong engineering program academically, along with a number of great professors to back it up. In addition, I found that there were a slew of award-winning design teams to join, so I could apply the knowledge I gained. Most importantly, UA offered a one-of-a-kind co-op program in which I could get a feel for what I could expect in a real engineering job, and make some cash while I was at it.

Why did you choose Aerospace Systems Engineering as your major?

It may sound cliché, but I feel like my major chose me. Ever since I was young, I always had an interest in building - and also breaking apart - anything I could get my hands on. I loved learning how things worked and how things were made. Watching astronauts in movies and wondering about the depths of space led me to gain a further interest in planes and rockets. It all went from there. When I saw that UA offered a degree in Aerospace Systems Engineering, I didn't hesitate.

What is the most valuable thing you have learned from your UA experiences?

You will only get out of UA what you put in. Work hard and people will notice, it's just a matter of time.

What advice would you give to an incoming engineering student?

One of the most important things you can do to set yourself apart from other students in engineering is to get involved in a design team. With this kind of experience on your resume, you'll have the luxury of choosing the job you want rather than settling for one.