

## Lynn Booth & Kent Kresa Department of Aerospace

### **Aerospace Qualifying Exam:**

The qualifying exam is generally given to students enrolled in the PhD program just prior to the beginning of their second year of study. The exam is given taken during an assigned period just prior to the beginning of the second academic year of residence at the Institute. The intent of this exam is to determine whether the student has mastered the theoretical foundations of aerospace engineering to a level deemed suitable to pursue research towards the PhD degree.

The exam consists of three separate oral question sessions of one hour duration each in two of the following areas of study: fluid mechanics, solid mechanics, or Autonomy and Control and an oral exam in mathematics.

Upon successful completion of the qualifying exam, the student will be officially able to pursue research towards the Ph.D. degree.

If the student is unsuccessful in passing the examination, the faculty will decide on one of the following options:

1. No pass. The faculty will consult with the student's advisor to make a recommendation regarding further requirements. This may include a second exam on a subject where performance was deemed unsatisfactory administered by the original examiners.
2. Fail. The student will not be allowed to proceed further towards the Ph.D. and should consult with their research advisor concerning possible completion of an Engineers' Degree.