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UB's Takeuchi lands in Inventor's Hall

Business First - by Allissa Kline

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A **University at Buffalo** professor who's earned more patents than any other woman in the U.S. will be inducted this spring into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

Esther Takeuchi will be joining the ranks of food preservationist **Clarence Birdseye**, cast steel plow developer **John Deere** and aviation pioneers Wilbur and **Orville Wright**. **Wilson Greatbatch**, founder of the Clarence-based company **Esther Takeuchi** worked at for 22 years, is also a member of the National Inventors Hall of Fame. He had a long relationship with UB earlier in his career.

Takeuchi, a SUNY Distinguished professor who teaches in UB's School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, will become one of nine living inductees following the May 4 ceremony in Washington, D.C. She has so far earned 148 patents, including two while at UB.

The former **Greatbatch Inc.** employee has developed batteries used in pacemakers and implantable cardiac defibrillators. Her work in that field earned her a National Medal of Technology and Innovation in 2009.

The National Inventors Hall of Fame, whose mission is to honor inventors whose innovations have changed the world, announced its list of 2011 inductees March 3. A total of 39 inventors will be recognized, including Kodak engineer **Steve Sasson**, orthopedic spinal surgeon **Gary Michelson** and robotic arm inventor **George Devol**.

Takeuchi worked at Greatbatch for 22 years before changing jobs in 2007 to become a UB professor and researcher. She holds faculty positions in the UB departments of chemical and biological engineering, electrical engineering, chemistry and biomedical engineering. She is a member of the **National Science Foundation's** Mathematical and Physical Sciences Advisory Committee.