

## **Dr. Şeref ERKARA**

(b. 1958, Eskişehir)

Şeref Erkara was born in Eskişehir in 1958. After completing his primary and secondary education in Eskişehir, he was accepted to Air Force Academy in 1975. In 1979, he graduated from the Aircraft Engineering Department of the Air Force Academy. He continued his studies in aircraft maintenance and he was appointed to Malatya as a maintenance officer in 1980,1981.

In 1981, Erkara transferred to Istanbul Technical University's (İTÜ) Aircraft Engineering Department thanks to the Academy's initiative to create faculty positions within. He completed his master's and doctorate degrees at İTÜ, from 1983 to 1985 and from 1990 to 1997 respectively.

As part of his doctorate program, Erkara participated in a diploma course program at Belgium's von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics and received an intensive course on fluid dynamics.

Throughout his studies, he gave courses at the Air Force Academy in Istanbul on subjects varying from Aircraft Construction and Parts, Aircraft Engines, Flight Mechanics to Aerodynamics.

Erkara undertook different roles in the private sector between 1999 and 2015 as an administrative and technical consultant as well as a board member. Meanwhile, he simultaneously gave postgraduate courses in Aerodynamics and Experimental Aerodynamics at Eskişehir's Anadolu University.

Erkara is the founder of ESHAVK (Eskişehir Youth Aviation and Sports Club) and shared his experience in and passion for radio-controlled model aircraft with students through it. He contributed to the formation of a new generation of RC model enthusiasts.

Erkara is married with two children and has been an instructor at our school, Ege University since 2016.