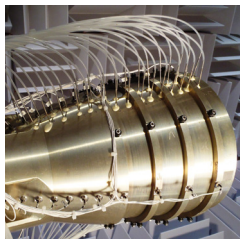




2021 AIAA ELECTION GUIDE



BALLOTS MUST ARRIVE AT AIAA
19 FEBRUARY 2021

Letter from 2021 Election Committee Chair

Dear AIAA Member:

On behalf of the Elections Committee, it is my great privilege to present our 2021 candidates for your consideration. Your participation in this year's election will help determine the direction of AIAA. Critical decisions await our leadership in almost every area of the Institute. Our Board of Trustees and Council of Directors are planning our way forward, and working closely with staff and members to fulfill these plans. I am continually impressed and grateful for the time and effort your elected leadership commits to the Institute and the AIAA Foundation.

The Executive Nominating Committee and the Council Nominating Committee have assembled an outstanding slate of candidates. We urge you to carefully consider each candidate and select those who most closely reflect your values and your vision for the future of AIAA. All candidates are highly qualified, and all are anxious to serve.

For 2021, the election will be held from 27 January to 19 February 2021, and we will continue to vote electronically. Every member is urged to vote online via the AIAA website. We have taken steps to ensure the voting process will be smooth and efficient. We are using the independent third-party vendor, Survey and Ballot Systems, who we have used in the past to monitor the process and the web-based voting system. Anyone who requests a paper ballot will receive one. Please use the electronic voting system if possible but if you need a paper ballot, then please request one through Survey & Ballot Systems at 952.974.2339 or support@directvote.net (Monday–Friday, 8000–1700 hrs CST). All ballots must arrive at AIAA or be submitted online through the website, aiaa.org/vote, by 1500 hrs EST, 19 February 2021.

As with all democratic elections, it is a privilege and responsibility to vote and make your voice heard. I encourage you to vote today! Thank you for your service and continued commitment to AIAA.

E. Allen Arrington
Chair, Elections Committee
Speaker, Council of Directors

Summary of Goals

President-Elect

LAURA J. MCGILL

Increase AIAA member engagement with relevant content, accessible through multiple means, providing for personal/technical growth and enablers for career advancement

GEORGE C. NIELD

Advance the aerospace profession, engage and support our members, educate the general public, and inspire the next generation.

Director-Elect-Young Professionals Group

ALEXANDRA DUKES

Strengthen and create opportunities to empower our young professional members to be leaders in their careers and within the greater aerospace community.

KAELA MARTIN

Expand virtual events for young professionals and increase retention of transitioning students from universities to the workforce.

CHERYL O'KEEFE

Continue to grow the Young Professionals Group (YPG) and increase the connections between the YPG and other groups within AIAA.

Director-Region III

PEGGY A. CORNELL

Strengthen the collaborations, growth, and advocacy in Region III, both with our vital student representation and with other regions.

ERIC J. RUGGIERO

Forge and empower a robust, diverse pipeline of aerospace talent across academia, industry, and government in Region III.

Director-Region VI

MELINDA E. TOLLE

Will be the voice of and for Region VI sections and student branches across industry, academia, government, and other professional organizations.

OLEG A. YAKIMENKO

Work with sections and student branches to strengthen their collaboration, motivate students to pursue professional careers in aerospace, and promote the values of AIAA.

Director-Aerospace Design and Structures Group

JEANETTE L. DOMBER

Improve member experience and recruiting success while ensuring volunteers feel appreciated and integrated in helping AIAA and its members succeed.

MASOUD RAIS-ROHANI

Broaden participation and involvement of AIAA members to promote exchange of knowledge, collaboration, and greater engagement with diverse technical committees.

Director-Aerospace Sciences Group

M. CHRISTOPHER COTTING

Strengthen connections within the Aerospace Sciences Group, especially between younger and more experienced members. Explore broader use of electronic media for engagement.

LESLEY A. WEITZ

Elevate innovative ideas from Aerospace Sciences Group to transform how we connect, collaborate, and influence the future of our profession.

President-Elect



Laura J. McGill
(AIAA Fellow)

Through my professional life, AIAA membership has allowed me to engage in numerous technical and leadership activities that have enhanced my career and brought great personal satisfaction. It's allowed me to influence aspects of the aerospace and defense industry that were sometimes unrelated to my work. I've developed deep professional relationships that have sustained and grown, independent of changing job assignments. I want all our members to realize these benefits and value their membership as much as I do.

My goal is to increase member engagement by driving AIAA relevance for our members in 3 key aspects:

- Provide resources that are recognized by our members as being value-added to their professional work
- Support career advancement by enabling the success of our members toward multiple potential career paths, and have them be recognized within their home organizations for contributions to the industry through AIAA activities.
- Enable exploration of multiple interest areas by providing content-rich forums

Driving relevance includes evolving our technical forums and other opportunities for engagement to accommodate the needs and expectations of today's technical professionals, especially in the dynamic environments of today.

BIOGRAPHY

Deputy Laboratories Director for Nuclear Deterrence, Sandia National Laboratories (starting Jan 2021). Deputy VP, Engineering, Raytheon Missiles & Defense: Oversee 15,000 engineers (2020). VP, Engineering, Raytheon Missile Systems (2015–2020): Led technical execution 7,800 engineers. Deputy VP (2012–2015). Chief Engineer, Air Warfare Systems, \$2B development/production portfolio (2007–2012). Chief Engineer, Tomahawk Cruise Missiles (2004–2007). Program Director, Tomahawk Development (2002–2004). Various roles as Program Chief Engineer, Flight Test Program Manager, Modeling and Sim IPT Lead, Avionics Program Manager, Test Engineer (1983–2002).

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

AIAA Lifetime Fellow (2007). Chair, Honors and Awards Committee (2019–present): Oversee premier awards; 70+ technical, best paper, publications/service awards; selection of Associate Fellows, Fellows and Honorary Fellows. Deputy Chair (2018–2019). Chair of Fellows Selection PAG (2019–2020), Member (2017–2018). Executive Co-Chair, Annual DEFENSE Forum (2015–present). VP, Finance (2015–2018). VP, Standards (2011–2014): Led all standards development, maintain ANSI certification. VP, Technical Activities (2008–2011): Led \$12+M portfolio of 75 technical committees, 7 program committees, 19 major conferences. Director, Information Systems (2005–2007). Program Chair, Complex Aerospace Systems Exchange (2012). Deputy Director, Information Systems (2003–2005). Chairman, Ground Testing Technical Committee (1998–2000). General Chair, 20th AIAA Aerodynamic Measurement and Ground Testing Conference (1998). Ground Testing Technical Committee (1990–1997). Technical Program Chair, 19th AIAA Aerospace Ground Testing Conference 1996.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

National Academy of Engineering (2019). Adjunct Faculty, Johns Hopkins Whiting School of Engineering Graduate Studies (4 courses, 2011–2020). University of Washington Aeronautics/Astronautics Engineering Visiting Committee 2015, 2016 (Report Author), 2020. Sandia National Laboratories Engineering Sciences Research Foundation External Review Board Member (2016–present). University of Washington Aeronautics/Astronautics Engineering Distinguished Alumna (2018). Arizona Biosciences Board Member (2016–present). University of Arizona Lunar and Planetary Laboratories Advisory Board Member (2013–present). Raytheon Principal Engineering Fellow (2010). Commendation Letter, U.S. Navy PMA-280 (2010). Raytheon Missile Systems Mentoring Excellence Award (2010). Commendation Letter PEO Strike Weapons and Unmanned Air Vehicles (2004).

President-Elect



George C. Nield
(AIAA Fellow)

Ever since its formal creation back in 1963, AIAA has enjoyed a well-deserved reputation for technical excellence. Going forward though, if we want to successfully live up to our tagline of “Shaping the Future of Aerospace,” we will need to continue to enhance our technical capabilities while working to be more innovative in our approaches, more agile in our decision making, more collaborative in our programs, and more responsive to the needs of our members and to changes in the world around us.

My priorities as your President will include strengthening our membership recruitment focus, with particular emphasis on attracting students and Young Professionals. We also have some work to do for our demographics to match the industry as a whole. I'd like to see if we can negotiate mutually

beneficial partnerships with a variety of aviation and space organizations, and learn from our recent experiences with virtual events to accelerate the rollout of additional online products and services. These initiatives will enable us to more effectively engage with the entire aerospace community, and provide significant benefits to stakeholders in government, industry, and academia, both within the U.S. and internationally.

BIOGRAPHY

M.S. and Ph.D. in Aeronautics and Astronautics, Stanford University. MBA, George Washington University. B.S. in Engineering Science, USAF Academy. Currently serve as President of Commercial Space Technologies, LLC. As the FAA's Associate Administrator for Commercial Space Transportation (2008–2018), was responsible for licensing and regulating all commercial launch activities. Prior to joining the FAA, served as Senior Scientist for the Advanced Programs Group at the Orbital Sciences Corporation. Previous assignments included working as an Astronautical Engineer at the Space and Missile Systems Organization, a Flight Test Engineer at the Air Force Flight Test Center, and an Assistant Professor and Research Director at the USAF Academy. Served as the Manager of the Flight Integration Office for the Space Shuttle Program at NASA Johnson Space Center, and later worked on both the Shuttle/Mir Program and the International Space Station Program.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Active member of AIAA for more than 45 years, including 14 years as an AIAA Fellow. Current Member of the Board of Trustees. Completed two terms on the AIAA Board of Directors as Director–Technical, Space & Missiles Group. Past member of Atmospheric Flight Mechanics Technical Committee. Faculty Advisor for the USAF Academy Student Branch. Served two terms as Chair of the AIAA Houston Section. Recipient of the AIAA Public Service Award (2018), AIAA Sustained Service Award (2003), and AIAA Special Service Citation (1996).

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Flight Test Engineering Graduate, USAF Test Pilot School. Commercial Instrument Pilot, with ratings for single and multi-engine airplanes and gliders. Elected Member, International Academy of Astronautics. Registered Professional Engineer (Colorado). Member, NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel. Space Transportation Association Leadership Award (2018). NASA Superior Achievement Award (1985). Air Force Flight Test Center Outstanding Officer of the Year (1977).

Director-Elect-Young Professionals Group



Alexandra Dukes
(AIAA Senior Member)

My passion as a leader within AIAA is focusing on the needs of our young professional members. With an increasing number of young professionals entering the workforce, it is important now more than ever to provide opportunities for our young professionals that empower them to grow and thrive within the aerospace industry. If elected, my focus will be on increasing leadership opportunities for young professionals, creating career growth and networking opportunities across the workforce generations, and strengthening the benefits of continuing membership with AIAA in the transition from student to young professional.

AIAA's greatest benefit for me has been breaking out of my professional bubble, including networking outside of my work circle and taking advantage of opportunities to learn about the industry outside of my day-to-day role. As young professional chair and vice chair within one of the largest sections of AIAA, I was devoted to increasing the active participation of our section's young professionals through creating events that were both beneficial and fun and creating leadership opportunities within the section, more often than not bringing the question "could a YP do that?" to council meetings. I will bring the same devotion to the national level of AIAA.

AIAA membership has greatly benefitted my career and the longer I am in the industry, the smaller the aerospace community seems. I strive to create a community that grows our young professionals to be active leaders within and outside of their professional roles and I would be grateful for the opportunity to do so as the director-elect within the Young Professionals Group.

BIOGRAPHY

B.S. and M.S. in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Purdue University. I am currently a software engineer for the Orion program at Lockheed Martin. While pathfinding my career, I worked at JPL, Gulfstream Aerospace Company, and KSC and served as crew journalist for Crew 202 on the Mars Desert Research Station.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Vice Chair, Rocky Mountain Section (2020–present). Young Professional Chair, Rocky Mountain Section (2018–2020). AIAA Section Awards, Young Professional Activity Award Winner - 2nd Place (2020), 3rd Place (2019). Lead of multiple events including AIAA RMS YP Movie Night with 100+ attendees, Artemis Program Panel with 100+ attendees, and a Lockheed Martin student tour for the local universities.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Lockheed Martin, Women's Impact Network (WIN), Member At Large & Professional Network Liaison (2018–2020). Lockheed Martin Diversity Day Site Lead (2020). Received several internal Lockheed Martin awards for leadership and support for our Business Resource Groups including WIN. Active volunteer for events focusing on career pathways for underrepresented employees and student outreach.

Director-Elect-Young Professionals Group



Kaela Martin
(AIAA Senior Member)

As a member of the Young Professionals Group (YPG) for the past four years, I was part of the YPG as it was reclassified from a committee to a group within AIAA. YPG currently attracts, involves, and retains Young Professionals (YPs) in AIAA primarily through events at forums. To attract and involve YPs, I'm interested in continuing and expanding virtual events for YPs who may find it difficult to travel to forums. For example, YPG could host virtual events to YPs on topics such as navigating your first job, deciding if you should attend graduate school, and networking with peers. To retain students in AIAA who are transitioning into the workforce, I plan to better communicate AIAA professional opportunities to student branches.

As the current chair of the YPG Membership and Awards Committee, I've had the opportunity to organize the evaluation process for YP awards and present the results to AIAA's Honors and Awards Committee. Additionally, I helped lead a current membership drive to add members to the YPG as well as streamline our process of onboarding new members. If elected to Director-Elect, I'd be excited to lead this group to continue its mission of welcoming new YPs to AIAA.

BIOGRAPHY

Currently an Associate Professor of Aerospace Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, AZ, and worked at Embry-Riddle since 2015. B.S. in Aerospace Engineering and Mathematics from Iowa State University and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Purdue University.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Committee Chair, Membership and Awards Committee (2019–present). Member, Young Professionals Group/Committee (2016–present).

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Faculty Senate Vice Speaker (2019–present). Embry-Riddle Prescott Distinguished Faculty Member (2019). Embry-Riddle Prescott Teaching Innovation Award (2018). Member of AAS (2015–present), SWE (2015–present), and ASEE (2015–present).

Director-Elect-Young Professionals Group



Cheryl O'Keefe
(AIAA Senior Member)

I have been part of the Young Professionals Committee (YPC) for a number of years and watched it transition into its new form as a Group. This affords us many new opportunities for growth and additional representation within AIAA. I would like to continue to broaden the inclusivity of the YPG as well as increase our connection with the other groups within AIAA. The YPG is a great home for all the active YPs within AIAA and a central point for groups hoping to reach more YPs within their community. As the future of AIAA, YPs should be integrated within the other communities to provide insight and suggestions to continue to help shape the future of AIAA for the generations to come.

BIOGRAPHY

I earned a B.S. in chemical engineering from the University of Arizona in 2012 and an M.S. in aerospace engineering with a focus in fluid dynamics and propulsion from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2014. After graduation, I joined the system engineering group MIT Lincoln Laboratory. While in that role, I received the Early Career award. I continued in that role working on space-based sensors and airborne systems until 2020, when I switched into the advanced systems and capabilities group within the ISR (intelligence surveillance reconnaissance) division. In my new role, I head up multiple projects for the U.S. Army as well as continuing to be a systems engineer for a spacecraft program. Within MIT Lincoln Laboratory, I am very active within diversity, recruiting, and STEM efforts as well as participating as both a mentee and mentor for students and/or employees.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Joined my local AIAA student branch at the University of Arizona as a chemical engineer in 2011. As an aerospace engineering graduate student, I became the AIAA Student Liaison to the (then) Board of Directors. My biggest accomplishment was having the graduate students be considered YPs due to the similarities in their priorities versus the traditional undergraduate student priorities. As the Student Liaison, I joined the YPC in 2014. After my term completed, I remained active in the YPG as a member of the Strategy and the Networking and Professional Development committees. Recently, I became the YP Advisor to the Board of Trustees, ending in 2021, where I provide a young professional perspective. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to be a session chair, panelist, and student paper competition judge at the 2014 AIAA SciTech Forum, published and presented papers at the AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference and AIAA DEFENSE Forum, as well as moderate Charlie Bolden at the 2020 AIAA Virtual Graduation for graduating seniors.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Additionally, I am also a member of the SWE as well as a recruiting lead for MIT LL for the University of Colorado. I also assisted in planning the 2020 MIT LL APETS conference where I curated sessions and brought in external speakers.

Director–Region III



Peggy A. Cornell
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

I am running for Region III Director to have the honor to serve you, guide you, and represent the Central Region to be a champion for our achievements. I initiated my Acting Region Director term by recognizing the gaps in our regional leadership team and have been working hard to successfully fill each of the four previous vacancies, accomplishing the goal of making our leadership and committee representation whole.

If elected, I will leverage my NASA, military and AIAA leadership experience to continue bringing our most valuable asset, the people, together to achieve collaboration and growth in the aerospace community.

AIAA's vision is to be the voice of the aerospace profession through innovation, technical excellence, and global leadership. Achieving that vision begins with our boots on the ground, the professionals in each region supporting us in industry, government, and academia. My priority and goals are to further engage those grassroots including our students, promote STEM, membership growth and recognition, and work with our leadership team to continue to mature our region's contributions and value.

BIOGRAPHY

For 26 years I've had the privilege of contributing to aeronautics and space research through the diversity of hands-on technical experience, test engineering, and project management. My current role is Deputy Project Manager for the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Integration in the National Airspace System Project, aimed at integrating UAS into the national airspace. Early in my career, I was a technician supporting aeronautics testing while concurrently serving my country as a Jet Engine Mechanic in the USNR and AFRES for nine years. After earning my B.S. in Physics, I became an engineer then Technical Lead testing and researching for Radioisotope Power Systems. I earned my M.S. in Mechanical Engineering and transitioned into project management, where I've been in leadership supporting electrified aircraft, UAS, various early-stage technologies, and advanced air vehicles at NASA GRC and HQ.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

I'm a highly motivated Associate Fellow and Acting Region III Director (effective May 2020) who joined AIAA as a student in 1992. Service has included holding Council/Officer positions for over a decade in the Northern Ohio Section including Chair (winning Outstanding Section awards), Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer, Section Newsletter Editor, and Section Webmaster.

Further, I'm currently the Treasurer and Member of the Electrified Aircraft Technology Technical Committee, have provided early support of the Green Engineering Integration Committee, and am a READ Diversity & Inclusion Representative. In support of STEM, I've judged presentations for Regional Student Conferences, helped students during Young Astronauts Day and have mentored several YPs and students. I've organized and chaired numerous AIAA conference technical sessions, provided peer reviews, organized community distinguished lectures, and authored/published/presented multiple conference papers.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Present: Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA); American Society of Mechanical Engineers; Women in Aviation, Intl. (former Treasurer, Cleveland Chapter); Women in Aerospace. Former: Chair, Interagency Advanced Power Group Aerospace Power Panel (2014–2020); Chair, GRC Veterans Awareness Committee (2012–2015); Propulsion & Power Systems Alliance (2013–2015); NASA Group Honor Awards (2008–2017); NASA Performance Awards (2000–2019); Military Awards (1997–2007).

Director–Region III



Eric J. Ruggiero
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

Ut prosim, “that I may serve,” is at the core of who I am and defines my approach to leadership in all aspects of my life professionally and personally. If elected as Director of Region III, I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with and directly invest in the spectrum of aerospace talent across the region. At the onset, I have three key goals in mind with this role: 1) Advocating for collaborative aerospace technology development initiatives of mutual importance to academia, industry, and government; 2) Promoting mentorship programs, STEM initiatives, and enhanced networking opportunities to invest in our region’s talent; and 3) Recognizing and honoring distinguished AIAA members and their marked accomplishments throughout Region III. Through these three tenets – technology, networking, and recognition – I hope to help forge and empower a robust, diverse pipeline of aerospace talent for the region and for AIAA.

BIOGRAPHY

A gas turbine engine technology enthusiast who graduated with a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Tech in 2005 as an NSF Graduate Research Fellow, and then joined GE Research in New York. Over nine years at GE Research: pioneered advanced sealing technologies for Oil & Gas, GE Power, and GE Aviation products; invented fiber optic sensors for in-situ health and thrust monitoring applications; and championed novel cooling technologies for gas turbine durability. In 2014, transitioned to GE Aviation (Cincinnati, OH) to lead the thermal design team in Services Engineering. Most recently, moved to Military Engineering at GE Aviation and leads a large, diverse team responsible for next-generation exhaust system design and technology strategy. Published over 30 peer-reviewed manuscripts and awarded more than 25 U.S. and international patents.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

AIAA Gas Turbine Engine Technical Committee (TC Vice-Chair, 2020–); AIAA Region III Associate Fellow Nomination Review Chair (2018–2020); Cincinnati-Dayton Section (member, 2014–present); Chair of Northeastern New York Section (2008–2014); Coordinated inaugural Capitol Mechanical Engineering & Energy Symposium in Albany, NY (2013); AIAA/NASA Glenn Seals Workshop (invited, 2006–2010); AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference (Track Chair, 2010–2012); AIAA Young Professional Committee member (2005–2008). AIAA Journal reviewer. Awarded 2018 AIAA Dayton-Cincinnati Section Outstanding Management Contribution Award, 2013 Lawrence Sperry Award, 2010 Region I Engineer of the Year Society Inductee, and 2004 AIAA Foundation Adaptive Structures Graduate Student Award.

OTHER ACTIVITIES & AWARDS

ASME Fellow and Lifetime Member; ASME Heat Transfer Technical Committee member (2011–present); ASME Adaptive Structures TC member (2005–2020); ASME Smart Materials, Adaptive Structures, and Intelligent Systems (Symposium Chair, 2012–2016); Founder, Active Material Technologies and Integrated Systems TC (AMTIS, 2012); Ephraim Garcia Best Paper Award Subcommittee (2016–2020); ASME Early Career Committee member (2008–2010); 2017 National Academy of Engineers EU-US Frontiers of Engineering Symposium invitee (1 of 60 EU/US participants); 2011 SPIE Invited Plenary Speaker.

Director–Region VI



Melinda E. Tolle
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

As your Region VI Director, I will be the voice of and for Region VI sections and student branches across: industry, academia, government, and other professional organizations. Connecting our sections and student branches is vital especially during this challenging time. Many of us are working/studying remotely for the first time and personally need to feel more connected than ever. This inspires AIAA to find and utilize new ways to engage our members. Online meetings, events, panel discussions, emails trying new formats, spanning larger distances, and more actively virtually engaging us with the use of technology. All of this helps us create a growing network – a better connected community of professionals. Going forward we will build upon our new ideas and continue to add value for our members as the world’s largest aerospace technical society.

BIOGRAPHY

Chief Engineer and Aeronautical Engineering Manager for Strategic Programs (Navy D5 and AF RSLP) Promontory Campus of Northrop Grumman. Previous experiences include engineering and leadership roles for Navy, AF, Commercial, and NASA customers.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Active member since 1998. Continuing service to AIAA includes: Region VI Associate Fellows selection committee, Foundation Ad Hoc STEM Committee Chair, Liaison from Membership Committee to STEM Outreach Committee, Recognizing Our Educators Selection Committee, Chair and member Membership Standing Committee, Region and Section Activities Committee, Region VI Deputy Director for Membership, invited speaker for the Regional Leadership Conference, Section Chairperson, multiple Section Council Offices (including numerous school & state science fairs), received Annual Section Awards for our section, Utah Section Engineer of the Year (twice), nominate /recommend members for advancement, Technical Session Chair; Special Service Citation for years of Dedication and Outstanding Service.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Adjunct Instructor for the Manufacturing Technology Department of WSU, Utah Engineering Council Executive Council Member, Nominee for State of Utah Engineer of the Year (twice), ASQ (Senior Member) Section Chair, and several other section offices. Invited speaker for Quality Symposiums and section meetings. Alpha Nu Sigma Honor Society President. Multiple Achievement Awards for Individual and Multi-Disciplined Team recognition for Now NGC. CMII certification, ASQ CQMgr, ASQ CQE, U of U M.S. Mechanical Engineering 1988, B.S. Physics 1986, B.S. Geophysics 1986, minor in Mathematics. Life learner and mentor in Management, Quality, Reliability, and Advanced Statistics. SWE, NGWIN, First Class Girl Scout (Equivalent to a Boy Scout Eagle) Merit badge counselor for both Girl and Boy Scouts, Member of Church Council

Director–Region VI



Oleg A. Yakimenko
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

Aerospace has always been my passion and became the foundation of my professional career. For the past two decades I have had the opportunity and privilege to serve AIAA in a variety of capacities including being a member of one of its technical committees and book series board, as well as being part of the Regional Activities Committee of the Western United States. I first served on the Region VI RAC as a Chair of the Point Lobos Section and for the past decade as a Deputy Director of Education. This experience gives me a good grasp of the composition and challenges of our region. With 15 professional sections, our region covers nine western states including Alaska and Hawaii. Thirteen professional sections help to organize activities in over 30 student branches. We have a state that has nine sections in it and a section that covers four states, thousands of miles apart. Every year we move our annual Regional Student

Paper Conference to a new location with the goal of reenergizing student branches and local sections, exposing a variety of aerospace-related educational programs and local industries, establishing new contacts, and providing opportunities to communicate, collaborate and grow.

A recently-adopted new governance model provides opportunities for a broader and deeper integration of different parts of AIAA, which includes interactions of student branches with local sections, local sections with RACs and HQ. If elected I will make sure everyone knows about these opportunities and uses them for their advantage. We will expand the best practices to communicate and continue our activities developed during the challenging COVID era and work on returning to/revising the old approaches. We will work toward recruiting new student members and retaining them as young professional members via a deeper incorporation with the technical part of AIAA, via creating more opportunities for senior members to share their fascinating stories, passion, and experience. I want every member of our region to see AIAA as a whole, be connected and active, and share pride of being part of the great team.

BIOGRAPHY

B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Aerospace Engineering from Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology; Two Ph.D. degrees (in Aerospace Engineering and Operations Research). 35 years of research and development experience conducting a variety of projects for the Navy, Air Force, Army, and NASA. Earlier area of concentration included working on the GNC system for a 5th generation fighter jet, lately – working on GNC of unmanned air, surface, and underwater vehicles, satellites, guided weapons, and parachutes. 32 years of graduate and doctoral teaching graduating over a dozen of Ph.D. and over a hundred of M.Sc. students. Authored and coauthored over 300 technical publications including books for the AIAA Progress in Astronautics and Aeronautics Series and AIAA Education Series, papers for the Journal of Guidance, Control, and Dynamics and Journal of Aircraft; 12 patents. Currently serve as the Associate Dean of Research at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, holding a joint appointment in the Systems Engineering and Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering Department; Distinguished Professor.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Lifetime Associate Fellow (2002); Sustained Service Award (2020); Currently a Chair of the Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Technical Committee (2019–present), Deputy Director of Education for Region VI (since 2011), Member of the Progress Series Editorial Advisory Board (since 2006), Member of Aircraft Technology, Integration and Operations Group of TAD and Student Branch Committee of READ (since 2019). Previously served as Member of the Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Technical Committee (since 2005), Chair of the Point Lobos Section (2006–2011), General Chair and Technical Co-Chair for several Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems Technology Conferences (2015, 2013, 2011).

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

International conference organizer and plenary speaker, Editor for several journals, including the Journal of Unmanned Systems, and the International Journal of Advanced Robotic Systems; international scientific journals reviewer; Member of Monterey County Sheriff's Office Aero Squadron. Recipient of the 2019 Richard Hamming Interdisciplinary Award, several Best Paper Awards from IEEE, SAE, and ITEC; several Air Force medals.

Director–Aerospace Design and Structures Group



Jeanette L. Domber
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

I have personally benefited from AIAA's mission "to help aerospace professionals and their organizations succeed." My first job was a result of AIAA networking when I presented my first conference paper as a master's student. I seek to help AIAA succeed at its goals by building on the tremendous work that has already been accomplished within the Aerospace Design and Structures Group (ADSG), of which I have been a participant for 15+ years. If AIAA seeks success in their strategic goals to assure financial stability and to retain and increase membership, we need to collaboratively ensure the Institute's relevancy to its current and future members.

To accomplish these goals, I will work to strengthen the sharing of best practices and lessons learned from the ADSG technical committees across the Institute, while ADSG has an opportunity to learn from other parts of AIAA. Cross-discipline collaboration gives all of us an opportunity to expand our horizons, find novel solutions, and reenergize our enthusiasm for participation, whether that is at a forum or local meeting. Further, it is important to incorporate feedback from all constituencies of AIAA, which serves professionals and students, a global membership, and those employed in the government, academic, and industrial sectors of the profession. I will work directly with the ADSG TCs to understand what can improve their member experience and recruiting success to increase diversity, including diversity of thought, and ensure that the volunteers who contribute so much to the Institute feel appreciated and are fully integrated in helping AIAA and its members succeed.

BIOGRAPHY

Over 20+ years of experience in space systems, 15+ years at Ball Aerospace in Boulder, CO. Experience includes: Lead structural analyst for precision instruments including Hubble Servicing Mission 4 efforts (Wide Field Camera 3, Cosmic Origins Spectrograph, Space Telescope Imaging Spectrometer repair, Advanced Camera for Surveys repair); Sensor Test for Orion Rel-Nav Risk Mitigation systems engineer and integrated product team lead; Membrane Optic Imager Real-Time Exploitation chief systems engineer and program manager; Imaging X-ray Polarimeter Experiment phase A study payload lead; currently Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope Wide Field Instrument deputy program manager for the optical mechanical assembly. B.S. in Aerospace Engineering, Case Western Reserve University. M.S. and Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering Sciences, University of Colorado at Boulder.

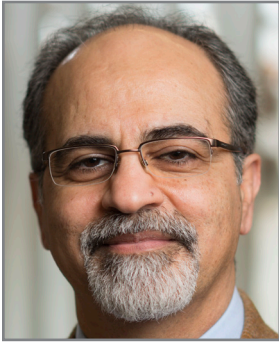
AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Associate Fellow; Lifetime Member; Sustained Service Award; Technical Activities Division Aerospace Design and Structures Group Deputy Director for Forums, Structures; Structures TC Chair, Vice Chair, Procedures Subcommittee Chair; SciTech ADSG Technical Forum Chair; SDM Structures Technical Chair; JSR Associate Editor

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

NASA Engineering & Safety Center Structures Technical Discipline Team; SPIE Senior Member; AAS Member; WIA Member; Museum of Boulder Board; Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Aerospace Engineering Industrial Advisory Board; National Academy of Engineering's Frontiers of Engineering Symposium; Ball Go Beyond Excellence Award; Ball Engineering Excellence Award; NASA Space Flight Awareness Leadership Award

Director–Aerospace Design and Structures Group



Masoud Rais-Rohani (AIAA Associate Fellow)

The future of AIAA as the premier aerospace professional society depends to a large extent on our collective efforts and success in boosting interest and involvement of professionals in the Institute. As Aerospace Design and Structures (AD&S) Group director, I will work closely with each affiliated technical committee (TC) to identify opportunities and eliminate barriers whereby our TC members can engage with the broader aerospace community and make their TC affiliation more professionally fulfilling.

Based on personal experience serving on multiple TCs, I have observed that discussions tend to be mostly conference/forum centric. Through an inclusive process, I will expand and strengthen inter-TC collaboration while pursuing alternate avenues for organizing joint programs with other AIAA technical groups as well as AIAA regions and sections. In addition to preserving a very strong presence at SciTech and AVIATION Forums, the Technical Activities Division (TAD) relies heavily on the expertise and contributions of diverse groups of volunteers who serve on the ten AD&S TCs in other functions, including short courses, regional conferences, student competitions, and community engagement.

Despite the challenges of the virtual format in recent forums, I will engage TAD in applying the lessons learned to enable AIAA to expand its member services and increase accessibility. I will actively pursue initiatives that can support and motivate young professionals and students as future scientists and engineers with passion for aeronautics or astronautics. There are immense opportunities ahead, and I would be honored to serve the AIAA community as the next AD&S technical group director.

BIOGRAPHY

Over 30 years of combined experience as an engineering educator, mentor, researcher, and administrator with three degrees in Aerospace Engineering, including a Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. An endowed Professor and Chair of Mechanical Engineering at University of Maine (2017–present) with prior experience as aerospace engineering faculty (1991–2016) and Associate Dean for Research (2013–2015) at Mississippi State. A registered Professional Engineer with prior engagements as Boeing Welliver Faculty Fellow (2008), and Summer Faculty Fellow at NASA Marshall (2004) and NASA Langley (1993, 1994). Research activities have been mainly in areas of design optimization and structural mechanics with over 130 publications on related topics.

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

A Lifetime member and Associate Fellow of AIAA, currently serve as a Deputy Director of AD&S (2014–present), a member of Technical Initiatives Subcommittee (2018–present), and formerly New Initiatives Subcommittee (2014–2017). Tech Chair for the 18th Non-Deterministic Approaches Conference and a member of multiple TCs, including Non-Deterministic Approaches (2012–present), MDO (1995–1998), and Aircraft Design (1995–1997). Recipient of Konrad Dannenberg Educator Award (AIAA AL-MS Section, 2011), AIAA Design/Build/Fly faculty advisor (2001), and over 60 AIAA publications.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Member of several technical societies, very active in ASEE with service as Program Chair and Chair in Aerospace and Mechanics Divisions. Recipient of multiple teaching, research, and best paper awards, including Hearin Professor of Engineering and John Grisham Master Teacher awards from Mississippi State and Best ASEE Mechanics Division Paper Award (2008).

Director–Aerospace Sciences Group



Chris Cotting
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

I remember joining AIAA as an undergraduate student full of imagination as to where my career partnered with AIAA could take me. The time I have spent in AIAA has allowed me to connect with world-leading experts in my discipline to foster mentorship, friendships, and collaboration. As I see my mentors retiring from the discipline, I feel a sense of urgency to foster those same relationships between our younger members and our active discipline leadership. It is this focus that I would like to bring to the forefront of the Aerospace Sciences Group.

Our current time presents challenges that we have all faced with remote working and remote conferences. These challenges give us motivation to experiment with new means of electronic engagement that can be used to reach those that would otherwise not be reachable. We should expand our use of electronic media for engagement, especially to reach out to our younger members.

When we do all get back together, I want to focus on finding ways to make our events feel smaller by providing opportunities for our membership to connect with each other. Making time during an event for younger members to interact with technical committees and their paper award winners should be a priority as well as designating booths and online chat rooms where people can go to ask: where should I go for my interest area?

BIOGRAPHY

USAF Test Pilot School Flight Sciences department head (2011–present), also managing the upgrade of the NF-16D VISTA variable stability aircraft. Multiple flight test programs testing advanced flight control projects. Rewrote the flying qualities curriculum at USAF TPS, bringing it up to modern standards. (2005–2001) NASA Dryden Flight Research Center, Chief Engineer for X-43C, GNC flight test support for X-43A and X-43A MIB. HALE ROA aircraft project design. (1997–2001) Lockheed Martin Skunkworks, X-33 GNC, and X-35B STOVL IFPC flight control. Virginia Tech, Ph.D. (2010) with research into UAS flying qualities criteria; Mississippi State University, M.S. (1997), B.S. (1995).

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Member since 1991, Atmospheric Flight Mechanics TC Chair (2017–2019), Atmospheric Flight Mechanics Discipline Chair for AIAA SciTech (2016, 2014), AFM Best Paper award (January 2017, January 2005).

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

7 time winner of the Robert L. Wenning Outstanding Academic Instructor of the Year Award, USAF Test Pilot School, 2015 Richard G. Cross Education Award International Test and Evaluation Society, 2018 Outstanding Science and Engineering Educator Award, US Air Force.

Director–Aerospace Sciences Group



Lesley A. Weitz
(AIAA Associate Fellow)

AIAA has faced declining membership in an increasingly digitally-connected world. The COVID-19 pandemic caused further disruption to our traditional ways of networking and learning from colleagues as forums shifted to virtual formats. Given these challenges, AIAA's Technical Activities Division (TAD) has an opportunity to drive innovation in how we network, mentor, and learn from each other in a virtual world and in person. The inputs from the Technical Committees (TCs) must be heard and incorporated in AIAA's strategic vision. We must be open to new ideas and opportunities, while clearly communicating what we cannot compromise, like recognizing eminent and rising aerospace professionals through technical excellence awards and technical plenary sessions at events.

As Director of the Aerospace Sciences Group (ASG), my priority will be to elevate and implement innovative ideas from the ASG TCs. I will work with the other TAD Directors and AIAA staff to address concerns when we are not serving our membership. We must be open to re-thinking how the aerospace community can connect, collaborate, innovate, and influence the future of our industry and profession. We must be willing to take risks and try new ideas, and we must be agile based on what works and what does not.

My roles, first as a TC Chair and now as an ASG Deputy Director, have provided me the experience of working within AIAA policies and procedures and with staff to affect positive change on behalf of ASG TCs. As ASG Director, I promise to communicate, listen, and take action to support the TCs in achieving their goals.

BIOGRAPHY

Aerospace Engineering M.S., Ph.D. from Texas A&M University; Mechanical Engineering B.S. from University at Buffalo. Eleven years at The MITRE Corporation working on next-generation air traffic systems, including avionics and air traffic control decision support systems, with specializations in trajectory prediction and uncertainty quantification and fast-time simulation for performance evaluation. Technical project leadership and mentorship of internal and cross-organizational teams (40+ people). Chair of RTCA Special Committee-186 Working Group-4 (RTCA is a government/industry venue that addresses critical aviation modernization issues).

AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Active Member (2005–present); Associate Fellow (2017); ASG Deputy Director (2018–present); Chair of TAD Technical Integration Subcommittee (TIS) (2019–present); TAD Liaison to Ethics Committee (2020–present); Diversity & Inclusion Award, accepted on behalf of Guidance, Navigation, and Control (GNC) TC (2017); Chair (2016–2018), Secretary and Vice Chair (2014–2016) of GNC TC; GNC Conference Technical Program Co-Chair (2012).

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Outstanding Young Aerospace Engineer, Texas A&M University Alumni Academy (2018); NASA Group Achievement Award – Air Traffic Management Technology Demonstration Research and Flight Test Team (2018); Outstanding Leader Award-RTCA Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Flight-deck Interval Management (2016); George W. Thorn Award for Outstanding Alumni under 40, University at Buffalo (2014); Significant Contributor Award-RTCA Safety, Performance, and Interoperability Requirements Document for Airborne Spacing-Flight-deck Interval Management; University at Buffalo Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department Advisory Board (2012–present).