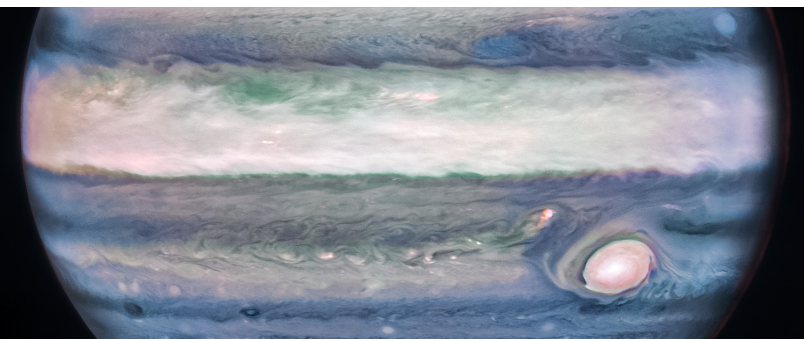


2024 AIAA ELECTION GUIDE

# MEET THE CANDIDATES



ELECTION OPEN  
[ 29 JANUARY-23 FEBRUARY 2024 ]

VOTE ONLINE: [aiaa.org/vote](https://aiaa.org/vote)

# ELECTION OPEN

## [ 29 JANUARY-23 FEBRUARY 2024 ]

The Council Nominating Committee has assembled an outstanding slate of candidates. Please 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.

### COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS

#### REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES DIVISION

- Region I
- Region II
- Region III
- Region IV
- Region V
- Region VI
- Region VII

#### INTEGRATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES DIVISION

- Aerospace Outreach Group
- Business & Management Group
- Integration Group
- International Activities Group
- Young Professionals Group

#### TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES DIVISION

- Aerospace Design & Structures Group
- Aerospace Sciences Group
- Aircraft Technology Integration & Ops Group
- Information Systems Group
- Propulsion and Energy Group
- Space and Missiles Group

# REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES DIVISION

Regions coordinate the activities of geographically related sections to facilitate cooperative efforts between the various geographical areas. A Regional Director shall lead each region. The voting members who belong to that region shall elect the Regional Director for that region. The Regional Director for each group shall be a member of the Regional Engagement Activities Division (READ) as well as a delegate to the Council of Directors. The term for Regional Directors shall be three years and there shall be a limit of the Regional Director serving two consecutive terms.

As a Member of the Council, a Regional Director's primary responsibility is to serve the Institute as a whole; a secondary responsibility is lead and support the Sections, Student Branches and Members in their Region. A Regional Director serves in several different capacities; voting member of the Council of Directors, voting member of the Regional Engagement Activities Division (READ), and chair of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC). As the leader of the Region, the Regional Director must be dedicated and recognize the obligation implicit in filling the position and be willing to expend the requisite time and energy. Directors must be self-motivated and initiate actions as necessary and anticipate and resolve problems, as well as being an effective communicator, having the ability to relate to and communicate with people of varying status (from junior engineers to corporate executives). Directors should be organized and familiar with AIAA's organizational structure and procedures. The importance of strong leadership in this voluntary role cannot be overemphasized. All the Section Chairs within the Region, and the Deputy Directors look to the Regional Director for guidance.



LEARN MORE  
[aiaa.org/get-involved/regions-sections](https://aiaa.org/get-involved/regions-sections)



## Peggy Cornell

AIAA ASSOCIATE FELLOW

I am running for re-election as Region III Director to again have the honor to serve you, guide you, and represent the Central Region to be a champion for our achievements. My first term, among other successes, included

recognizing the gaps in our regional leadership team and filling vacancies to make our regional Deputy Director representation whole. I also successfully helped rebuild some of the sections' leadership committees.

If re-elected, I will continue to mature our sections and leverage my NASA, military, and AIAA leadership experience to help us advance in the aerospace community. I look forward to strengthening AIAA collaboration through member participation and will lead by example through my continued involvement in IOCs/TCs/READ.

My vision for Region III is to benefit the grassroots members. My priority and goals are to further engage our students; promote STEM, membership growth, and recognition; and work with our leadership to continue to advance our region's contributions and value.

### BIOGRAPHY

For 29 years I've contributed to aeronautics and space through the diversity of hands-on technical experience, test engineering,

and aeronautics project management. My current role is Deputy Chief of the Aeronautics Mission Office at NASA Glenn Research Center. Early in my career, I was a technician supporting aeronautics and serving my country as a Jet Engine Mechanic in the USNR and AFRES. After earning my B.S. in Physics, I focused on research and test engineering in Radioisotope Power Systems. I earned my M.S. in Mechanical Engineering and transitioned into aeronautics project management, where I've been in leadership supporting commercial supersonics, electrified aircraft, unmanned aircraft systems, vertical flight vehicles, early-stage technologies, and advanced air vehicles at NASA. Current/former activities/honors are in RTCA, ASME, WIA, WAI, IAPG, PPSA, GRC Veterans Awareness Committee, NASA Distinguished Performance Awards, NASA Group Honor Awards, and Distinguished Military Awards.

### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

I'm a highly motivated Associate Fellow and Regional Director who joined AIAA as a student in 1992. My service has included numerous section leadership positions including Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Communications Officer, Section Newsletter Editor, Section Webmaster, and TC/IOC positions. I'm a READ Diversity & Inclusion Representative, and in support of STEM, I annually judge presentations and papers at Regional Student Conferences and mentor YPs and students. I've organized and chaired numerous AIAA conference technical sessions, provided peer reviews, organized distinguished lectures, and authored/published/presented multiple technical papers.



## Cristian Calugarita

AIAA SENIOR MEMBER

The helm of any AIAA Regional leadership can only be bestowed to long-time proven, trusted leaders—the visionaries, organizers, the standard bearers of their kind! Your vote is not about spending a lifetime clustered in a

lab or research center, etc., whom we respect so greatly. It's strictly about leadership and I AM THE PROVEN leader. Vote for me!

My priority is engaging and aggressively supporting all sections' interests by increasing sections' outreach through effective communication and developing new programs, through virtual online and hybrid events, working closer with all technical committees and special groups (Young Professionals, Women of Aeronautics and Astronautics, etc.). All sections shall form a strong lucrative bond by communicating new ideas, strategies, and lessons learned by initiating itinerant programs (Distinguished Lecturers, Creativity and Innovation, and others) hosted successively or simultaneously by all sections. My mission for promoting the AIAA's Region VI is to grow the number of sponsors and participants, from academia to aerospace, Distinguished Fellows, and leading corporations.

### BIOGRAPHY

MSME, Technical University of Bucharest, School of Mechanical Engineering and Robotics; alumni of UCLA and Cal State Dominguez Hills specializing in professional program management. Led important programs such as Airborne Laser, Trident II D5, F22/Raptor and F35/Joint Strike Fighter aircraft, and many others. Lobbied Congress for the expansion of NATO in Eastern Europe. Designed the turboexpander used to test the components of the missile ballistic shield of the Strategic Defense Initiative Program. Columnist of *World Tech News* of the "Science and Technology" Magazine (Europe). Senior member of American Society of Mechanical Engineers, served as Chair of ASME Los Angeles Section, Director of Fluid Machinery Division LA, Chair of ASME Region IX Special Projects, Government Relations Chairman, Director of Heat Transfer Division, Los Angeles. Published tens of technical essays in the Mechanical Engineering publications in Los Angeles. Co-organized International Congress of Mechanical Engineers (San Francisco) and Regional ASME Conference (Honolulu). Recipient of Honeywell Aerospace Star Award & Bronze Award, Lockheed Martin THAAD Launch Award, as well as numerous leadership awards.

### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

AIAA Senior Member, active in Los Angeles-Las Vegas Section. Participated in multiple programs, including "Mission to Mars" book launch and banquet offered by AIAA in honor of and with the participation of celebrated scientist and astronaut Gen. Buzz Aldrin. Co-chairman of 10th Annual International Conference "Reinventing Space" (2013), Marina del Rey, California, Session III, Payloads, with the participation of Lockheed Martin, Harris Corp, Earth Observatory Group, SSBV Aerospace and Technology Group (Holland), and others.



## Oleg A. Yakimenko

AIAA FELLOW

I have had the honor of serving AIAA in a variety of capacities and gained a good understanding of composition, challenges, and opportunities of our region. With 15 local sections, Region VI covers the nine westernmost U.S. states

and two states of Canada. Our region is quite diverse – we have a state with nine local sections and a local section that covers four states. We have very small, small, medium, large, and very large sections. Similar diversity applies to over 30 student branches. There is a local section that helps to organize activities in seven student branches while two sections have no student branches. There are two student branches with over a hundred student members in each and about a dozen student branches struggling to maintain even a minimum number of student members.

If re-elected, I will continue my efforts to exploit these diversities, and identify and share the best approaches and practices to motivate interest in a professional career in aerospace and promote the values of AIAA. Within the region, we will continue our work of recruiting new student members and retaining them as young professional members via a broader interaction of student branches with local sections and deeper incorporation of local sections with the technical part of AIAA. This includes participation in the three AIAA Domains to help accelerate innovation and progress in the 21st century. We will try to create more opportunities for senior members to share their fascinating stories, passion, and experience, as well as ensure that every member of our region sees AIAA as a whole, stays connected and active, and shares pride of being part of a great team.

### BIOGRAPHY

Ph.D. degrees in Aerospace Engineering and Operations Research; Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Systems Engineering Department and Director of UAS Research Activities at the Naval Postgraduate School. 41 years of R&D experience conducting a variety of projects for the Navy, Air Force, Army, and NASA in the area of GNC of unmanned air, surface, and underwater vehicles, satellites, guided weapons, and parachutes. Almost four decades of graduate and doctoral teaching experience. Author and coauthor of 320 publications.

### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Region VI Director (2022–2024) and Deputy Director of Education (2011–2021); Chair of the Point Lobos Section (2006–2011); Chair (2019–2022) and Member (since 2005) of the Aerodynamic Decelerator Systems (ADS) Technical Committee; Member of the Progress Series Editorial Advisory Board (since 2006); General Chair and Technical Co-Chair for several ADS Technology Conferences (2011, 2013, 2015, 2022). Sustained Service Award (2020), Lifetime Fellow (2021).

# TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES DIVISION

Technical Groups coordinate the activities of related technical committees to facilitate cooperative efforts between the various technical disciplines. A Technical Director shall lead each Technical Group. All voting members shall elect the Technical Directors. The Technical Director for each group shall be a member of the Technical Activities Division (TAD) as well as a delegate to the Council of Directors. The term for Technical Directors shall be three years and there shall be a limit of the Technical Director serving two consecutive terms.

As a Member of the Council, a Technical Director's primary responsibility is to serve the Institute as a whole; a secondary responsibility is lead and support the committees and members in their directorate group. A Technical Director serves in several different capacities; voting member of the Council of Directors, and voting member of the Technical Activities Division (TAD). As the leader of the Group, the Technical Director must be dedicated and recognize the obligation implicit in filling the position and be willing to expend the requisite time and energy. Directors must be self-motivated and initiate actions as necessary and anticipate and resolve problems, as well as being an effective communicator, having the ability to relate to and communicate with people of varying status (from junior engineers to corporate executives). Directors should be organized and familiar with AIAA's organizational structure and procedures. The importance of strong leadership in this voluntary role cannot be overemphasized. All the directorate's committee chairs, and the Deputy Directors within the group look to the Technical Director for guidance.



LEARN MORE  
[aiaa.org/get-involved/committees-groups/  
technical-committees](https://aiaa.org/get-involved/committees-groups/technical-committees)



## Dawn Phillips

AIAA ASSOCIATE FELLOW

I have been an advocate for the technical community of AIAA since serving on the organizing committee for the 2013 SDM Conference. Since that time, whether in an official position or not, colleagues have come to me with questions, concerns, feedback, and suggestions for what the TCs can and should be doing and how the forums can best serve the membership. As I have served in various leadership positions, I have been better positioned to be a voice for the community. That is my goal and my pledge if elected – to continue to be that voice. It is important for the volunteers, who are the backbone of this organization, to know that their input is heard and communicated. As simple as it sounds, I always read my emails from AIAA colleagues to make sure I don't miss something and always stop in the hallways at forums and other events when someone wants to talk, whether it's a simple question or whether it turns into an involved discussion. If I have answers, I provide them; if I don't, I find them. Through good working relationships with the AIAA membership, leadership, volunteers, and staff, I have always followed through and fully intend to keep up that track record.

### BIOGRAPHY

I spent most of my career directly in the Structures discipline with NASA. Recently, I transferred to the Chief Engineers' Office at Marshall Space Flight Center where I am delegated technical authority for International Space Station and other exploration projects. I was also asked to be a deputy technical fellow for the NASA Engineering and Safety Center Structures Technical Discipline Team.

### ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

I am an Associate Fellow of AIAA, a Fellow of ASME, and the recipient of a 2023 AIAA Sustained Service Award. I have been on the SDM/SciTech organizing committee three times, once at the TC level, twice at the Group level, served as a region representative on the Associate Fellows Selection Committee for four years, and was Structures TC Chair from 2018 to 2020. I also helped as an AIAA special category judge at the regional science fair in Huntsville for several years. As a current deputy director for the Aerospace Design & Structures Group, I have been deeply involved in the conversations and actions around re-establishing the sense of community at AIAA SciTech Forum, including creating a new group-wide best paper award and leading the effort to select the first-ever winner.



## Masoud Rais-Rohani

AIAA ASSOCIATE FELLOW

I have witnessed AIAA evolve over many years into an organization that strives to be more resilient and responsive to the expectations of its diverse members and the broader aerospace community.

If I have the honor of serving as the next AD SG director, I will initiate a dialog to better understand each TC's concerns and aspirations and explore ways to overcome their challenges. Within TAD, I will aim to preserve the TCs' central role in shaping the technical programs while identifying strategies to boost participation and technical discourse at AIAA forums. I will work to enhance inter-group communications and facilitate AD SG-Domains collaborations to enable AIAA better serve its members by offering quality, impact, and value.

Recognizing the need to involve more students and young professionals in AIAA technical activities, I will also explore ways that TCs can help support various bridge programs with regions and sections to foster a deeper interest in AIAA.

### BIOGRAPHY

A devoted educator, researcher, and mentor with over 35 years of professional experience. Endowed professor and chair of mechanical engineering at the University of Maine (2017–present). Professor emeritus of aerospace and computational engineering, and former associate dean for research at Mississippi State. A registered professional engineer with multiple fellowships at NASA (Langley and Marshall) and a Welliver fellowship at Boeing. B.S. and M.S. from Mississippi State; Ph.D. from Virginia Tech, all in aerospace engineering. Affiliated with several technical societies. Served as Division Chair and Program Chair in Aerospace and Mechanics divisions of ASEE. Peer reviewer for numerous journals, proposals, and programs. Multiple teaching, research, and paper awards, including Hearin Professor of Engineering, Eminent Scholar, and John Grisham Master Teacher awards from Mississippi State.

### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

A lifetime AIAA member and Associate Fellow. AD SG Deputy Director (2014–2023), and a member of Technical Integration Subcommittee and New Initiatives Subcommittee. Organized an AIAA TC outreach program that resulted in more than doubling the TC membership applications (2021). Tech Chair and Deputy Tech Chair for the 18th and 17th AIAA NDA Conferences (2014–2016). Active member of three TCs (NDA, 2012–present; MDO, 1995–1998; and Aircraft Design, 1995–1997) and several associated subcommittees. Served as a session chair, reviewer, author/co-author, and presenter numerous times in over 30 AIAA conferences/forums combined. Contributed to several Year-in-Review articles, served as a peer reviewer for three AIAA journals, and Design/Build/Fly faculty advisor. AIAA Certificate of Appreciation (2023) and the Konrad Dannenberg Educator Award (2011).



### M. Christopher Cotting, Ph.D.

AIAA ASSOCIATE FELLOW

AIAA shapes the future of aerospace by enabling those around us *In Search of the Next Impossible Thing*. As a leader in AIAA my number one goal will always be to find ways to enable

each of you to do the next impossible thing.

We must continue to find new ways to interact at our forums. Tighter colocation of inter-technical committee technical sessions and the encouragement of cross-listed technical sessions are an example. Improving our community at forums grows the ties that encourage each of you to be actively engaged when we are together and apart. ASG can spotlight leaders in our community through social media so that younger members of our community know who to seek out for community knowledge and mentorship. ASG can continue to improve mentorship channels throughout the year to grow a vibrant community of aerospace professionals achieving the next impossible thing.

I want to help you find the tools to achieve that next impossible thing!

### BIOGRAPHY

Director of Research, GNC at EpiSci (2023). Formerly (2021-2023) Director of Research at the USAF Test Pilot School leading the X-62A VISTA to the first-ever dogfighting controlled by Artificial Intelligence. Led the redesign and rebuild of all research systems on VISTA. Led the Flight Sciences department at the United States Air Force Test Pilot School (2016-2021), rewrote the flying qualities curriculum and taught over 500 test pilots and flight test engineers. Prior to USAF TPS, worked at NASA Dryden Flight Research Center and Lockheed Martin Skunk Works on the X-33, X-35B, X-43A, and X-43C. B.S. and M.S. in aerospace engineering from Mississippi State University; Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from Virginia Tech; and Honorary Graduate, USAF Test Pilot School. Selected for the 2018 Outstanding Scientist/Engineer Educator for the USAF, and the 2015 ITEA Cross award. Selected for 8 Outstanding Academic Instructor awards. SFTE James S. McDonnell team award (2006 X-43A Hyper-X, 2023 X-62A VISTA). Member of SFTE.

### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Joined AIAA in 1991; selected as Associate Fellow in 2014. Active member of the Atmospheric Flight Mechanics (AFM) Tech Committee (TC) since 2010. AFM TC Chair (2017-2019), AFM Discipline Chair for AIAA SciTech Forum (2016, 2014), and Aerospace Sciences Forum Chair for 2025 AIAA SciTech Forum. Member of the Professional Member Education Committee (2013-2014), and Career and Professional Development Committee (2015). Selected for the AFM Best Paper award (2017, 2005).



### Martiqua Post, Ph.D.

AIAA ASSOCIATE FELLOW

As the Director of the Aerospace Sciences Group (ASG), my vision is to be an advocate for our group's strategic and technical direction, priorities, and issues while aligning with the Institute's mission and goals. I would support and

empower our technical committees (TCs) in achieving their goals and objectives while emphasizing the importance of improving communication between members and leadership, as well as being as transparent as possible within the ASG.

As ASG Director, I would support implementing more technically-oriented plenaries at forums. I believe this would help AIAA achieve their goals, including increasing member engagement and growth and achieving a positive net revenue. Supporting and developing our next generation of leaders is important for the future of the Institute and our aerospace community. I would work toward recruiting new volunteers and nurturing existing leaders. In interacting with our stakeholders and members, it is important for us to encourage and cultivate a professional culture that embraces ethics, dignity, diversity, respect, and inclusion for all.

I would do my best to support the ASG work with the AIAA Board, Council, and staff to achieve our collective goals.

### BIOGRAPHY

Professor of Aerospace Engineering (U.S. Air Force Academy, 2005-2023); Sustainable Flight National Partnership Technical and Partnership Advisor (NASA, 2022-2023); SME and COR on hypersonics program (DARPA, 2017-2023); Visiting Associate Professor (Princeton University, 2013). Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS) Fellow; National Aeronautical Association (NAA) Platinum Lifetime Member, Board of Directors; Air Force Museum Foundation Board of Trustees; Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Lifetime Member; Woman in Aviation International (WAI) Lifetime Member; Women in Aerospace (WIA) 2022 Aerospace Educator Award; Department of Air Force Award for Meritorious Civilian Service 2023. Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering M.S., Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame); Mechanical Engineering B.S. (Union College).

### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Lifetime Member; Associate Fellow (2013); Aerospace Sciences Group Deputy Director (2019-2023); Applied Aerodynamics Technical Committee (2006-2017); APATC Chair (2014-2016); Region V Associate Fellow Selection Committee (2018-2023), Chair (2021-2023); AIAA SciTech Forum Executive Steering Committee (2018, 2019); Forum Technical Conference Chair (2009, 2011); Student Branch Faculty Advisor, U.S. Air Force Academy (2005-2012); current Aerospace Sciences Group Interim Director (2023-2024).

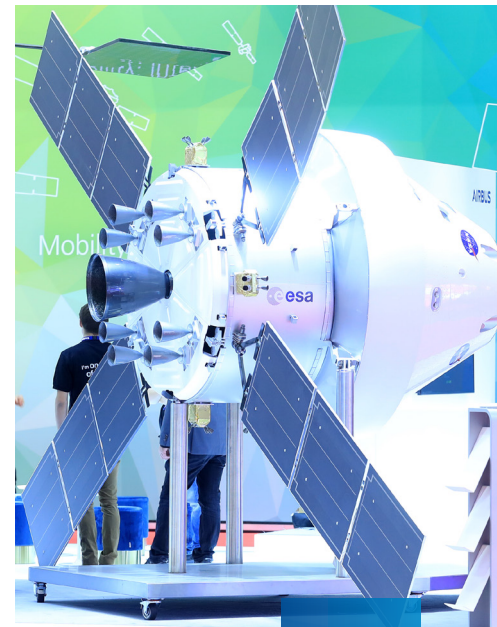


# INTEGRATION AND OUTREACH

## ACTIVITIES DIVISION

Integration and Outreach Groups coordinate the activities of related Integration and Outreach Committees to facilitate cooperative efforts between the various professional areas. An Integration and Outreach Group Director shall lead each Integration and Outreach Group. All voting members shall elect the Integration and Outreach Directors, except for Young Professional Group Director-Elect who is elected by the professional members who are less than 36 years old at the time of the election. The Integration and Outreach Director for each group shall be a member of the Integration and Outreach Activities Division (IOD) as well as a delegate to the Council of Directors. The term for Integration and Outreach Group Directors, except for the Young Professional Group Director-Elect, shall be three years and there shall be a limit of the Integration and Outreach Group Director serving two consecutive terms. The Young Professional Group Director-Elect shall serve one year as the group director and is not renewable.

As a Member of the Council, an Integration and Outreach Director's primary responsibility is to serve the Institute as a whole; a secondary responsibility to lead and support the committees and members in their directorate group. An Integration and Outreach Director serves in several different capacities; voting member of the Council of Directors, and voting member of the Integration and Outreach Activities Division (IOD). As the leader of the Group, the Integration and Outreach Director must be dedicated and recognize the obligation implicit in filling the position and be willing to expend the requisite time and energy. Directors must be self-motivated and initiate actions as necessary and anticipate and resolve problems, as well as being an effective communicator, having the ability to relate to and communicate with people of varying status (from junior engineers to corporate executives). Directors should be organized and familiar with AIAA's organizational structure and procedures. The importance of strong leadership in this voluntary role cannot be overemphasized. All the directorate's committee chairs, and the Deputy Directors within the group look to the Integration and Outreach Director for guidance.



LEARN MORE

[aiaa.org/get-involved/committees-groups/  
Integration-and-Outreach-Division-Committees](https://aiaa.org/get-involved/committees-groups/Integration-and-Outreach-Division-Committees)

# DIRECTOR-ELECT

## Young Professionals Group



### Taylor Fazzini

AIAA SENIOR MEMBER

I have been active in the Young Professionals Group since I finished graduate school in 2020. After starting on the Professional Development Committee, I quickly took ownership of the AIAA SciTech Forum Rising

Leaders in Aerospace programming. I have been the chair of the Professional Development Committee since 2021 and am so proud to have contributed to the continuous growth of the RLA programming across AIAA SciTech Forum, AIAA AVIATION Forum, and ASCEND. As YPG director, I hope to continue to grow the organization by ensuring our programming lines up with YPG members' career and personal goals. I hope to build out our membership by bringing the section and regional YPG leadership teams in better alignment with the national organization.

#### BIOGRAPHY

I completed my B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Embry-Riddle in Daytona Beach (2017). During my undergraduate studies, I served as chair of the AIAA Student Branch as well

as a lead for the Design/Build/Fly team. While completing my M.S. in Aerospace Engineering from Georgia Tech, I served as the graduate liaison for the AIAA Student Branch. After graduating from Georgia Tech (2020), I began full-time work with Northrop Grumman in the Future Technical Leaders program. Throughout this three-year program, I rotated through roles as a Testing Co-Lead and Deputy Technologist, Electromechanical Engineer, and System Test Engineer. During my rotation as an electromechanical engineer, my team won a highly prestigious Northrop Grumman President's Award for our work. I am currently a Principal System Test Engineer with Northrop Grumman in Palmdale, California.

#### AIAA ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Joined AIAA as a student member in 2014; currently AIAA Senior Member. Served as AIAA SciTech Forum Guiding Coalition Member (2022-present); Design/Build/Fly Organizing Committee Member (2021-present); YPG Networking & Professional Development Committee Chair (2021-present); Aircraft Design Technical Committee Member (2021-present); AIAA SciTech Forum Technical Discipline Chair (2023-present); 2024 ASCEND/AIAA AVIATION Forum Co-Location Working Group Member (2022-2023); YPG Networking & Professional Development Committee Deputy Chair (2020-2021).

ELECTION OPEN

[ 29 JANUARY-23 FEBRUARY 2024 ]

VOTE ONLINE:

[aiaa.org/vote](https://aiaa.org/vote)

ELECTION OPEN  
[ 29 JANUARY-23 FEBRUARY 2024 ]

VOTE ONLINE:  
[aiaa.org/vote](https://aiaa.org/vote)

