AESS N&A Committee

Officers' Slate

Hugh Griffiths
Chair, N&A Committee

October 18, 2019
Hyatt Regency Cologne

IEEE
Advancing Technology for Humanity

AESS Board of Governors elected for 3-year term 2020-2022

William Dale Blair

Fabiola Colone

Fulvio Gini

Wolfgang Koch

Kathleen A. Kramer

George T. Schmidt

Michael Braasch

Xiaopeng Yang

AESS Officer Election Process

At a meeting of the Board of Governors, normally held before the First of November of every year, the Board of Governors shall appoint, from among current members, all Vice Presidents as defined in the Constitution who will take office on the First of January of the Following year. Such appointment shall occur after selection of their preferred candidate from the proposed slate. The President shall annually appoint, with the concurrence of a majority of the Board of Governors, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

We will elect each VP one at a time. Each candidate will have 5 minutes to address the board, followed by 5 minutes for questions. The President-Elect candidates will have 10 minutes to address the board.

Proposed Slate

Elect by acclamation:	President, Walt Downing; VP Education, Lorenzo Lo Monte; VP Finance, Mike Cardinale; VP Technical Operations, George Schmidt; VP Industry Relations, Mike Noble
President-Elect –	Mark Davis Maria Sabrina Greco
VP Conferences –	Dale Blair Michael Braasch
VP Member Services –	Fabiola Colone Mike Wicks
VP Publications –	*Sabrina Greco Lance Kaplan

President-Elect

Mark Davis

Sabrina Greco

President-Elect – Mark Davis

Dr. Mark E Davis has over 50 years' experience in Radar technology and systems development. He has held senior management positions in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), Air Force Research Laboratory, and General Electric Aerospace. At DARPA, he was the program manager on both the foliage penetration (FOPEN) radar advanced development program and the GeoSAR foliage penetration mapping radar. Dr Davis wrote the text: "Foliage Penetration Radar – Detection and Characterization of Objects Under Trees", published by Scitech Raleigh NC in March 2011, and is authoring a new text on "Ultra Wide Band Surveillance Radar" with IET Publications. His education includes a PhD in Physics from The Ohio State University, and Bachelor and Master's Degrees in Electrical Engineering from Syracuse University. He is a Life Fellow of both the IEEE and Military Sensing Symposia, and a member of IEEE Aerospace Electronics Systems Society Board of Governors since 2008, twice past-VP Conferences, and past-Chair the Radar Systems Panel, and a Distinguished Lecturer in Radar Systems. He is the 2011 recipient of the AESS Warren D White Award for Excellence in Radar Engineering, and the 2018 IEEE Dennis J. Pickard Medal for Radar Technologies and Applications.

President-Elect – Mark Davis Statement

Our Society has had a major change in focus over the past 6 to 8 years – all for the positive. The Publications and Conferences have greatly increased their contributions to both the technical breadth of our Society, and providing funds initiatives in Education, Technical Operations and Distinguished Lectures.

The most positive shift in AESS Board of Governors has been for global and diversity of members. This will help to improve our membership and collaboration with other international societies. This is cornerstone of new initiatives that needs to be expanded. Without growth in our younger membership and movement into other geographic areas, the strength of AESS cannot improve.

We need to also emphasize our outreach to industry to obtain the new members and bring in new ideas. This can only be attained by giving the corporations a value for their support of their members in AESS and its conferences.

I am honored to be a candidate for AESS President-Elect. I hope to leverage my experience as a volunteer in our Society and IEEE activities. In addition, there are great ideas and initiative from the AESS past-Presidents that need to be extended for the future.

President-Elect – Sabrina Greco

Maria S. Greco graduated in Electronic Engineering in 1993 and received the Ph.D. degree in Telecommunication Engineering in 1998, from University of Pisa, Italy. From December 1997 to May 1998 she joined the GTRI, Atlanta, USA as a visiting research scholar. In 1993 she joined the Dept. of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa, where she is Full Professor since 2017. She's IEEE fellow since Jan. 2011 and she was co-recipient of the 2001 and 2012 IEEE AESS Barry Carlton Award for Best Paper and recipient of the 2008 Fred Nathanson Young Engineer of the Year award for contributions to signal processing, estimation, and detection theory. In May and June 2015 and in January-February 2018 she visited as invited Professor the Université Paris-Sud, CentraleSupélec, Paris, France. She's general co-chair of the IEEE 2020 Radar Conference, Florence, September 2020. She has been general-chair, technical program chair and organizing committee member of many other international conferences over the last 10 years. She has been lead guest editor and guest editor of many special issues on Radar Signal Processing on multiple IEEE Journals. She's been Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Magazine, member of the IEEE SPS Board of Governors and Chair of the IEEE AESS Radar Panel. She's been SPS Distinguished Lecturer for the years 2014-2015, and currently she's AESS DL for the years 2015-2019 and VP Publications for AESS. Her general interests are in the areas of statistical signal processing, estimation and detection theory with application to radar systems. She co-authored many book chapters and about 200 journal and conference papers.

President-Elect – Sabrina Greco Statement

I have been member of the BoG of AESS for more than 8 years and I have seen all the positive changes the Society has gone through over the last years to become more dynamic and modern and to better suit the needs of its members.

We should continue along this path, making AESS an inclusive technical home, truly international, promoting diversity in our community, expanding into growing regions such as Africa, Asia and South America while revitalizing America/Europe membership.

If elected, I will do my best to promote the engagement of members, particularly of underrepresented groups, to guarantee diversity, to propose new AESS-branded initiatives that could particularly attract young members.

It would also be important to strengthen the relation with the Industry and with the Chapters, and to reinvigorate them through the multiple opportunities already offered by the Society, and possibly proposing new ones as “local” workshops or PhD Schools. This, of course, without forgetting our classical activities, publications and conferences that are already known worldwide and represent the main showcase of AESS vision.

VP Conferences

Dale Blair

Michael Braasch

VP Conferences – Dale Blair

William Dale Blair is a principal research engineer with the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) and GTRI Fellow. Dr. Blair is a Fellow of the IEEE and recipient of the 2001 IEEE Nathanson Award for Outstanding Young Radar Engineer. He served as the Editor for Radar Systems for IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems (T-AES) 1996-99 and Editor-In-Chief (EIC) for IEEE T-AES from 1999-2005. Dr. Blair also served on the Board of Governors of IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) from 1998-2003, 2005-2010 and 2012-2017. While a member of the IEEE AESS BoG, he served as Vice President for Publications and Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, originated the Target Tracking Systems Panel, and initiated the Systems Panel for Cyber Security Systems. Dr. Blair's research is reported in over two hundred articles which include 38 refereed journal articles.

VP Conferences – Dale Blair Statement

As Vice President for Conferences, I will focus on maintaining and growing as appropriate the conference surpluses that are the major source of funds for the AESS BoG. I will also focus on improving the quality of our conferences and their value to our members. The BoG should push for our conferences to become a premier event in the professional lives of its members. The AESS Radar Systems panel has charted a good path with the IEEE Radar Conference that is the premier event for radar engineers and includes technical papers and presentations, plenary talks, tutorials, student paper contests, Radar Summer School, and engineering challenges. The radar conference should seek to enhance the interaction of senior authors and leaders in radar with students (young professionals) to encourage their professional growth and expand engineering challenges to include technology demonstrations that make conference attendance more rewarding. AESS BoG should promote this vision to all of the I AESS conferences.

VP Conferences – Michael Braasch

Michael Braasch holds the Thomas Professorship in the Ohio University School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and is a Principal Investigator with the Ohio University Avionics Engineering Center (AEC). He has been performing navigation system research since 1985 and has served as a technical advisor both to the U.S. FAA and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Mike is internationally recognized for his work in characterizing the effects of GPS multipath. In addition, Mike's research in the application of phased-array techniques to differential GPS ground reference stations laid the foundation for the development of the first generation prototype antennas for the FAA's Ground-Based Augmentation System (GBAS). In the mid 1990s, Mike led the Ohio University research group that pioneered the GPS software-defined receiver. He has also conducted research in the design, development and flight-testing of peripheral vision display systems for general aviation aircraft. Mike has extensive flight-testing experience with Ohio University's fleet of research aircraft. Mike has served as a visiting scientist at the Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands and has lectured for NATO AGARD in Russia, Turkey and Ukraine. Mike has served as an associate editor for navigation and technical editor for navigation for the TAES. Since 2014 he has served as the IEEE/AESS liaison to the ION/IEEE Position, Location and Navigation Symposium (PLANS). Since 2015, he has served as the associate editor for navigation for SYSTEMS. Since 2017, he has served as the founding Chair of the AESS Navigation Systems Panel. He is the 2019 VP-Conferences for AESS.

VP Conferences – Michael Braasch Statement

In January I faced the very daunting challenge of stepping in Mark Davis' shoes as VP-Conferences. Over the past nine months I have learned much about interfacing with the numerous conference organizers around the world who seek the AES technical co-sponsorship for the highly sought-after IEEE brand. With the help of the Conference Committee, I have worked to ensure meaningful AES involvement in these conferences with the especially important commitment to quality. For the handful of AES conferences that are financially sponsored, the ongoing task is to work with the organizers to maintain quality while returning a reasonable surplus. If re-elected, I will continue these efforts.

VP Member Services

Fabiola Colone

Mike Wicks

VP Member Services – Fabiola Colone

Fabiola Colone is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Information Engineering, Informatics, and Statistics of Sapienza University of Rome (Italy). She teaches courses on Communications and Radar systems and actively contributes to the development and monitoring of ICT Engineering programs within dedicated committees. The majority of Dr. Colone's research activity is devoted to radar systems and signal processing. She has been involved, with scientific responsibility roles, in research projects funded by the European Union, the European Defence Agency, the Italian Space Agency, the Italian Ministry of Research, and radar industry. Her research is reported in over 120 publications in technical journals, book chapters, and conference proceedings. Dr. Colone is a member of the IEEE AESS BoG since 2017 and served on several committees including Member Services, Education, and Publications. She has been Chair of AESS Professional Networking and Mentoring Program in 2018. Currently, she is serving as Vice-President for Member Services and Editor in Chief for IEEE AESS QEB Newsletters. She is a member of the AESS Radar System Panel and Associate Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing. She was in the organizing committee, as the Student Forum Co-Chair, of the IEEE 2008 Radar Conference, Rome, Italy, and she is currently in the organizing committees of the IEEE 2020 Radar Conference and the IEEE 2021 Radar Conference as Special Sessions Co-Chair and Technical Co-Chair, respectively. She served in the technical committee of many international conferences and she is frequently reviewer for a number of international technical journals.

VP Member Services – Fabiola Colone Statement

I have been in the AESS BoG for the past three years during which I have been involved in several activities that lead me to work with different committees, thus endorsing their missions. I took all these roles very seriously, always trying to bring new ideas to the table.

Last year I had the honor to be elected VP Member Services. It has been difficult at the beginning to become familiar with the processes and dynamics of different services. Now I feel that I could effectively use the experience gained to devise and implement further improvements, reason why I decided to run for re-election.

If re-elected, I will do my best to further raise the prestige of our Society. I will continue to pursue the goal of broadening and actively engaging the membership of AESS. I will explore new ventures to meet the needs and expectations of young generations and I will reinforce the cooperation with other VPs in order to design effective offers and to show tangible value to members or potential new members.

VP Member Services – Mike Wicks

Dr. Wicks is a leading research scientist in remote sensing, signal processing and systems engineering, with a current focus on distributed sensing and radio frequency technology. He has pursued a variety of research interests in his career, including: radio frequency tomography, counter explosive sensor technology, cognitive radar and radio, space object sensing, missile defense, deep earth probing radar, multi-dimensional adaptive processing for airborne and space based radar, ultra-wideband radio and radar, passive and active multi-static systems, and concealed weapons / contraband detection and carrier identification. He pioneered the concept of knowledge-based signal processing and waveform diversity, and has led national and international research teams on the design, development and fielding of novel algorithms, architectures and systems for remote sensing from space, air and surface platforms.

Sponsored research is currently focused on advanced algorithms for the detection and track processing of airborne targets obscured by wind farm clutter, as is research on spatially and spectrally diverse sensing for the automatic detection, identification, and feature exploitation of objects under cover, e.g. below ground, inside structures, or under foliage. Research on integrated close-in sensing and long range wide area surveillance radar is addressing feature extraction, in addition to detection processing and track formation. Algorithms and architectures for the numerical and symbolic (heuristic) processing of sensor data is a primary focus of this research. Dr. Wicks has published many papers, reports, books and patents.

VP Member Services – Mike Wicks Statement

If elected VP Member Services, I will continue to support Chapter formation, and the advancement of the AESS strategic plan and focus on BOG priorities. Especially important is recruitment and retention, as well as the Senior Member and Fellows program. Critical to these goals is wide dissemination of information, e.g. the quarterly e-mail blast highlighting AESS-sponsored conference and workshops, specialized educational opportunities including tutorials and distinguished lectures, our work on Standards, our Transactions and the Magazine. Visibility of these activities, especially at conferences and workshops, and by Distinguished Lecturers has an impact on participation, and this important work will continue. I will support our lessons learned work space from across the BOG, and document best member services. I am well positioned for this through my continued participation in the AESS BOG and Radar Systems Panel, and will maximally leverage this activity. I am committed to providing the highest level of service to our members. The IEEE AESS is waiting for all interested professionals, and I want to help them in their journey!

VP Publications

*Sabrina Greco

Lance Kaplan

VP Publications – Lance Kaplan

Lance M. Kaplan received the B.S. degree with distinction from Duke University, Durham, NC, in 1989 and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, in 1991and 1994, respectively, all in Electrical Engineering. From 1987–1990, Dr. Kaplan worked as a Technical Assistant at the Georgia Tech Research Institute. He held a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship and a USC Dean's Merit Fellowship from 1990–1993, and worked as a Research Assistant in the Signal and Image Processing Institute at the University of Southern California from 1993–1994. Then, he worked on staff in the Reconnaissance Systems Department of the Hughes Aircraft Company from 1994–1996. From 1996–2004, he was a member of the faculty in the Department of Engineering and a senior investigator in the Center of Theoretical Studies of Physical Systems (CTSPS) at Clark Atlanta University (CAU), Atlanta, GA. Currently, he is a researcher in the Networked Sensing and Fusion branch of the U.S Army Research Laboratory (ARL). Dr. Kaplan serves on the Board of Governors for the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems (AES) Society (2008-2013, 2018-Present) and as VP of Conferences for the International Society of Information Fusion (ISIF) (2014-Present). Previous, he served as Editor-In-Chief for the IEEE Transactions on AES (2012-2017) and on the Board of Directors of ISIF (2012-2014). He is a three time recipient of the Clark Atlanta University Electrical Engineering Instructional Excellence Award from 1999–2001. He is a Fellow of IEEE and of ARL. His current research interests include information/data fusion, reasoning under uncertainty, network science, resource management and signal and image processing.

VP Publications – Lance Kaplan Statement

The IEEE AESS can be proud of its publications. During and after my tenure as Transactions EIC, the impact factor for the Transactions has steadily increased. The Transactions continues to be the top venue for radar and target tracking articles. The Magazine underwent a facelift several years ago and is now attracting a steady stream of relevant special issues with high quality papers. In fact, the impact factor of the Magazine now exceeds two. Nevertheless, AESS Publications need to adapt its business model to ever changing market pressures. As the VP for Publication, I feel that it will be my duty to understand these market forces and make sure that AESS publications are well positioned to remain viable, while, at the same time, continuing to serve its membership as a respected source of emerging knowledge in electronic systems technology supporting aerospace applications. To this end, we must reduce the review times for our publications, support our many volunteer editors, and explore other opportunities to possibly expand our offerings to better serve our membership.

Backup Slides

VP Publications – Sabrina Greco

Maria S. Greco graduated in Electronic Engineering in 1993 and received the Ph.D. degree in Telecommunication Engineering in 1998, from University of Pisa, Italy. From December 1997 to May 1998 she joined the GTRI, Atlanta, USA as a visiting research scholar. In 1993 she joined the Dept. of Information Engineering of the University of Pisa, where she is Full Professor since 2017. She's IEEE fellow since Jan. 2011 and she was co-recipient of the 2001 and 2012 IEEE AESS Barry Carlton Award for Best Paper and recipient of the 2008 Fred Nathanson Young Engineer of the Year award for contributions to signal processing, estimation, and detection theory. In May and June 2015 and in January-February 2018 she visited as invited Professor the Université Paris-Sud, CentraleSupélec, Paris, France. She's general co-chair of the IEEE 2020 Radar Conference, Florence, September 2020. She has been general-chair, technical program chair and organizing committee member of many other international conferences over the last 10 years. She has been lead guest editor and guest editor of many special issues on Radar Signal Processing on multiple IEEE Journals. She's been Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Magazine, member of the IEEE SPS Board of Governors and Chair of the IEEE AESS Radar Panel. She's been SPS Distinguished Lecturer for the years 2014-2015, and currently she's AESS DL for the years 2015-2019 and VP Publications for AESS. Her general interests are in the areas of statistical signal processing, estimation and detection theory with application to radar systems. She co-authored many book chapters and about 200 journal and conference papers.

VP Publications – Sabrina Greco

I have been member of the BoG of AESS for more than 8 years and I have seen all the positive changes the Society has gone through over the last years to become more dynamic and modern and to better suit the needs of its members.

We should continue along this path, making AESS an inclusive technical home, truly international, promoting diversity in our community, expanding into growing regions such as Africa, Asia and South America while revitalizing America/Europe membership.

If elected, I will do my best to promote the engagement of members, particularly of underrepresented groups, to guarantee diversity, to propose new AESS-branded initiatives that could particularly attract young members.

It would also be important to strengthen the relation with the Industry and with the Chapters, and to reinvigorate them through the multiple opportunities already offered by the Society, and possibly proposing new ones as “local” workshops or PhD Schools. This, of course, without forgetting our classical activities, publications and conferences that are already known worldwide and represent the main showcase of AESS vision.