



IEEE Aerospace Electronic Systems Prof. Networking and Mentoring Chair

Arik Brown

AESS Board of Governors Meeting – Fall 2025

10 and 11 October 2025

Krakow, Poland

Blue represents updates since May 2025

1. Reinvigorate program purpose and value proposition

- Status: **80% Complete**
- Identify methods to improve visibility and engagement
- **Solution**
 - Generate a promotional flyer that can be passed out at multiple conferences (see next slide)
 - Periodic posts on our most viewed platforms (LinkedIn?)
 - Single communication from our president that promotes the program (one time annually)

2. Identify alternative options for the structure of the mentoring program

- Status: **75% Complete**
- 1:1 mentoring partnerships may not be the most effective for our members. May need to focus on other group-focused activities
- **Solution**
 - Two annual mentor panels (virtual) (Will schedule for 2026)
 - Use well-known academic and industry professionals as panel participants
 - Bi-Annually spotlight a mentor/mentee relationship
 - Look to publish in AESS QEB and LinkedIn (other suggestions?)
 - Have an event co-sponsored with the Young Professionals similar to what was done at the May 2025 Radar Conference at each Radar Conference

3. Determine strategy for strengthening global reach and inclusion

- Status: **In Progress**
- Ensure participation reflects the global diversity of AESS
- Need to have conversations with members in other countries to identify some strategies

Promotional Flyer for Reinvigorating Program Purpose and Value Proposition

- Objective is to communicate that we are here to meet the need and not force fit into a mentor/mentee relationship that may not be desired



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IEEE AESS PROFESSIONAL MENTORING & NETWORKING PROGRAM

GUIDANCE. GROWTH. CONNECTION.

Led by Dr. Arik D. Brown, Chair, IEEE AESS Professional Mentoring-C:Committee

LOOKING FOR PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE OR ADVICE?

The IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) is committed to helping you grow -- whether you're a student, young professional, or seasoned engineer exploring new frontiers.

THIS PROGRAM IS FLEXIBLE MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES:

- A single professional connection
- One-time advice or guidance on a specific topic of career question
- A longer-term mentoring relationship

WE WANT TO GIVE MENTEES THE OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST WHAT THEY ACTUALLY NEED, NOT JUST FIT INTO A ONE-SIZE-FITS ALL PAIRING.

Take the next step in your professional journey -- connect with experts, exchange insights, and be part of a thriving community.

INTERESTED?

Reach out to **Dr. Arik D. Brown**
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PROFESSIONAL MENTORING AND NETWORKING



Reach out for the type of mentoring that you want:

- A consultation with a professional in the field
- One-time advice request, or potential mentor relationship

The desire is to give mentees the opportunity to request what they actually need at not just try to pair up with a mentor.

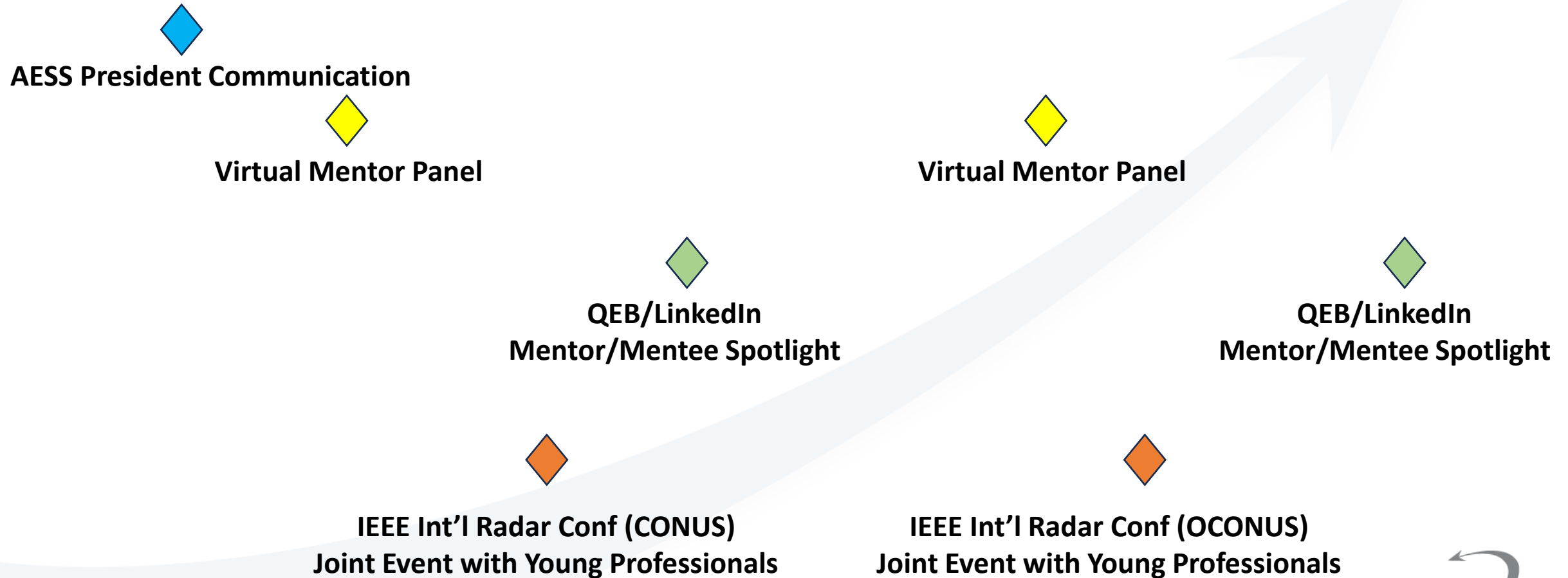
Dr. Arik D. Brown
Committee Chair

Example Flyers
Only

Tentative Schedule for 2026

2026

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
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- I currently live in the DC, Maryland, Virginia (DMV) area
- This area is dense with colleges and universities
 - Howard University
 - University of Maryland (College Park and Baltimore County)
 - Morgan State University
 - Towson University
 - Etc...
- Tentative idea is to reach out to the Dean of Engineering for these schools and plan a 1-hour talk/session that promotes this program and simultaneously encourages membership in IEEE AECS



Strengths	• Strong technical community with diverse expertise across academia & industry • Established automated platform (Collabratec)
Weaknesses	• Low sustained engagement from mentors and mentees • Limited visibility and promotion within the AESS community
Opportunities	• Get input from Young Professionals and Student Chapters to redesign program structure
Threats	• Competing mentoring offerings from other societies and external platforms • Geographic/time zone challenges in global mentoring matching