

IEEE AEROSPACE AND ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS SOCIETY
Election of Members to the Board of Governors
For a Three-Year Term 1 January 2027 – 31 December 2029



RAVIRAJ S. ADVE (S'88-M'96-SM'03-F'17) received his BTech from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, in 1990 and his PhD from Syracuse University in 1996, both in Electrical Engineering. His PhD thesis received the Syracuse University Outstanding Dissertation Award. He then joined Research Associates for Defense Conversion, Inc., working on contract with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), Rome, NY, USA. In August 2000, he joined the Dept of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Toronto, where he currently holds the rank of Professor. Prof. Adve received the 2009 Fred Nathanson Young Radar Engineer of the Year award and was elevated to Fellow of the IEEE in 2017.

Prof. Adve is very active within the AES community, having served on the Radar Systems Panel, several sub-committees of the Panel, and as Associate Editor for the AES Transactions. In addition, he served – and then chaired – the AES Fellows Evaluation Committee, a critical activity within AES. He serves (and has previously chaired) the IEEE Dennis Picard Medal committee. In addition, he supports the AES radar-related conferences as a regular member of the TPC and/or as an active reviewer.

Prof. Adve has broad research interests in radar signal processing, wireless communications, quantum radar and the effective use of machine learning techniques in solving hard problems. He was one of the first to analyze the impact of mutual coupling on space-time adaptive processing (STAP). His work with AFRL culminated in one of the first knowledge-based adaptive processing techniques, addressing detection in homogeneous and heterogeneous clutter scenarios.

Since joining the University of Toronto, Prof. Adve has continued his active participation in AES. He developed the “fast fully adaptive” STAP algorithm specifically for the suppression of ionospheric clutter. Expanding his research interests beyond airborne radar, he developed a propagation model for ionospheric and auroral clutter with applications in over-the-horizon and surface-wave radar, which was then used to develop effective signal processing techniques. More recently, Prof. Adve has focused on machine learning applications in cognitive radar, developing reinforcement learning (RL) approaches to effective task scheduling. Another recent thrust in Prof. Adve’s research is quantum sensing using coincidence detection amongst entangled photons and the use of Rydberg atoms to sense weak electromagnetic signals.

Statement: The Aerospace and Electronics Systems Society has been my intellectual home for the past 30 years. In this time, I have served in various capacities helping AES – such as Associate Editor for the Transactions, serving on the Radar Systems Panel, chairing the AES Fellows Evaluation Committee, for many years. Serving on the Board of Governors would be an affirmation of my interest in furthering the academic mission of the Society.

In addition to supporting the BoG in its various activities, I have specific interest in serving on the Education Committee with an interest in driving greater student participation in AES. I also hope to join the Conferences Committee with a specific aim of expanding student opportunities within AES conferences. A related interest in driving greater international participation in AES activities whether through students, academia, industry or government laboratories.

I confirm that I will be able to take the time needed to serve on the BoG and would be able to attend the meetings as required.



WILLIAM (DALE) BLAIR (S'83-M'86-SM'96-F'02) Dale Blair is a Principal Research Engineer with the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) and GTRI Fellow. He received the BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering from Tennessee Tech in 1985 and 1987, respectively. He received the Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Virginia in 1998. Dale is an IEEE Fellow, class of 2002, and recipient of the 2001 IEEE Fred Nathanson Award and the 2023 Warren White Award. His publications include coeditor and coauthor of Multitarget-Multisensor Tracking: Applications and Advances III (ARTECH House, 2000); two chapters in Principles of Modern Radar: Vol I (SciTech Publishing, 2010); a chapter in Modeling and Simulation Support for System of Systems Engineering Applications (Wiley, 2015); 38 refereed journal articles, more than 150 refereed conference papers; and more than 200 other technical papers and reports. His editorial accomplishments include Editor for Radar Systems of the IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems (T-AES) (1996-1999), Editor-In-Chief (EIC) of the T-AES (1999-2005), and founding EIC for the Journal for Advances in Information Fusion (2005-2013). He currently serves as the founding EIC for the IEEE Open Journal of Systems Engineering (OJSE). Dale has served the IEEE AES BoG as Associate VP for Publications (2008- 2011), Chair for Strategic Planning (2009-2010), and VP for Publications (2015-2017). He is currently serving as the first VP for Awards (2024-2026). Dr. Blair served the International Society for Information Fusion (ISIF) as President in 2005, as VP for Conferences (2006-2012), and VP for Publications (2012-2026). Dr. Blair has served as the general chair for two IEEE conferences and as a key member of the organizing committees for more than 10 professional conferences. He reviews regularly for conferences and journals and served as Tutorial Editor for the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Magazine for approximately 10 years. Currently, Dale is serving as the first VP for Awards for IEEE AES BoG, and that has been rather challenging due to major changes in the TABARC policies and procedures. Currently, Dale is also spearheading the development of the IEEE AES Challenge Problem program and the Senior Capstone Design program.

Statement: IEEE is as an organization that supports advancement of the professional of electrical, electronic, and computer engineers and IEEE AESS focuses on those of us involved in the area of aerospace and electronic systems. As a member of IEEE AESS BoG, I would like to continue my long-term involvement in publications and seek to expand our impact to more of our AESS members through conferences, technical panels, member services, and education. IEEE AESS does these very well already and I would like make them better. More specifically, I would like to focus on our engagement of members in industry and impacting students. I think making a positive impact on students is the best avenue to growing AESS and our membership as they join us in the advancement of our profession.



PENG HU (S'05-GSM'06-M'09-GSM'10-M'19-SM'21) Dr. Peng Hu is an Associate Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Manitoba, Canada. He is a Professional Engineer and a Senior Member of IEEE. His research focuses on AI-enabled space-air-ground integrated networks, satellite communications, non-terrestrial networks (NTN), and resilient and autonomous networked systems. Prior to joining academia, Dr. Hu was a Research Officer at the National Research Council Canada (NRC), where he led and contributed to national research initiatives on satellite networking, Internet of Things (IoT), and AI. His work at NRC involved building large-scale collaborations across academia, government, and industry, and advancing Canada's strategic capabilities in next-generation communication systems.

Dr. Hu has an extensive record of research leadership as an investigator on numerous funded projects supported by Canadian federal and provincial funding agencies, such as NSERC, Canada Foundation for Innovation, Research Manitoba, and Ontario Centre of Innovation. His research contributions include AI-enabled satellite networks, LEO mega-constellation systems, digital twin, and space-based sensing for sustainability and safety applications such as wildfire detection and collision avoidance.

He has authored numerous journal and conference publications in leading venues, including IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology, IEEE Internet of Things Journal, and IEEE Communications Magazine, as well as major IEEE conferences in satellite and space communications tracks. His work has also been presented at prominent space technology conferences such as SpaceOps and IEEE WiSEE. In addition, he holds multiple patents and invention disclosures in satellite networking, IoT systems, and AI-driven network operations. His contributions have been recognized with several honors, including a Best Paper Award at IEEE WiSEE and innovation awards from the National Research Council Canada.

Dr. Hu has demonstrated strong leadership within IEEE. He currently serves on the IEEE Canada Executive Committee as West Area Chair of Region 7 and has served as a member of the IEEE Canada Board of Directors. He is actively engaged in the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems community through roles such as Co-Chair of the Technology WG for the IEEE LEO Satellites & Systems initiative and Secretary of the IEEE ComSoc's Satellite and Space Communications Technical Committee. He also contributes to standards development through the IEEE Sensors Council Standards Committee.

In addition to his governance roles, Dr. Hu is an active contributor to the global research community through editorial service as an Associate Editor for IEEE journals, leadership roles in IEEE conferences (including ICC and GLOBECOM), and organization of international workshops on satellite systems and 6G NTN. Dr. Hu was a Research Fellow at the Open Lunar Foundation, contributing to lunar PNT and collaborative frameworks for sustainable lunar exploration and infrastructure development. He has also been engaged with the Internet Society, supporting internet governance, connectivity, and digital inclusion.

Dr. Hu is committed to advancing interdisciplinary research, promoting inclusive and equitable access to technology, and supporting the development of highly qualified personnel. His vision aligns with advancing AESS's mission in emerging aerospace systems, fostering global collaboration, and bridging research, industry, and policy.

Statement: I am honored to be nominated for the Board of Governors of the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society. My professional career spans academia, government research, and industry, with a focus on AI-enabled space-air-ground integrated networks, satellite systems, and resilient communications infrastructures. Through my roles at the University of Manitoba and the National Research Council Canada, I have led nationally funded research programs and collaborated extensively with academia, industry, and government stakeholders.

Within IEEE, I have demonstrated sustained leadership and service, including serving on the Region 7 Executive Committee and Board of Directors, as West Area Chair, and Winnipeg Section Chair. I serve as an Associate Editor for IEEE journals and as Secretary of the IEEE ComSoc Satellite and Space Communications Technical Committee, and support the IEEE LEO Satellites & Systems Initiative.

If elected, I will work to strengthen AESS's leadership in emerging areas such as AI-driven aerospace systems, non-terrestrial networks, in-orbit applications, and sustainable space technologies. I am committed to enhancing industry engagement, fostering global collaboration, and supporting the next generation of engineers and researchers.



JASON K. HUI (S'96-M'02-SM'07) Dr. Jason Hui is a Systems Engineer Senior Staff and Technical Lead at Lockheed Martin Corporation. He has nearly 25 years of systems engineering and technical management experience in the aerospace and defense industry. He received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in Electrical Engineering and his Ph.D. degree in Mechanical Engineering, all from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He also received the M.S. degree in Systems Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Hui is an American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Associate Fellow and a certified Project Management Professional from the Project Management Institute (PMI). He is an IEEE Senior Member with a long history of diverse IEEE volunteer service including as MGA Vice Chair of Member Development, MGA Member Engagement and Life Cycle Committee (MELCC) Chair, MGA Awards and Recognition Chair, IEEE-USA Awards and Recognition Chair, IEEE Recognitions Council Chair, EAB Educational Products Editorial Committee Chair, EAB Continuing Education Committee Member, IEEE-HKN Regions 1-2 Governor, IEEE-HKN THE BRIDGE Magazine Editor-in-Chief, IEEE Engineering Management Review Associate Editor, IEEE History Committee Vice Chair and Milestones Subcommittee Chair, Region 1 Northeastern Area Chair, Region 1 Awards and Recognitions Chair, and New Hampshire Section Chair. He is currently serving on the 2026 IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on the Implementation of the Educational Strategy and Tactical Plan. Dr. Hui has also been an ABET Program Evaluator since 2014. Outside of IEEE, he has served as President of the PMI New Hampshire Chapter and Vice Chair of the AIAA New England Section. Dr. Hui is the recipient of several awards, including the IEEE New Hampshire Section Outstanding Young Engineer of the Year Award, AIAA Sustained Service Award, PMI New Hampshire Chapter Individual of the Year Award, and APEX Grand Award for Publication Excellence for THE BRIDGE issue on "Humanitarian Technologies for a Sustainable Society."

Statement: I bring over 20 years of IEEE volunteer experience starting at the local level and working my way into leadership roles within MGA, Educational Activities, Technical Activities, and IEEE Board of Directors Committees. This has given me a broad understanding of IEEE as an organization. Along the journey, I have gained valuable insight and a penchant for strategic planning, leading value-added initiatives utilizing cross-functional teams, facilitating collaboration, mentoring/coaching, and executing projects to completion that drive growth and development of IEEE members. I am currently serving in my third and final year as MGA Vice Chair of Member Development (also a sitting member of the MGA Board) and MELCC Chair responsible for all aspects of member engagement and lifecycle development associated with Admissions and Advancement, Awards and Recognition, Students, Young Professionals, Women in Engineering, Life Members, and Membership Recruitment and Recovery. If elected as Member-at-Large, I will serve enthusiastically and bring my knowledge and lessons learned on IEEE membership development and engagement to AESS.



GOKHAN INALHAN (M'96-AM'97-S'02-AM'03-M'06-SM'17) Dr. Gokhan Inalhan received his B.Sc. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Istanbul Technical University in 1997, and the M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Stanford University in 1998 and 2004, respectively. In 2003, he received his Ph.D. Minor from Stanford University in Engineering Economics and Operations Research (currently Management Science and Engineering). Between 2004 and 2006, he worked as a Postdoctoral Associate at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. During this period, he led the Communication and Navigation group in the MIT-Draper Laboratory NASA CER project. He has served as Director of Controls and Avionics Laboratory (2006-2016) and Director General of Aerospace Research Centre (2016-2019) at Istanbul Technical University. Gokhan also served as the BAE Systems Chair, Professor of Autonomous Systems and Artificial at Cranfield University leading the research theme on autonomous systems and artificial intelligence within the School of Aerospace, Transport and Manufacturing (2019-2024). Dr. Gokhan Inalhan is the Executive Director of the Sloane Institute in London and the Chief Technology Officer of Altay Technology Group.

During his career, Gokhan has led and managed numerous grants and industrial projects from FP7, H2020, SESAR, EC Marie-Curie, EPSRC, UKRI, ATI, Innovate UK, BAE Systems, BAE Systems FalconWorks™, Boeing, Airbus, BR&T Europe and major Euro-Asian aerospace, defense and aviation companies. He and his research are recipients of awards such as the IEEE AESS Exceptional Service Award, Boeing Faculty Fellowship, Council of Higher Education Outstanding Achievement, TUBITAK Innovation Success Stories, and Best Paper Awards (IEEE). Gokhan has been serving in Science, Technology, and Advisory Boards of various government and commercial entities, and he is a member of the general assembly of ASDA and Eurocontrol Agency Research Team. His professional service spans technical committees (AIAA Guidance, Navigation and Control TC, IFAC TC on Aerospace), program and editorial boards in which he has been leading themes including autonomy, intelligent systems and transportation for IEEE CCTA, ICRAT, SESAR SID, and AIAA GNC. He is currently the Chair of IEEE Technical Committee on Aerospace Controls and the Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems. Gokhan is a lifetime member and Associate Fellow of AIAA.

Statement: AESS and its focus is continuously transforming with remarkable innovations in electronics, and artificial intelligence. In that respect, as Editor-in-Chief at IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, I have truly appreciated the extent of interest and diversity that AESS attracted within the last four years from a technology and culture perspective in which we saw the number of submissions to TAES increase three-fold within this span. During this period, I was able to drastically increase and diversify the editorial roles across the globe allowing representation in line with the actual number of memberships. As a member of the BoG, I will further increase the value of society membership and giving voice to all members, and especially to junior academics and young professionals across the globe. My focus will be to ensure that their interest and their regional diversity (such as Region 10, 9 and 8) are reflected at all decision-making and representation within AESS, rather this be at publications, conferences, committees or at editorial roles.



ZAK (ZAHER) KASSAS (S'99-M'07-SM'11-F'24) Prof. Zak (Zaher) Kassas is the TRC Endowed Chair in Intelligent Transportation Systems and a Full Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering at The Ohio State University. He is Director of the U.S. Department of Transportation Center for Automated Vehicles Research with Multimodal AssurEd Navigation (CARMEN).

Professional Service: Prof. Kassas is the Chair of the IEEE AESS Navigation System Panel. Under his leadership, the inaugural AESS flagship conference NAVICON (IEEE Navigation Conference) will launch in 2026. He is a Senior Editor of IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems and an Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems. He was Program Chair of IEEE/ION Position, Location, and Navigation Symposium (PLANS) 2020 and 2023 and is the Program Co-Chair of IEEE NAVICON 2026. He organized and chaired the 2018 and 2019 Institute of Navigation (ION) Cognizant Autonomous Systems for Safety Critical Applications (CASSCA) Conference. He was involved in the organization of numerous Conferences, Workshops, and Special Sessions at IEEE/ION PLANS, IEEE ICASSP, IEEE VTC, IEEE ITSC, ION GNSS+, ION ITM, FUSION, and ACC.

Research: Prof. Kassas' research interests include navigation systems, low Earth orbit satellites, cognitive sensing and software-defined radio, and intelligent transportation systems. His research has attracted more than \$28M in competitive grants; has been featured in dozens of international media outlets and 9 magazine covers; and has shaped government programs, policies, and investments. He authored 220+ peer-reviewed journal and conference papers, 15 magazine articles, 3 invited book chapters, and 27 U.S. patents. He has given 120+ invited presentations, keynotes, and plenaries, and served as a subject matter expert to the Department of Defense (DOD), Government Accountability Office (GAO), Department of Transportation (DOT), National Science Foundation (NSF), and Federal Communications Commission (FCC). He received from President Biden the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government on outstanding scientists and engineers early in their careers. He is a Fellow of the IEEE and the ION and a Distinguished Lecturer of the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society and IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society. He received 50+ scientific and governmental awards, notably IEEE Richard Kershner Award for "pioneering contributions to the theory and practice of positioning, navigation, and timing with terrestrial and non-terrestrial signals of opportunity;" IEEE M. Barry Carlton Award; IEEE Harry Rowe Mimno Award; IEEE Walter Fried Award; IEEE Frederick Ellersick Award; ION Col. Thurlow Award for "foundational work in the theory and practice of exploiting signals of opportunity for accurate and reliable positioning, navigation and timing;" ION Samuel Burka Award (twice); Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) Young Investigator Program (YIP) Award; Office of Naval Research (ONR) YIP Award; National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award; and 40+ best paper/presentation awards.

Education: Prof. Kassas received a B.E. in Electrical Engineering from the Lebanese American University, M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from The Ohio State University, and M.S.E. in Aerospace Engineering and Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from The University of Texas at Austin.

Statement: In a fast-changing world governed by scientific and technical advancements, many IEEE societies need to reinvent themselves to remain relevant and to realign themselves with current and future challenges. In contrast, the breadth of AESS' scope puts it in a unique situation for growth and future prominence. If elected, I intend to initiate a healthy dialogue between AESS Technical Panels. Grand challenges (e.g., space sustainability, smart cities with advanced air mobility and mass deployment of autonomous system, etc.) require a holistic approach and the collective effort of different technical panels. I aspire to evolve and rebrand AESS conferences to be more forward-looking and inclusive. AESS conferences should not only aim at retaining regular attendees but also branching out to attract new ones. Besides being venues for information exchange, conferences should be thought-provoking, offering value for attendees from academia, industry, and government. Finally, I will educate IEEE and non-IEEE members about AESS' mission and its unique, cross-cutting nature of several disciplines. I will strive to make existing and future members call AESS their home scientific society.



LISHUAI LI (M'14-SM'22) Dr. Lishuai Li is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dept. of Systems Engineering, and Dept. of Data Science at City University of Hong Kong. She also serves as the Associate Vice-President (Strategic Research) at the university. Her interdisciplinary research spans advanced control systems, robotics, intelligent systems, and data science, with a focus on analytical and computational methods for operational excellence in complex systems. Her contributions include the development of distributed control algorithms for multi-agent systems, fault-tolerant control, and resilient system design, with applications in aerospace, air transportation systems, unmanned aircraft system traffic management (UTM), and other engineering domains.

Dr. Li is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), and the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), where she chairs the Air Transportation Section. She has published extensively in leading journals, including IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, and has served in key editorial roles, including Associate Editor for Transportation Research Part C: Emerging Technologies, Area Editor for Artificial Intelligence for Transportation, and Editorial Board Member for Journal of Air Transport Management, Aerospace, and International Journal of Reliability and Safety.

Dr. Li has consistently engaged with and contributed to the activities and mission of the IEEE and the Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS). She has served as a reviewer for IEEE publications and as a technical committee member for several IEEE-related conferences, contributing to the dissemination of cutting-edge research in aerospace and electronic systems. With a global footprint, Dr. Li completed her Ph.D. and M.Sc. at MIT's Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics and her B.Eng. in Aircraft Design and Engineering at Fudan University. She has conducted research at leading institutions in Asia, Europe, and North America, including Delft University of Technology, and gained professional experience at McKinsey & Company in the U.S. Since 2022, Dr. Li has been recognized in Stanford-Elsevier's List of the World's Top 2% Scientists, reflecting her impact on the field.

Dr. Li is deeply committed to fostering global collaboration across sectors and disciplines, mentoring young researchers and engineers, and promoting diversity and inclusion in the aerospace and electronic systems community. Through her work with IEEE and AESS, she aims to advance innovation, enhance international engagement, and address the pressing challenges facing the aerospace and electronic systems domain worldwide.

Statement: I am honored to be considered for a position on the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) Board of Governors. With over 15 years of experience in advanced control systems, robotics, and autonomous systems, I have dedicated my career to bridging cutting-edge academic research with real-world applications in aerospace and electronic systems. Having completed my Ph.D. training in the United States and conducted research at leading institutions in Asia and Europe, I bring a global perspective to solving complex challenges and fostering international collaboration.

If elected, I aim to enhance the Society's global engagement by building stronger connections across regions and facilitating collaborations between academia, industry, and government. I will prioritize initiatives that support interdisciplinary research, promote diversity, and create opportunities for members worldwide to contribute to the advancement of aerospace and electronic systems.

As a member of the Board of Governors, I am committed to supporting the professional development of early-career researchers, organizing international workshops, and expanding AESS's presence in emerging regions, ensuring AESS remains a leader in global innovation.



AVID ROMAN-GONZALEZ (GSM'09-M'13-SM'14) Prof. Roman-Gonzalez's exemplary contributions to aerospace technology, research, and education make him an outstanding candidate. Prof. Roman-Gonzalez possesses a Master's in Industrial and Human Automation and a Ph.D. in Signal and Image Processing, both earned in France. His research expertise has been shaped through invaluable experiences in outstanding institutions like the French Space Agency (CNES) and the German Aerospace Center (DLR). These enriching experiences have honed his skills and allowed him to share his knowledge extensively with Peruvian institutions, thereby advancing the aerospace field within the country.

As the Coordinator of the Aerospace Sciences & Health Research Laboratory (INCAS-Lab), Prof. Roman-Gonzalez has nurtured the next generation of space professionals. He has imparted his expertise through courses at prestigious institutions such as UNSAAC, UAC, UNI, UPCH, UCH, and UNTELS, significantly contributing to Peru's academic and research landscape.

A prolific researcher, Prof. Roman-Gonzalez has authored numerous scientific papers and has been an esteemed keynote speaker at numerous national and international academic forums. His dedication to promoting aerospace technology in Peru is exemplified by his role as the founder and inaugural Chair of the AESS & SPS Joint Chapter of the IEEE Peru Section. Additionally, he has actively advised several university initiatives in the aerospace sector, further emphasizing his commitment to the field.

A landmark achievement in Prof. Roman-Gonzalez's career is the establishment of the "Introduction to Space Systems" course at our university—an unprecedented step in fostering aerospace education in a country where an undergraduate program in space engineering is yet to be developed. His initiative has laid a solid foundation for aspiring engineers to delve into the field of aerospace.

In recognition of his impactful work, Prof. Roman-Gonzalez was appointed Vice President of Research at the Universidad Nacional de Moquegua. At just 39 years old, he became the youngest university authority in Peru—a testament to his leadership and visionary approach.

In summary, Prof. Roman-Gonzalez's outstanding contributions to science, technology, and education are commendable and transformative. His work has left an indelible mark on our institution and the broader scientific community.

Statement: I am honoured to run for the IEEE AESS Board of Governors. I am driven by my passion for advancing aerospace and electronic systems worldwide. With extensive experience in academia, research, and industry, I aim to strengthen AESS's global impact, particularly in emerging regions like Latin America.

If elected, I will focus on expanding educational initiatives, fostering young professional engagement, and promoting diversity in aerospace engineering. My experience as an IEEE AESS Distinguished Lecturer, founder of technical chapters, and mentor in international programs equips me to enhance member participation and interdisciplinary collaboration.

As a BoG member, I will advocate for greater industry-academia partnerships, encourage cutting-edge research in aerospace systems, and create accessible learning opportunities for students and professionals. By leveraging my international network and leadership experience, I will work towards a more inclusive, innovative, and globally connected AESS community.

I am committed to contributing my expertise and leadership to shaping the future of AESS and ensuring it remains a leading force in aerospace and electronic systems worldwide.



HIMANI SAINI (AF'22-M'23-SM'23) Dr. Himani Saini is a trailblazing Senior Scientist at UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Bangalore, and one of the few women in India to hold operational command at the forefront of the nation's space ambitions. She holds a Ph.D. in Operations Research and an M.Sc. in Industrial Mathematics and Informatics from IIT Roorkee, with over a decade of expertise in aerospace systems engineering, mathematical optimization, and satellite mission operations, the core domains of the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) field of interest.

As Mission Expert, Operations Director, and Mission Director at ISRO, Dr. Saini bears direct responsibility for mission design, analysis, planning, and real-time on-orbit operations across 31 Indian Remote Sensing (IRS) satellites and four scientific missions. Her contributions span Chandrayaan-2/3, and XPoSAT, India's first dedicated X-ray polarimetry satellite, placing the nation among a select group conducting frontier astrophysics from space. Scholarly work includes a publication in *Experimental Astronomy* (2025) on XPoSAT mission analysis, research on agile satellite constellation scheduling in *Acta Astronautica* (2024/2025), and a paper on deep reinforcement learning for LEO constellation coverage at IGARSS 2026, Washington D.C.

Dr. Saini's pioneering work in space safety and situational awareness defines a critical dimension of her technical legacy. She conceptualized the Space Object Proximity Analysis (SOPA) framework, now operationally deployed for real-time collision threat assessment of IRS and LEO satellites and developed the re-entry prediction methodology adopted for IADC Test Campaign objects, advancing international space debris mitigation standards. Both earned her prestigious ISRO Award for Excellence, reserved for contributions of national significance.

Within IEEE AESS, Dr. Saini is deeply engaged. She serves on the AESS Executive Committee (2026), is a member of TC-29 (Microwave Aerospace Systems), and served on the IEEE MTT-S TCFDC LEO Satellite and Systems Working Group (2022–2025). As an annual reviewer for IEEE AESS conferences, she evaluates research submissions & upholds the Society's scholarly standards. As an IEEE Senior Member, she holds membership across AESS, GRSS, MTT-S, Computer Society, Information Theory Society, and Sensor Council and serves as Region-10 PAC Member, IEEE GRSS Bangalore Chapter Vice Chair, IEEE-SA P7019 Working Group Secretary, IEEE Women in Engineering Magazine Editorial Board Member, and 2024 VOLT Graduate & now VOLT mentor.

Dr. Saini is a passionate architect of India's aerospace future. As an organizing committee member for National Space Day/National Science Day at ISRO, she leads competitions, quizzes, satellite model-making events, and technology exhibitions for students from primary school to undergraduate level, democratizing space science across all ages. She has delivered 40+ keynote addresses at IEEE conferences globally and mentors engineers through IEEE AESS, GRSS, WIE, and Computer Society programs. A woman excelling at the highest levels of space science and IEEE leadership, she embodies what is possible, inspiring women and girls everywhere to pursue aerospace with confidence and purpose. She is the recipient of the Rotary International District 3192 Vocational Service Award (2026), a lifetime member of the Astronomical Society of India, and a QMS-certified auditor for ISRO's Mission Planning and Operations Group.

Statement: As a Senior Scientist at the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) with over a decade of experience in aerospace mission design, LEO satellite operations, space debris mitigation, and space situational awareness, I am seeking election to the IEEE AESS Board of Governors to bring an operational perspective to its strategic leadership. My contributions to Chandrayaan-2, Chandrayaan-3, and the XPoSAT mission, alongside AESS-aligned work in space-object proximity analysis and re-entry prediction, demonstrate the value of practitioner-led governance. The aerospace & electronic systems landscape is being rapidly reshaped by proliferating LEO constellations, AI-driven mission operations, and the imperative of space sustainability.

If elected, I will strengthen AESS technical committees in satellite systems and space safety, deepen partnerships with academia and government space agencies, and expand the Society's presence in the Asia-Pacific, a region redefining the future of space. I view the BoG role as stewardship: aligning society's resources with its members' evolving needs, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and ensuring AESS remains the world's definitive community for aerospace and electronic systems professionals. I am ready to serve with commitment.



BRINDHA SAMINATHAN (M'10-GSM'12-M'13-SM'22) I am honored to submit my nomination for the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS) Board of Governors. I hold a Ph.D. in Optical and Wireless Communication from Anna University, along with M.E. in Communication and Networking and B.E. in Electronics and Communication Engineering. With more than two decades of dedicated service to IEEE, I have consistently worked to advance technical excellence, professional development, and global collaboration. I currently serve as Treasurer and Chair of the Awards Committee of the IEEE Madras Section, Global Strategy Representative (India) for the IEEE Photonics Society, Chair of the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS) Madras Section Chapter,

Vice Chair of the IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS) Madras Section Chapter, and long-standing IEEE Student Branch Counselor. Through these leadership roles, I have mentored and inspired thousands of students and professionals, strengthened chapter vitality, and contributed to the growth of IEEE at regional and global levels. My contributions closely align with the AESS field of interest, particularly in optical and wireless communication, radio-over-fiber networks, intelligent vehicular systems, secure communications, and emerging 5G/6G technologies. I have published over 100 peer-reviewed journal and conference papers, guided research scholars, secured competitive research funding, and actively contributed to national and international technical working groups in optical communication and quantum technologies. My research and technical activities support the advancement of complex, reliable, and

intelligent electronic systems that are fundamental to aerospace and defense applications. I have been deeply involved in IEEE conferences, technical programs, and professional activities. I have served as Conference Chair, Technical Program Chair, and organizer for major international IEEE conferences, seasonal schools, design competitions, and more than 200 technical and professional events. I have also played a key role in strengthening student and young professional engagement through mentoring, technical training, and leadership development programs, helping to build the next generation of IEEE and AESS leaders. My motivation for seeking election to the AESS Board of Governors is to contribute strategically to the Society's continued growth and global impact. If elected, I will work to enhance member value, strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration across societies, promote high-quality conferences and publications, and expand participation from academia, industry, and emerging regions. I am particularly committed to advancing student and young professional involvement, encouraging diversity and inclusion, and supporting innovation in emerging aerospace and electronic systems technologies. In view of the BoG's role as one of service, responsibility, and visionary leadership—ensuring transparency, fostering innovation, and enabling collaboration across the global AESS community. I am committed to listening to members, representing their interests, and working diligently to help AESS remain a leading global platform for technological advancement, professional excellence, and impactful contributions to society.

Statement: I am honored to submit my nomination for the IEEE AESS Board of Governors. With over two decades of dedicated service to IEEE as Treasurer of the IEEE Madras Section, Global Strategy Representative for the IEEE Photonics Society, Chair of the IEEE VTS Madras Section Chapter, Vice Chair of the IEEE SPS Madras Section Chapter, and long-time Student Branch Counselor, I have consistently worked to strengthen professional engagement, technical excellence, and global collaboration. My motivation for seeking election is to contribute strategically to advancing AESS in emerging domains such as intelligent aerospace systems, photonics, and next-generation communication networks, while fostering strong industry-academia partnerships and inclusive global participation. If elected, I will focus on expanding member value, enhancing student and young professional development, promoting interdisciplinary research, and strengthening international visibility through impactful programs and collaborations. I view the BoG role as one of responsible leadership, transparency, and service—guiding policy, enabling innovation, and supporting members worldwide. I am committed to collaborating and working diligently to help AESS grow technological landscapes.



VINCENT P. SOCCI (S'90-M'92-SM'05) is Chief Technologist at On Target Motion where he delivers systems engineering, program management, venture management, and intellectual property services for safety-critical applications such as aerospace, automotive, rail, marine, and medical innovation programs. His engineering career spans more than 35 years developing hardware, software, and systems in various fault-tolerant embedded controls applications. He led teams in senior roles at Blue Origin, Lockheed Martin, Parker Hannifin, National Instruments, and other organizations. He developed products for autonomous systems, UAVs, space vehicle propulsion and communications, fuel control systems, power and energy systems, navigation systems, avionics, medical and therapeutic devices, flight control systems, diagnostic/prognostic systems, radar, electrical system, health and fault managers, X-ray scanners, engine and motor controls, automotive and aerospace control systems, and military ground electric vehicles. He holds BS and MS degrees in electrical engineering, an MBA in technology management specializing in IP management, an MA in leadership and counseling and is currently a PhD candidate. He is a certified Project Management Professional and serves on PMI and SAE standards and technical committees.

Socci brought leadership experience to IEEE, MGA, EAC, and IEEE-USA boards of directors and various committees. He delivered strategic planning for Regions 1 and 3. He is founding chair of two AESS chapters. Socci has been an active member of IEEE AESS for over 25 years. He currently serves AESS as chapter chair and on the Board of Governors as Vice President of Membership. He led AESS conferences (space defense), standards (UAV), technical panels (UAV), and workshops (drone pilot licensing). He is an AESS DL and has written AESS-related papers and tutorials.

He provided membership value to the IEEE members by creating technical activities, tutorial programs, organizational units, PACE and professional skills programs, and networking programs as well as joint programs with other professional organizations.

He revitalized IEEE organization units by focusing on two objectives: increase volunteer involvement and increase technical and educational activities.

As an industry leader, he developed and led organizations at all levels from startup to Fortune-50 companies. He built teams and created succession plans. He dealt with resource issues and mitigated major personnel issues. He created companies, divisions and teams and mentored employees through their careers from entry level to senior management.

He has the integrity to serve in critical roles that demand unbiased and selfless perspectives. He fought for the right decisions, even if those decisions were unpopular. As stewards of IEEE, we should represent the full body of IEEE in our efforts, not just those where we have a personal interest. By bringing his IEEE organizational leadership experience and management expertise to the IEEE AESS BoG, Socci will help IEEE grow and be more effective across our membership and our constituents

I have the time and commitment to undertake this role and will be able to attend meetings. We can be a valuable provider of technology, community, and collaboration for our stakeholders.

Statement: I will deliver tangible value to our society membership by engaging in the activities, concerns, and interests of our members and communities. I'll study member needs and deliver resources and solutions to our members.

Membership growth and industry engagement in our society require effective resources, relationships, and revitalization. We must create tangible and perceived value for our members to maximize the benefits they receive while minimizing the costs they pay.

Initiatives to pursue:

Pursue effective use of resources to increase membership value: Understand the value of our offerings, allocate our resources to those that bring value, and sunset programs that do not deliver value.

Take forward-thinking initiative and drive action at the chapter and society level: Create programs that fill the value gaps demanded by our members (e.g., VDLs, tutorials, short courses) and encourage chapters to utilize the society offerings.

Support members to benefit our society and industries: Connect our chapters to share best practices and transferrable solutions and provide them with the resources and training to effectively deliver programs to their units.



BARRY C. TILTON (M'86-S'89-M'90-SM'05) is a Technology Evangelist and Senior Engineering leader at KBR Inc. working digital engineering and twin evolution for a US Federal agency. He has over 40 years' experience as an EE in the aerospace field, is a Licensed PE and Certified PMP. He is the 2026 IEEE-USA President, and currently the VP of Industry Relations on the AESS BoG. An Air Force veteran, he worked as a Chief Engineer, Scientist, and Program Director while on active duty. He completed assignments at Space Division, NRO, Space Command, and NGA. Subsequent to his retirement from the AF in 2005, Barry has worked in industry supporting air and space programs in remote sensing, space surveillance, resilience, and GEOINT for both commercial applications and the

NRO and NGA.

Barry is a Past-Director of IEEE Region 2 (and as a result of MGA and IEEE-USA Region 2 as well).

He is a Senior Member of IEEE, HKN and AIAA, a fellow of the American Geographical Society and a Life Member of the United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation who has both been involved with (and served in positions of leadership in) IEEE and the aerospace community for over 40 years. He has been a member of IEEE since 1985, and has been involved as a volunteer, author, conference attendee and thought leader in the AESS and GRSS for most of that time. Upon retirement from the US Air Force, Mr. Tilton became active in leadership of several technical activities, including the IEEE-USA CTAP, which he chaired. He currently serves as a Distinguished Lecturer for the IEEE TEM Society.

Outside of his professional service, Barry is the Webmaster, Council Member, and Sport Coordinator for Special Olympics Northern Virginia.

Barry earned his BSEE from USC and his MSEE from Northrop University. He is married to the former Elaine Belen and has three adult children.

Statement: I am thrilled at the possibility to continue my involvement with AESS. I have very much enjoyed the Board experience to date and feel I can continue to contribute to its strategic direction. My career has been along the boundary of aerospace and geoint. During my 20 years in the USAF I worked on programs in all phases of space operations – launch, satellite protection, navigation, communications, remote sensing, on orbit servicing, and de-orbit. I have also operated systems on board aircraft as diverse as a Twin- Otter up to the NASA Long-Wing WB-57F at 62,000 feet.

I have been passionate about aerospace since I was 7 years old and greatly desire to give back to the community now that I am in the senior phase of my career. With time split nearly evenly now between government and industry, I believe I have a lot to offer the BoG in terms of insight and context for current and future planning and solutions. I would like to continue to focus on industry/government alignment.