

ASEE North Central Section Officer Elections

The ASEE North Central Section (NCS) is not holding its own regional conference this Spring, and is instead participating in the Zone 2 Conference to be held in Puerto Rico on March 2 through 5, 2017. Officer elections are usually held at the regional conference event. In order to increase participation in the officer elections, the ASEE NCS Executive Board has decided to hold the officer elections for Spring 2017 by e-mail.

Please find attached the biographical sketches for each person who has agreed to be nominated for one of the officer positions.

How to Vote:

Send an e-mail from your university e-mail account to Andrew Kline, Section Past Chair and Elections Officer.

andrew.kline@wmich.edu

Include in the e-mail your vote for each of the three officer positions:

Section Chair: Select one person from the one person nominated.

Section Vice Chair: Select one person from the two people nominated.

Section Director: Select up to two people from the three people nominated.

Deadline to send in your vote is Noon (Eastern Time Zone) on Tuesday, February 28, 2017.

Biographical Sketches

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Nominees are listed alphabetically by their last name within each officer election category.

Section Chair - One Nominee - Vote for One Person Only

Candidate for Section Chair

(2-year term begins in June 2017)

Karina M. Vernaza is a Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department and Associate Dean of the College of Engineering and Business, Gannon University (Erie, PA). She joined Gannon University in 2003 with primarily teaching responsibilities in the solids mechanics field and introduction to engineering courses. Her academic background includes a B.S. in Marine Systems Engineering from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and a M.S. and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Notre Dame; her industry experience includes shipyard project management and consulting for Off-High Vehicles projects at GE Transportation. She was awarded the 2008 Minority Achiever's Award by the Pittsburgh Minority Opinion Magazine, 2012 ASEE NCS Outstanding Teacher Award, 2013 Gannon University Distinguished Faculty Award and 2013-2014 Gannon University Faculty Award for Excellence in Service-Learning. She is one of the Principal Investigators of three NSF S-STEM and one ADVANCE-PAID grants. As part of the NSF S-STEM awards, she has developed programs that assist students in engineering and computer science to excel and persist in the mentioned fields and that help reduce attritions factors.

She is very active in ASEE within the North Central Section. She has held the positions of Unit Director-Research (2013-2015) and Vice Chair (2015-2016) and she is currently the Best Paper Awards Chair (2016-present). Additionally, she served as part of the Conference Committee that coordinated the Frontiers in Education in Erie, PA (October 12-15, 2016).

Section Vice Chair - Two Nominees - Vote for One Person Only

Candidate for Section Vice Chair (1-year term begins in June 2017)

Ali Eydgahi joined Eastern Michigan University as an Associate Dean in the College of Technology in 2010 and currently is a Professor in the School of Engineering Technology. Prior to his current position, he had been a faculty member at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, State University of New York, and University of Maryland Eastern Shore. During 2006-2010, he was Chair of the Department of Engineering and Aviation Sciences, Founder and Director of the Center for 3-D Visualization and Virtual Reality Applications, and Technical Director of the NASA funded MIST Space Vehicle Mission Planning Laboratory at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Dr. Eydgahi has served the ECE Division of ASEE as Secretary/Treasurer, Program Chair, Vice Chair, and Division Chair during 2010-2014; as a member of Technical Editor Board for ASEE Computer in Education Journal during 2013-16; as a member of the Board of Directors for ASEE Tau Alpha Pi Honor Society, as Technical Activities Director of IEEE Southeast Michigan Section; as a member of Advisory and Editorial boards for many International Journals in Engineering and Technology, as a member of review panel for NASA and Department of Education, as a regional and chapter chairman of IEEE, SME, and ASEE, and as a session chair and as a member of scientific and international committees for many international conferences.

Candidate for Section Vice Chair (1-year term begins in June 2017)

Andrew Milks is Associate Professor of Electronic Engineering Technology at The University of Akron. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Ohio Northern University and a Master of Science in Control Systems Engineering from West Virginia University Institute of Technology. After graduation from ONU he worked in aerospace electronics projects based in Dayton. Since graduating from WVUIT he has worked in the chemical and water processing industries.

He has 19 years of teaching experience including the last nine at The University of Akron. Professor Milks has been a member of ASEE since 2009 and has served the North Central Section as Treasurer from 2013 to 2016 and Vice Chair in 2016-2017. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Ohio and West Virginia and continues to consult on instrumentation and power projects in the water and wastewater treatment field. Mr. Milks is an ABET program evaluator and is currently working on his dissertation modeling student persistence motivation. Andrew Milks is one of the lead organizers from the University of Akron, which will host the ASEE North Central Section Regional Conference in Spring 2018.

Section Director - Three Nominees - Vote for up to Two People

Candidate for Director (2-year term begins in June 2017)

Nicholas Baine, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the School of Engineering at Grand Valley State University (GVSU). Since 2015, he has served as a Director for the North Central Section of the American Society of Engineering Educators and is working to host the section conference at GVSU in 2019. His expertise is in the design of electrical control systems and sensor data fusion. As an instructor, he specializes in teaching freshman courses as well as control systems and design of digital and embedded systems. While at Wright State University, he was part of the group that developed a new model to teach mathematics to engineering students. As a faculty member at Grand Valley State University, he is working to develop and improve the relatively new freshman design courses.

Candidate for Director (2-year term begins in June 2017)

Gregory Bucks, Ph.D. is currently an assistant professor – educator at the University of Cincinnati (UC) in the Department of Engineering Education, College of Engineering and Applied Science (CEAS). He received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University and his M.S. in Electrical Engineering and Ph.D. in Engineering Education from Purdue University. He has been an active member of the national ASEE organization since 2006 and the North Central Section (NCS) since 2012, having attended both the national and regional conferences each year. He has served as a Director on the ASEE NCS executive board for the past two years and also co-chaired the ASEE NCS regional conference in 2015 at the University of Cincinnati. His teaching responsibilities lie primarily in first-year engineering, where he has been significantly involved in the development and delivery of the first-year engineering curriculum at UC. He has also developed several introductory graduate courses in engineering education offered to graduate students in CEAS who are interested in pursuing a career in higher education. His research interests lie in the design and assessment of first-year engineering experiences and in the development of conceptual understanding in computing.

Candidate for Director (2-year term begins in June 2017)

S. Papanikolaou is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at West Virginia University, and an adjunct professor of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Johns Hopkins University. He acquired his BSc in Physics from the National University of Athens; and his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from the Department of Engineering Physics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He continued his research in the Department of Physics at Cornell University from 2009 to 2011, and the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science at Yale University (2011-2014), before joining the faculty at Johns Hopkins in 2014 and the faculty at West Virginia in 2016. Papanikolaou has won the VIDI excellence grant (class of 2013) administered by the Netherlands Research Council for developing the career of highly prolific and productive researchers.

His primary research interest is in the theory and application of statistical methods towards the theoretical and computational modeling of mechanical behavior of materials. The aim is to

develop and use minimal, reduced-order models to provide non-trivial classification of large data sets by identifying emergent pattern formations. A major focus is on mechanical damage identification and prediction near boundaries, either free (as in micropillars), grain-grain or grain-substrate. His primary teaching interests lie in working with both undergraduate and graduate students in science and engineering courses that combine theory and applications. Some representative courses are: Classical Solid Mechanics, Kinetic Theory and Thermodynamics, and Numerical Methods for Science & Engineering.

Papanikolaou has always been supportive of diversity in the working environment, and he has tried to participate in events and activities that attempt to promote diversity. He has taken special interest in mentoring graduate students during research that represent minorities in the engineering working environment. He has consistently mentored minority students and has been a volunteer mentor of female graduate students in the “Women in Science at Yale” program (WISAY), a local effort at Yale to promote efforts to diversify the academic environment, especially in the engineering school.