

2026 **EDI**

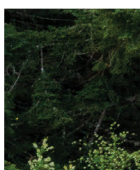
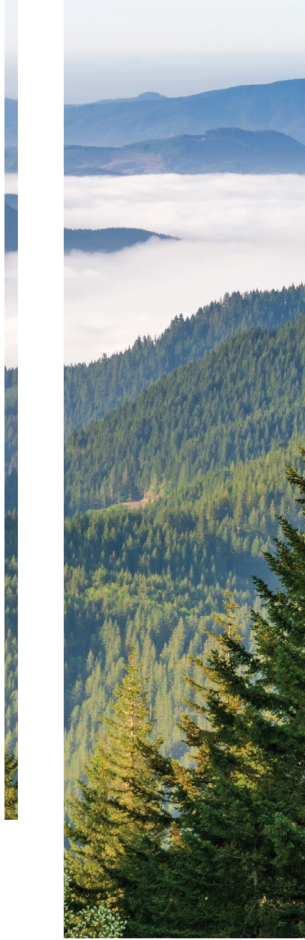
 **PROGRAM BOOK**

 **ASEE** AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR
ENGINEERING EDUCATION



ENGINEERING DEANS INSTITUTE

April 19–21, 2026  Royal Sonesta, New Orleans, LA



College of Engineering



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We know — it’s a bit unfair. Although the Pacific Northwest landscape is a tough act to follow, our research is even more impressive. Oregon State is proud to lead major projects in partnership with the world’s top engineering communities, demonstrating that the greatest breakthroughs happen when innovation and expertise meet a unique sense of place and purpose.

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WELCOME TO THE 2026 ENGINEERING DEANS INSTITUTE (EDI) IN DYNAMIC NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

On behalf of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) and the members of the Engineering Deans Institute (EDI) Planning Committee, we are excited to welcome you to New Orleans for what promises to be a timely, practical, and essential gathering of engineering leaders.

This year's conference comes at a critical moment for engineering education. Our pre-conference survey of engineering deans yielded 79 responses. They revealed both the urgency and breadth of challenges you face: research funding uncertainties rated as the highest-priority concern, rapidly evolving AI technologies transforming every aspect of your work, complex budget models that seem designed to confound rather than clarify, and the fundamental question of how to communicate engineering's value in an increasingly skeptical policy environment. You told us what you needed, and we listened.

Our Planning Committee has designed nine highly interactive sessions focused on actionable strategies rather than theoretical discussions. These sessions address your most pressing concerns: future-proofing research funding through diversification strategies (our highest-rated topic); navigating campus financial and budgeting models; defining and communicating the value of engineering to society; managing AI's impact across operations, faculty work, and student preparation; engaging effectively with industry partners; and adapting to

evolving international student recruitment challenges. Each session emphasizes peer-to-peer learning, concrete takeaways, and strategies you can implement immediately upon returning to campus.

We are privileged to be joined by distinguished speakers who bring both expertise and practical experience, including Dr. Tsu-Jae Liu, President of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE); Dr. Laura Lindenfeld, Executive Director of the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science at Stony Brook University; Dr. David Munson, Jr., President Emeritus of the Rochester Institute of Technology and former Dean of Engineering at the University of Michigan; and Dr. Martin Schoonen, Interim Deputy Director for Science & Technology at Brookhaven National Laboratory, to name just a few. These speakers were chosen not for their titles alone, but for their willingness to share honest assessments of what works, what fails, and why.

This year's format reflects your feedback: approximately 40% presentation and 60% interaction. We've structured breakout discussions and facilitated table conversations, problem-solving sessions, and synthesis opportunities designed to help you connect with peers facing similar challenges. Whether you are the engineering dean for a large research university or a primarily undergraduate institution, a public or a private school, you'll find colleagues wrestling with comparable issues and developing

WELCOME TO THE 2026 ENGINEERING DEANS INSTITUTE (EDI) IN DYNAMIC NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

innovative solutions worth adapting to your context.

The opportunity to network with your engineering dean colleagues remains invaluable, and we have ensured ample time for these essential conversations. New Orleans offers a vibrant backdrop for both formal sessions and informal exchanges, and we encourage you to take advantage of both.

We want to thank everyone for attending this year's EDI. To our sponsors, your generous support makes this gathering possible. We extend special gratitude to ASEE staff and contractors for their

unwavering support of this meeting, particularly Tonya Tucker, Ashley Krawiec, Monique Ayala, Wayne Davis, Eva Miller, Lung-I Lo, Deborah Lee Rose, and Patti Greenawalt.

We designed this conference for you, the engineering deans navigating unprecedented complexity with limited roadmaps. Our goal is simple: for you to leave New Orleans with concrete strategies, trusted peer networks, a list of items to implement, and renewed confidence that you're not alone in facing these challenges.

Welcome to New Orleans. Let's get to work.



Andrea Welker
Dean, School of Engineering
The College of New Jersey
EDI 2026 Co-Chair



Andrew C. Singer
Dean, College of Engineering
and Applied Sciences
Stony Brook University
EDI 2026 Co-Chair

The future is blue.

BY THE NUMBERS

\$110M in funding for the URI/UCONN National Institute for Undersea Vehicle Technology partnership since 2019

1st in nation to offer a Ph.D. in ocean engineering

50% of faculty funded by Office of Naval Research

2X increase in annual research expenditures since 2021

\$300M in capital investments at URI Narragansett Bay Campus

The oceans gave birth to life on our planet and hold the key to our survival. At the University of Rhode Island—the flagship public R1 research university for the Ocean State—our connection with the ocean runs deep. From securing our national defense and harnessing the wind and waves for clean energy, to assessing the impact of nanoplastics on marine ecosystems and protecting our fragile coastal resources—for URI's College of Engineering, the future is blue.



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IN NEW ENGLAND

#34 PUBLIC UNIVERSITY IN THE U.S.

—The Wall Street Journal (2026)

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION

R1

TOP-TIER
RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY



uri.edu/engineering

URI ocean engineering Ph.D. student Jade Case on board the R/V *Neil Armstrong* alongside underwater acoustic recording devices being deployed in the North Atlantic Ocean

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

2026 ENGINEERING DEANS INSTITUTE PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Andrew Singer

Dean, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Stony Brook University

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Dean, School of Engineering
The College of New Jersey

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Randy Collins

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Dean, School of Science and Engineering
Tulane University

Michelle Sabick

Dean, Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science
University of Denver

Lawrence Whitman

Dean, Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology
Kennesaw State University

Collin Wick

Dean, College of Engineering and Science
Louisiana Tech University

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Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Sharon Zelmanowitz

Dean, School of Engineering and Cyber Systems
United States Coast Guard Academy

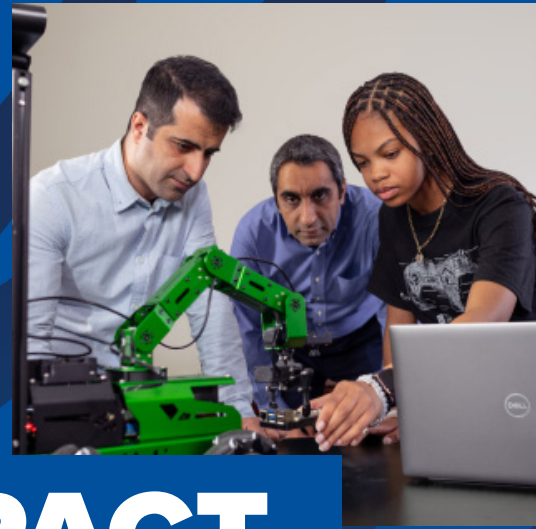
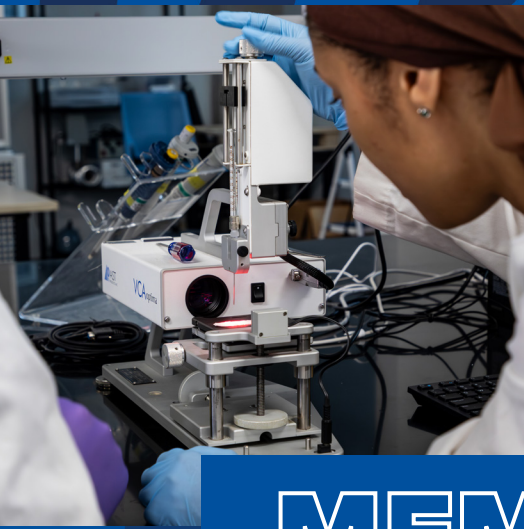
EX-OFFICIO ADVISORY MEMBERS

Kenneth Ball

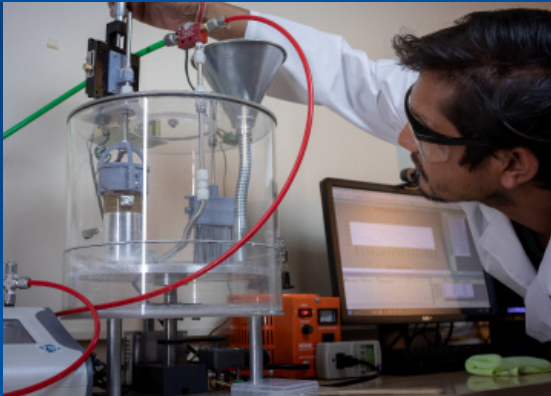
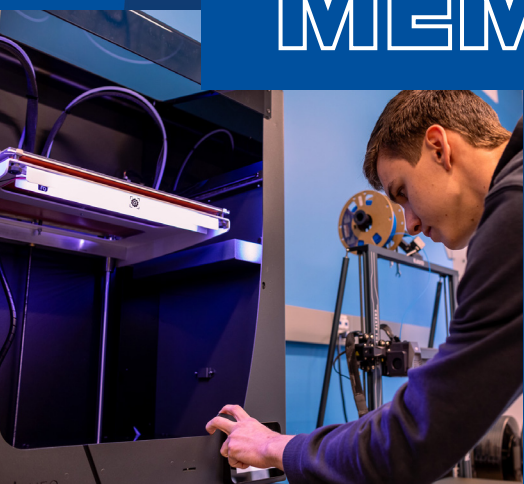
Engineering Deans Council Past Chair
George Mason University

Brian Novoselich

CEO and Executive Director
ASEE Headquarters



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Where leadership, strategy and collaboration influence the future of engineering education, impacting an ever-changing world.



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<p>10:15am – 12:15pm Royal Conti</p>	<p>Engineering Deans Council (EDC) Executive Board Meeting</p>
<p>10:30am – 5pm Grand Ballroom Foyer</p>	<p>Registration</p>
<p>12:30pm – 1:15pm Bourbon</p>	<p>NSF Updates and Coalition for U.S. Engineering (CUE)</p> <p>SPEAKER: Dr. Don Millard Head of the Engineering Directorate <i>National Science Foundation</i></p>
<p>1:30pm – 2:15pm Royal Conti</p>	<p>Public Policy Committee</p>
<p>2:30pm – 3:15pm Royal Conti</p>	<p>Data Committee</p>
<p>3:30pm – 5pm Regal Suite</p>	<p>Primarily Undergraduate Institution Deans Meeting</p> <p>MODERATORS: Sara Atwood <i>Elizabethtown College</i> Katy Snyder <i>University of Detroit, Mercy</i> John-David (J.D.) Yoder <i>Ohio Northern University</i></p>
<p>6pm – 8pm Fleur de Lis & Courtyard</p>	<p>Welcome Reception, Sponsored by The University of Rhode Island</p> <p>SPEAKER: Dr. Anthony Marchese Dean, College of Engineering <i>The University of Rhode Island</i></p>

<p>8am – 5pm Grand Ballroom Foyer</p>	<p>Registration</p>
<p>8am – 9am Grand Ballroom</p>	<p>Breakfast, Sponsored by Saint Louis University Engineering the Moment: From Shared Challenge to Collective Action</p> <p>SPEAKER: Dr. Gregory Triplett Dean, School of Science and Engineering <i>Saint Louis University</i></p>
<p>9am – 9:15am Grand Ballroom</p>	<p>Welcome and Remarks</p> <p>SPEAKERS: Dr. Amy Fleischer Engineering Deans Council (EDC) Chair <i>Boise State University</i></p> <p>Dr. Andrew Singer Engineering Deans Institute (EDI) Co-Chair <i>Stony Brook University</i></p>



9:15am – 10:30am
Grand Ballroom

Session 1: Managing Change in a Time of Uncertainty— Being Proactive Instead of Reactive

Let's be honest: being an engineering dean right now can feel less like academic leadership and more like a high-stakes game of Whack-A-Mole—where the mallet is on fire and the moles are AI disruption, budget shortfalls, and shifting political winds. Higher education is operating in permanent turbulence, and “duck and cover” is not a sustainable strategy.

This session is a collective deep breath for leaders ready to move beyond crisis-of-the-week management toward a proactive framework that treats disruption as a design constraint rather than a catastrophe. Drawing on the diverse experiences of four panelists, we will share candid lessons on resource allocation, data-informed foresight, cultural change, and the grit required to build adaptive engineering colleges. Attendees will leave with practical strategies to lead with intention instead of reaction.

MODERATOR:

Hridesh Rajan
Tulane University

PANELISTS:

Dr. Andrea Graham
Dean, College of Science and Engineering
East Texas A&M University

Dr. Tsu-Jae Liu
President
National Academy of Engineering

Dr. Sharon Walker
Dean Emerita, College of Engineering
Drexel University

Dr. Sharon Zelmanowitz
Dean, School of Engineering and Cyber Systems
United States Coast Guard Academy

10:30am – 10:45am
Evangeline Suite & Foyer

Refreshment and Networking Break

10:45am – 12pm
Grand Ballroom

Session 2: Defining the Value of Engineering and Higher Education to Society

Higher education is facing growing scrutiny—politically, economically, and culturally. Its value is debated, its costs examined, and its purpose too often reduced to a single outcome measure like starting salary. While engineering may steer clear of the most acute political controversy, it is not immune from examination. We must also provide strong rationales for our engineering degrees given the growing visibility of AI and the evolution of non-degreed badges and certifications in specialized technical areas.

Our pre-conference survey confirmed this challenge: while deans recognize the need for better communication, many acknowledge they're not using social media and modern strategies effectively. The issue is not a lack of impact but a need to communicate that impact more clearly and confidently. When we are passive, others shape the narrative.

This session encourages a shift away from blaming the listeners for not hearing our message. Instead, deans must develop tools for proactive, evidence-based storytelling that connects engineering and higher education to economic growth, public safety, technological progress, and social mobility. Through expert guidance, peer discussion, and practical examples, attendees will develop communication strategies they can implement immediately.

MODERATORS:

Vicki Colvin

Louisiana State University

Andrea Graham

East Texas A&M University

Andrew Singer

Stony Brook University

PANELISTS:

Dr. Laura Lindenfeld

Executive Director, Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science
Stony Brook University

Dr. Tsu-Jae Liu

President
National Academy of Engineering

Dr. David C. Munson, Jr.

Past President
Rochester Institute of Technology

12pm – 1:15pm
Grand Ballroom

Lunch, Sponsored by Texas A&M Engineering

SPEAKER:

Dr. Robert Bishop

Vice Chancellor for Engineering and Dean
The Texas A&M University System



1:15pm – 2:15pm
Grand Ballroom

Session 3: Future-Proofing Research Funding: Adapting Your Research Programs as Campus Budget Models and Government Financing Expectations Change and Remain Uncertain

Research funding uncertainty has reached critical levels, with engineering deans facing federal budget unpredictability, declining state support, and challenging graduate student recruitment. Pre-conference survey responses revealed this as the top concern (4.8/5.0) among deans, with particular anxiety about research portfolios overexposed to federal funding and industry partnerships that strain budgets through lack of overhead recovery.

This session presents three proven diversification pathways. Industry-university research consortia combine NSF support with sustained industry funding and overhead recovery. National laboratory partnerships provide access to world-class facilities, graduate student opportunities, and alternative Department of Energy funding mechanisms. Federal funding experts explain Congressional Directed Spending processes and agency priorities. Following expert presentations, participants will engage in problem-solving table discussions organized by specific challenges, developing actionable strategies for diversifying funding portfolios, supporting graduate students, and building sustainable industry partnerships. Concrete takeaways include templates, models, and peer networks.

MODERATORS:

Robert Keynton

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Andrew Singer

Stony Brook University

Kumar Yelamarthi

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

PANELISTS:

Lauren Brookmeyer

Associate Vice President for Federal Relations and Head of the Washington, DC Office
Stony Brook University

Dr. Robert Cox

Executive Director, Energy Production & Infrastructure Center (EPIC)
The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Dr. Martin Schoonen

Interim Deputy Director for Science & Technology
Brookhaven National Laboratory

2:15pm – 2:45pm
Evangeline Suite & Foyer

Refreshment and Networking Break

2:45pm – 3:45pm
Grand Ballroom

Session 4: Engaging Effectively with Industry and Corporate Partners by Creating an Enticing Value Proposition

Many institutions are trying to strengthen their engagement with external partners. The National Association of Corporate Relations Officers (NACRO) has defined three levels of engagement: transactional engagement (e.g. attendance at career fairs, event sponsorship, executive education); investors (e.g. advisory board, undergraduate and graduate research support, internships and co-ops); and strategic partners (e.g. major sponsor of programs/facilities, partnership on proposals, curricular development). Our panelists will discuss how to engage with external partners at every level and how to deepen engagement across these levels. This session will start with a panel discussion with ample time for questions and the opportunity to think through next steps with your table.

MODERATORS:

Randy Collins

Western Carolina University

Robert Keynton

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Andrea Welker

The College of New Jersey

PANELISTS:

P.J. Boardman

Global Director, STEM Outreach and Workforce Development

MathWorks

Louis Franchina

Executive Director, Corporate, Foundation, and Research Relations

Tulane University

Dr. Sharon Walker

Dean Emerita, College of Engineering

Drexel University

Dr. John-David (J.D.) Yoder

Dean, College of Engineering

Ohio Northern University

3:45pm – 5pm
Grand Ballroom

Session 5: Deans Forum: New, Recent, and Curious Deans

New, recent, and curious deans is an interactive 75-minute session that brings together a diverse group of deans for discussion and mutual mentorship on group-determined greatest challenges.

MODERATORS:

Randy Collins

Western Carolina University

Michelle Sabick

University of Denver

Andrea Welker

The College of New Jersey

Sharon Zelmanowitz

United States Coast Guard Academy

7pm – 9pm

Steven and Jann Paul
Hall for Science and
Engineering Courtyard
Tulane University
6600 Freret St.
New Orleans, LA, 70118

Deans Reception, Sponsored by Tulane University

SPEAKERS:

Michael A. Fitts, J.D.

President

Tulane University

Dr. Amy Fleischer

Engineering Deans Council (EDC) Chair

Boise State University

Dr. Hridayesh Rajan

Dean, School of Science and Engineering

Tulane University

Shuttle Pickup at 6:30pm:

Corner of Bourbon and
Canal Street



<p>8am – 5pm Grand Ballroom Foyer</p>	<p>Registration</p>
<p>8am – 9am Grand Ballroom</p>	<p>Breakfast, Sponsored by Onshape by PTC</p> <p>SPEAKER Alyssa Walker Senior Director <i>Onshape Education</i></p>
<p>9am – 9:15am Grand Ballroom</p>	<p>Welcome and Remarks</p> <p>SPEAKERS: Dr. Christi Patton Luks ASEE President <i>Missouri University of Science and Technology</i></p> <p>Dr. Andrea Welker Engineering Deans Institute (EDI) Co-Chair <i>The College of New Jersey</i></p>



9:15am – 10:15am
Grand Ballroom

Session 6: Campus Financial and Budgeting Models

University budget models vary widely, ranging from opaque systems with limited impact to transparent, performance-based frameworks that directly influence institutional outcomes. Pre-conference survey responses revealed both the diversity of models in use and widespread questions about their effectiveness in supporting engineering colleges. Engineering's often higher costs must be balanced against its major role in enhancing university reputation and economic impact—but making this case requires understanding how different budget models work.

MODERATORS:

Andrew Singer

Stony Brook University

Collin Wick

Louisiana Tech University

PANELISTS:

Dr. Rashid Bashir

Dean, The Grainger College of Engineering
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Lisa Bradley

Senior Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Louisiana Tech University

Dr. Paul Ellinger

Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Comptroller
University of Illinois System

Dr. Anthony Marchese

Dean, College of Engineering
The University of Rhode Island

Jed M. Shivers

Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration
Stony Brook University

10:15am – 10:30am
Grand Ballroom

Cool Ideas I

The “Real Readers” Program

Wendi Heinzelman
University of Rochester

River Hawk Flight Plan: A Reimagined Approach to an Engineering Open House

Susan Roberts
University of Massachusetts, Lowell

72-Hour Engineering Challenge

Alessandro Orso
University of Georgia

MODERATORS:

Randy Collins
Western Carolina University

Ahmed Khattab
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Lawrence Whitman
Kennesaw State University

10:30am – 11am
Evangeline Suite & Foyer

Refreshment and Networking Break



11am – 12pm
Grand Ballroom

Session 7: Producing AI-Ready Engineers with AI-Driven Workforce Development

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the practice of engineering at a pace that is prompting new opportunities for innovation in engineering education. The question is no longer whether to teach AI, but whether engineering colleges are redesigning their educational models to prepare graduates for an AI-driven workforce.

This panel session brings together academic and industry perspectives to examine what it means to produce AI-ready engineers. Panelists will address the growing gap between university preparation and enterprise deployment; faculty readiness; curriculum integration; and the strategic shifts required to align engineering education with evolving workforce demands.

Designed as a working dialogue among engineering deans, the panel session will engage participants in identifying institutional barriers and defining leadership priorities necessary to align engineering education with rapidly advancing technological realities.

MODERATORS:

Andrea Graham

East Texas A&M University

Ahmed Khattab

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Hridesh Rajan

Tulane University

PANELISTS:

Dr. Burcu Akinci

Dean, College of Engineering

Carnegie Mellon University

Dr. Magdy Bayoumi

Department Head, Electrical & Computer Engineering

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Paige Carter

Chief Business Development Officer

Louisiana Economic Development (LED)

Andy Quick

Former Chief AI Officer

Entergy

12pm – 1:45pm
Grand Ballroom

Lunch, Sponsored by Florida International University

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Amy Fleischer

Engineering Deans Council (EDC) Chair
Boise State University

Dr. Brian Novoselich

CEO and Executive Officer
ASEE Headquarters

Redefining Resilience Science and Engineering and Computing Research

SPEAKER:

Dr. Jack A. Puleo

Associate Vice President for Strategic Initiatives
Florida International University

1:45pm – 2:45pm
Grand Ballroom

Session 8: Navigating International Student Recruitment

International students are a key segment of many institutions' community, enhancing multicultural perspectives in classrooms—and campuses in general—and participating in groundbreaking research in labs, among other contributions. International graduates are also critical to meeting the U.S. engineering workforce demand that continues to outpace the number of degrees awarded. The landscape of international student enrollment fluctuates over time, which presents challenges to institutions in enrolling international students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and can result in institutions falling short of their enrollment targets. These fluctuations are typically related to four main factors: finances, policy, perception, and competition. Through a balance of presentations and discussion, this session will provide an overview of the trends in the international student enrollment landscape, the factors affecting the trends, and expert guidance and discussion about what we can do individually and collectively to help address the issues.

MODERATORS:

Cliff Henderson

University of Alabama

Brad Putman

Bucknell University

Lawrence Whitman

Kennesaw State University

SPEAKER:

Dr. Miriam Feldblum

Co-Founder, President, and CEO

Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration

2:45pm – 3pm
Grand Ballroom

Cool Ideas II

Math Readiness COMPASS Course Partnerships: A College Transition and Student Success Program for Increasing Engineering Enrollments

Clifford Henderson
The University of Alabama

Mentoring Program for Non-Tenure-Track Faculty

Kemper Lewis
University at Buffalo

Elevating Career Outcomes in Engineering

Michelle Sabick
University of Denver

MODERATORS:

Randy Collins
Western Carolina University

Ahmed Khattab
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Lawrence Whitman
Kennesaw State University

3pm – 3:30pm
Evangeline Suite & Foyer

Refreshment and Networking Break



<p>3:30pm – 5pm Grand Ballroom</p>	<p>Session 9: HOT TOPIC—Hashing It Out: How AI is Changing Operations, Engineering Education, and Research</p> <p>Engineering deans face an unprecedented challenge: AI is simultaneously transforming college operations, faculty research and teaching, student expectations, and the fundamental skills students need. Meanwhile, environmental and ethical concerns regarding the energy and water usage of data centers—and AI’s impact on creativity, mindfulness, and problem-solving skills—are growing. In operations, AI promises budget analysis and enrollment forecasting efficiency, but implementation requires careful planning. Faculty need guidance on AI in research and teaching while maintaining academic integrity and data security. Students must learn AI tools, but which ones, and how deeply? Meanwhile, the technology evolves faster than policy frameworks, leaving institutions in perpetual catch-up mode. In this session, attendees will gather at tables to discuss important topics with table leads. For each topic, the tables will consider the following questions to start the conversation: What’s working at your institution? What challenges are you facing? What policies/guidelines do you need? What’s one thing you could implement next month? The session will conclude with a report out by each table.</p> <p>MODERATORS: Andrea Graham <i>East Texas A&M University</i> Hridayesh Rajan <i>Tulane University</i> Andrew Singer <i>Stony Brook University</i></p>
<p>5:30pm – 6pm Fleur de Lis & Courtyard</p>	<p>Reception, Sponsored by Oregon State University College of Engineering & Dassault Systèmes</p> <p>SPEAKER: Dr. Forrest J. Masters Dean of Engineering, College of Engineering <i>Oregon State University</i></p>
<p>6pm – 8pm Grand Ballroom</p>	<p>Closing Banquet, Sponsored by Engineering Unleashed When the Familiar Becomes Urgent: The Long Game in Engineering Education</p> <p>SPEAKER Dr. Douglas E. Melton Program Director <i>The Kern Family Foundation</i></p>





Burcu Akinci

Dr. Burcu Akinci is the Strecker Dean of the College of Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University and a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE). As former Head of CEE, she fostered a highly collaborative culture and launched initiatives such as alumni-to-student and PhD-to-PhD mentorship programs, as well as an Industry Partnership Program connecting students directly with leading engineering firms. Under her leadership, the department expanded its graduate portfolio with its first online certificate—AI Engineering: Digital Twins & Analytics—and a new interdisciplinary master’s degree in civil and computer engineering.

Dr. Akinci previously served as Associate Dean for Research, advancing Carnegie Mellon’s research strategy, launching “moonshot” initiatives, and increasing external awards. Her research integrates sensing technologies, digital twins, and AI to improve the safety, intelligence, and sustainability of the built environment. She has published more than 190 peer-reviewed papers, holds multiple patents, and co-founded a startup. She is a member of the National Academy of Construction, distinguished member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). She holds degrees from Middle East Technical University, Bilkent University, and Stanford University.



Rashid Bashir

Dr. Rashid Bashir is Professor of Bioengineering, Grainger Distinguished Chair in Engineering, and Dean of the Grainger College of Engineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). He is also Vice Chancellor for Strategic Partnerships Chicago. He was on the founding team of the Carle Illinois College of Medicine, the world’s first engineering-based college of medicine, at UIUC, and on the founding team and now executive committee of the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub Chicago.

Dr. Bashir is a Fellow of IEEE, BMES, AIMBE, AAAS, IAMBE, APS, and RSC. He is an elected member of the US National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Inventors. His research interests are in micro-fluidics and nanotechnology-based diagnostic technologies for personalized medicine, and 3D bio-fabrication biohybrid soft robotics. He has published over 330 journal papers, has over 65 patents, and is academic co-founder of Prenosis, Inc. and VedaBio, Inc.



Magdy Bayoumi

Dr. Magdy Bayoumi is Department Head of Electrical & Computer Engineering and the W.H. Hall Endowed Chair in Computer Engineering at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, where he has served on the faculty since 1985. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Cairo University, Egypt; a master's degree in computer engineering from Washington University, St. Louis; and his PhD in electrical engineering from the University of Windsor, Canada.

An internationally recognized scholar in computer engineering, IoT, and intelligent systems, Dr. Bayoumi has authored or co-authored more than 600 publications and 10 books and graduated over 100 PhD and 150 MS students, many now working in leading technology companies worldwide. An IEEE Fellow and National Academy of Inventors Fellow, he has held numerous leadership roles across IEEE societies. He has received major honors including the IEEE Circuits and Systems Education Award. Dr. Bayoumi is a frequent keynote speaker and advisor to global academic and research programs, and has been general chair of more than 25 conferences.



Robert Bishop

Dr. Robert H. Bishop is Vice Chancellor and Dean for the College of Engineering at Texas A&M University, and Director for the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station. He has also served as Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of South Florida.

Dr. Bishop attended Texas A&M with a dream of getting a job at NASA. He later worked on NASA's Autonomous Landing and Hazard Avoidance Technology project, which will inform all future space missions requiring precision landing. He graduated with bachelor's and master's degrees in aerospace engineering from Texas A&M before earning his PhD in electrical and computer engineering at Rice University.

Dr. Bishop previously worked at The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, focusing on guidance and navigation systems. He also became a faculty member at The University of Texas at Austin in the Department of Aerospace Engineering & Engineering Mechanics, rising to hold an endowed position and serve as department chair.



P.J. Boardman

P.J. Boardman is the Global Director of STEM Outreach and Workforce Development at MathWorks, managing a team responsible for catalyzing, engaging, and inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers to bridge the STEM gap and prepare the workforce of tomorrow. She is the past Chair of the American Society for Engineering Education Corporate Member Council and the liaison for ASEE's P-12 Commission, as well as a member of the Executive Committee for the Global Engineering Deans Council.

Prior to joining MathWorks, Boardman was a Vice President at Cengage Learning and Pearson Education. She has a BA in mathematics from the College of the Holy Cross and an MEd from the University of Massachusetts with a focus on instructional design and online learning. She is a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar at the Universidad de Santiago, Santiago de Compostela, Spain.



Lisa S. Bradley

Lisa Bradley is the Senior Vice President for Finance and the Chief Financial Officer at Louisiana Tech University. She is responsible for leading the university's financial planning, budgeting, accounting, treasury, and investment functions, ensuring alignment with institutional goals and priorities. She serves as a key advisor to the president and cabinet on financial strategy, risk management, and resource allocation. Bradley supervises and provides strategic direction to units, including Budget and Planning, Comptroller's Office, Purchasing, Property, University Post Office, and the Tech Express Card system. She collaborates with academic and administrative leaders to support enrollment growth, campus development, and strategic investments.



Lauren Brookmeyer

Lauren Brookmeyer is Stony Brook University's Associate Vice President for Federal Relations and Head of the Washington, DC Office. She is the university and hospital's primary federal lobbyist and liaison, overseeing federal relations strategies and advancing institutional priorities across research, higher education, and healthcare policy.

Brookmeyer established the SUNY system's first DC-based university federal relations office. She also served as Chair of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) Council on Governmental Affairs (CGA). Brookmeyer launched Stony Brook's Advocacy Corps, which trains students to become effective advocates for science and higher education policy. She was President of The Science Coalition (TSC), and was recognized with the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service and APLU CGA's Emerging Leader Award. Previously, Brookmeyer provided communications and government relations expertise to the New York State Senate. She holds a BA in broadcast journalism and MA in communications and rhetorical theory from Hofstra University.



Paige M. Carter

Paige Carter is the Chief Business Development Officer of Louisiana Economic Development (LED), overseeing new business attraction, expansion, and retention; international commerce; and development to drive economic growth statewide. She has more than tripled the agency's active project pipeline.

Carter served as Executive Director of Industry Engagement at Louisiana State University's foundation, where she established the Office of Industry Engagement and advanced LSU to national prominence through strategic industry, research, and philanthropic partnerships. She helped secure the largest philanthropic gift in LSU's history as well as the largest corporate investment supporting energy initiatives.

Earlier in her career at LED, Carter's business development efforts helped create more than 11,000 jobs statewide. Her recognitions include an Area Development Silver Shovel Award as well as inclusion in *Greater Baton Rouge Business Report's* 40 Under Forty and Influential Women in Business. She holds an MBA from LSU Shreveport and a bachelor's degree from Arizona State University.



Robert Cox

Dr. Robert Cox is Executive Director of the Energy Production & Infrastructure Center (EPIC) at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and is the Duke Energy Distinguished Scholar in Power Engineering Systems in UNC Charlotte's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. A triple-alumnus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Cox is a leading voice in grid resiliency, modernization, and energy utilization. He has led large-scale collaborative initiatives, including the NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for Sustainably Integrated Buildings and Sites at UNC Charlotte.

EPIC bridges the gap between academia and the energy sector, fostering robust public-private partnerships, and is dedicated to cultivating a pipeline of highly trained engineers and driving applied research that addresses the talent needs and most critical challenges facing the modern electric power industry. EPIC is funded by many governmental and private partners including the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and major corporations, including Duke Energy, Dominion Energy, EPRI, AECOM, and Wells Fargo.



Paul Ellinger

Dr. Paul Ellinger is Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Comptroller of the University of Illinois System. He has management oversight and responsibility for all financial functions across the three-university system, overseeing revenues, costs, capital expenditures, investments, and debt.

Previously, Dr. Ellinger served as Associate Chancellor and Vice Provost for Budget and Resource Planning for the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, where he provided strategic budget planning and allocation advice to the Chancellor and Provost and was campus Chief Financial Officer. He has also served as Head of the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics.

Dr. Ellinger's research has concentrated on financial modeling, credit risk, performance, merger activity, and financial management of institutions. He has been an invited speaker before government agencies, academic conferences, and industry groups across the United States, Canada, China, and Europe. Dr. Ellinger holds bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural mechanization and agricultural economics and a PhD in finance, all from the University of Illinois.



Miriam Feldblum

Miriam Feldblum is Co-Founder, President, and CEO of the nonpartisan, nonprofit Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration, a collaboration of close to 600 public and private colleges and universities. A national expert on the intersection of immigration and higher education, she has written extensively on immigrant, international, and refugee students; immigration policy; and the future of higher education.

Dr. Feldblum has served in leadership and faculty positions at Pomona College, California Institute of Technology, and the University of San Francisco. She received a BA in political science from Barnard College, and MA, MPhil, and PhD degrees in political science from Yale University. She is on the Board of TheDream.US, a Public Member of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), and a non-resident Fellow at the Migration Policy Institute.



Michael A. Fitts

Michael A. Fitts, JD, is the fifteenth president of Tulane University. President Fitts has repositioned the university by capitalizing on its distinctive strengths: a unique history and location, an ideal size and academic structure, and an innovative and relational culture. Fitts also holds the position of Judge René H. Himel Professor of Law. He is the past president of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and past chair of the American Athletic Conference.

Prior to coming to Tulane, Fitts served as Dean of the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, where he was also the Bernard G. Segal Professor of Law. He has also served as President of the American Law Deans Association.

President Fitts has written extensively on presidential power, separation of powers, executive branch decision-making, improving the structure of political parties, and administrative law.



Amy S. Fleischer

Dr. Amy S. Fleischer is Dean of the College of Engineering at Boise State University and serves as Chair of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Engineering Deans Council. She was previously Dean of Engineering at the California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. In addition, she was on the faculty at Villanova University for 18 years.

As an internationally recognized research expert in thermal management of electronics systems, Dr. Fleischer has led work on 42 research grants and published more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and two books. She is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and has won numerous teaching and research awards.



Louis Franchina

Louis Franchina is Executive Director of Corporate, Foundation, and Research Relations at Tulane University, where he has more than 25 years' experience in advancement. His career started behind the scenes, and, at first, he thought he could never ask people for money; however, he soon overcame that obstacle.

The overarching mission of higher education, combined with that of specific projects and programs as diverse as cancer treatments, children's literacy, and community service, mean that each day is a new adventure for him. He views his job as storyteller and matchmaker and counts himself fortunate to play a small role in making the university's vital research and outreach possible. A native New Orleanian and first-generation college student, he attended Boston University before returning home to the University of New Orleans and completing his BS in communication, which he uses every day.



Wendi Heinzelman

Dr. Wendi Heinzelman is the John and Barbara Bruning Dean of the Edmund A. Hajim School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University of Rochester and Professor in the Departments of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science. Dr. Heinzelman received a BS degree in electrical engineering from Cornell University and MS and PhD degrees in electrical engineering and computer science from MIT.

She has designed and implemented cutting-edge networking, communication, and signal processing techniques for a wide array of applications running over wireless sensor networks, mobile ad hoc networks, and heterogeneous networks. Dr. Heinzelman has also contributed to 12 books and published in more than 150 journals and conferences, with over 60,000 citations to her work. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Engineering Deans Council, co-founder and a steering committee member of Networking Networking Women (N² Women), a Fellow of the ACM, and a Fellow of IEEE.



Clifford L. Henderson

Dr. Clifford L. Henderson is Dean of the College of Engineering at the University of Alabama and Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. He previously served as Chair for the Department of Chemical, Biological, and Materials Engineering at the University of South Florida. Dr. Henderson was also Functional Materials Program Director in the Civil, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI) Division at the National Science Foundation. He received his BS in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech and MS and PhD degrees in chemical engineering from The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Henderson's research focuses on problems at the intersection of chemical engineering, organic and polymeric materials science, and micro- and nanotechnology in a variety of application areas including electronics, energy, and biotechnology. His awards and recognitions include an NSF CAREER Award, the inaugural Intel/STC Outstanding Lithography Researcher Award, and AIChE's Herb Epstein Award and Gary Leach Award. He is a Fellow of the International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE).



Kemper Lewis

Dr. Kemper Lewis is Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University at Buffalo. He is also Director of the Sustainable Manufacturing and Advanced Robotic Technologies (SMART) Institute and was the inaugural Moog Endowed Professor of Innovation. He is a Fellow of ASME and AAAS, Associate Fellow of AIAA, and served on the National Academies Panel on Benchmarking the Research Competitiveness of the United States in Mechanical Engineering. He is a member of the ASEE Engineering Deans Council Executive Board and the ASEE Public Policy Committee.



Laura Lindenfeld

Dr. Laura Lindenfeld is Executive Director of the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science and Professor of Communication at Stony Brook University, where she led the creation of the Department of Communication. The Alda Center offers international leadership in bridging research with practice to advance effective science communication, through programs that have reached tens of thousands of researchers worldwide.

Dr. Lindenfeld is passionate about helping the scientific community advance meaningful, productive interactions with communities, stakeholders, and decision-makers. Her work explores environmental sustainability communication and cultivates leadership that translates scientific knowledge into public action on critical issues and societal challenges.

Work by Dr. Lindenfeld appears in a range of journals. Her latest co-authored book, *Science Communication for Scientists: Linking Strategy with Creativity, Practice, and Respect*, synthesizes evidence underpinning the Alda Method®, the Alda Center's signature communication training approach that delivers authentic, human connections. It is a first of its kind open-access textbook on science communication.



Tsu-Jae Liu

Dr. Tsu-Jae Liu is President of the National Academy of Engineering. A distinguished engineer and academic leader, she earned her BS, MS, and PhD degrees in electrical engineering from Stanford University. She joined the faculty of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley, where she has served most recently as Dean of the College of Engineering.

Dr. Liu is renowned for her contributions in the field of microelectronics, which include co-developing the FinFET transistor design that is used in all leading-edge computer chips and smartphones today. She has authored over 550 publications and holds 97 US patents. Her recognitions include the DARPA Significant Technical Achievement Award and the IEEE Electron Devices Society Education Award.

Dr. Liu is a Fellow of IEEE and the National Academy of Inventors, and was inducted into the US National Academy of Engineering. She has served on the Boards of Directors for Intel Corporation and MaxLinear Inc., and contributed nationally as an advocate for domestic microelectronics workforce development and as a member of advisory committees for NSF, NIST, and PCAST.



Christi Patton Luks

Dr. Christi Patton Luks is the 2025–26 President of the American Society for Engineering Education and previously served as Vice President of Member Affairs, Vice President of Professional Interest Councils (PICs), Chair of PIC I, Chair of Zone III, and Chair of the Chemical Engineering Division of ASEE.

Dr. Luks is a Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor and Associate Chair in the Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at the Missouri University of Science and Technology. She has a PhD in chemical engineering and MS in applied mathematics from the University of Tulsa and a BS in chemical engineering from Texas A&M. Prior to joining Missouri S&T, she was Applied Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering at the University of Tulsa.

Dr. Luks was elected as a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) in recognition of her contributions to the chemical engineering field.



Anthony Marchese

Dr. Anthony J. Marchese is the Dean of Engineering and the Vincent and Estelle Murphy Professor of Engineering at the University of Rhode Island. As a first-generation college student, he has focused his academic career on making engineering success accessible. His research on methane emissions has been published in *Science*, *Nature Communications*, and *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Dr. Marchese is a lead author for the 2027 *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Methodology Report on Short-lived Climate Forcers*. He holds a PhD in mechanical and aerospace engineering from Princeton University, and BS and MS degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.



Forrest J. Masters

Dr. Forrest Masters is Kearney Dean of Engineering at Oregon State University. Previously, he held multiple leadership positions at the University of Florida, including founding one of seven natural hazards engineering research facilities in the NSF Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure program; serving as Associate Dean for Research and Facilities for seven years; leading strategic initiatives in the Office of Research as an Assistant Vice President; and serving as Interim Dean of the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering.

Dr. Masters has received support from more than 60 contracts and grants from state, federal, and private sources, including the NSF CAREER award. He has been highly active with the ASEE Engineering Research Council, having served on its Board of Directors and taught at the Research Leadership Institute.



Douglas E. Melton

Douglas E. Melton (Doug) is a Program Director at the Kern Family Foundation, where for the past 14 years he has worked with universities across the country to advance engineering education through KEEN and the Engineering Unleashed community. This work is expanding to invite participation from all U.S. colleges of engineering, with a focus on helping faculty and institutions prepare engineers to create value in a rapidly changing world. Prior to this role, he spent 17 years in academia as a faculty member, leading teaching and research initiatives, and earlier served as a research and development director in industry, developing active control technologies for OEM applications. His perspective is shaped by this range of experience across institutions, disciplines, and practice.



Don Millard

Dr. Don Millard is Head of the Engineering Directorate (ENG) at the National Science Foundation. Previous NSF roles include Deputy Assistant Director and Division Director. Dr. Millard has been involved with the Advanced Technology Education, Math and Science Partnership, and Transforming Undergraduate Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math programs. He helped launch the EDU Core Research and Innovation Corps (I-Corps) programs. Prior to NSF, Dr. Millard was a faculty member in Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's Electrical, Computer, and Systems Department and directed several RPI research centers.

Dr. Millard's research interests include electronics design and manufacturing, electrical testing/evaluation methodologies, semiconductor fabrication, electronic media development, information technology, and engineering education. He is the creator of the Mobile Studio project, which enables students to perform experiments that use an oscilloscope, function generator, digital control, and power supply and learn anytime, anywhere. Dr. Millard holds a patent for development of a laser-induced, plasma-based non-contact electrical pathway.



David C. Munson, Jr.

From 2017 to 2025, Dr. David Munson served as president of the Rochester Institute of Technology. Prior to that role, he was the Robert J. Vlasic Dean of Engineering at the University of Michigan. He earned a BS in electrical engineering from the University of Delaware, and his MS, MA, and PhD in electrical engineering from Princeton University.

At the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), he was the Robert C. MacClinchie Distinguished Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Research Professor in the Coordinated Science Laboratory, and faculty member in the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology. At UIUC, Dr. Munson conducted teaching and research in signal and image processing. He served as President of the IEEE Signal Processing Society, founding editor-in-chief of the *IEEE Transactions on Image Processing*, and co-founder of the IEEE International Conference on Image Processing.

He is a Fellow of IEEE, recipient of the IEEE Signal Processing Society Norbert Wiener Award, and recipient of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Benjamin Garver Lamme Award.



Brian J. Novoselich

Dr. Brian J. Novoselich is the CEO and Executive Director of the American Society for Engineering Education, having recently retired from the US Army after 30 years of active-duty service. Dr. Novoselich taught for over 16 years in the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering at the US Military Academy at West Point, earning the academic rank of Professor of Engineering Education. He served in administrative positions such as Director of Strategic Plans and Assessment for the Superintendent, Director of Strategic Effects, and Director of West Point's Center for Innovation and Engineering.

Dr. Novoselich's Army career included operational and combat deployments to Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He has served in various leadership roles within the ASEE Finance Committee, Mechanical Engineering Division, Engineering Leadership Development Division, and Military and Veterans Division. He is a licensed professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Alessandro Orso

Dr. Alessandro Orso is Dean of the College of Engineering and Professor of Computer Science and Electrical & Computer Engineering at the University of Georgia (UGA). He received his MS in electrical engineering and PhD in computer science from Politecnico di Milano, Italy. Prior to UGA, he spent 25 years at Georgia Tech, as Professor in the School of Computer Science and Associate Dean and Interim Dean in the College of Computing.

Dr. Orso's research area is software engineering, with an emphasis on software testing and program analysis. His interests include development of techniques and tools to improve software reliability, security, and trustworthiness. He has received research funding from DARPA, ONR, and NSF, as well as leading industry companies including Facebook, Fujitsu, Google, IBM, and Microsoft. His awards include ISSTA Impact Paper Awards, ASE Most Influential Paper Awards, and the IBM Haifa Verification Conference Award. He is an ACM and IEEE Fellow.



Jack A. Puleo

Dr. Jack A. Puleo is Associate Vice President for Strategic Initiatives in Coastal Engineering and Resilience and a Professor at Florida International University (FIU). He has been named Dean of the College of Engineering and Computing at FIU effective May 2026. Dr. Puleo earned a Bachelor of Science in oceanography and mathematics from Humboldt State University, a Master of Science in oceanography from Oregon State University, and a doctorate in coastal engineering from the University of Florida. He previously served as Professor and Department Chair at the University of Delaware.



Andy Quick

Andy Quick is a technology executive and former Chief AI Officer at Fortune 500 energy company Entergy, with more than 35 years of experience leading large-scale digital and data transformations. He now serves as an independent advisor, helping organizations apply artificial intelligence in practical, responsible ways that align with real business and engineering outcomes. He has held multiple leadership roles spanning data analytics, automation, enterprise architecture, and business transformation, guiding the deployment of advanced technologies at enterprise scale.

Quick has also worked as a consultant delivering technology solutions for global, multi-industry clients. He has taught robotic process automation as an adjunct instructor, reaching thousands of learners worldwide through in-person and online courses. He remains active in the innovation ecosystem as a mentor, board member, and advocate for building AI literacy and fostering technology-driven economic development.



Susan Roberts

Dr. Susan Roberts is Dean of the Francis College of Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. She was previously Professor and Head of Chemical Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). Dr. Roberts served on the faculty of UMass Amherst Chemical Engineering for 17 years. She received her BS degree in chemical engineering from WPI, and PhD in chemical engineering from Cornell University.

Dr. Roberts' favorite part of the job is being able to mentor and teach students in a research context. She is inspired by the ability of nature, in particular plant systems, to adapt and respond to stresses to enable both survival and growth. The primary focus of her research is understanding the fundamental complexities in specialized metabolism and development of renewable, engineered plant cell culture systems to synthesize valuable clinical and industrial molecules.



Michelle Sabick

Dr. Michelle Sabick is Dean of the Daniel Felix Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Denver. She earned her BS degree in biomedical engineering from Case Western Reserve University, and MS and PhD degrees in biomedical engineering from the University of Iowa. Before moving to academia, Dr. Sabick completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Orthopedics at the Mayo Clinic and worked as an upper extremity biomechanics researcher at the Steadman-Hawkins Sports Medicine Foundation in Vail, Colorado.

Dr. Sabick's research areas are orthopedic biomechanics and sports medicine, with her primary focus on how highly ballistic human movements affect the joints of the upper extremity. Dr. Sabick is Past President of the American Society of Biomechanics and is currently working on an externally funded project to encourage math and science faculty to adopt active learning techniques and entrepreneurially minded learning strategies in their courses.



Martin Schoonen

Dr. Martin Schoonen is Interim Deputy Director for Science & Technology at Brookhaven National Laboratory. In 25 years at Stony Brook University (SBU), he served as Associate Vice President for Research and led multidisciplinary research programs, including development of the Center for Environmental Molecular Science at SBU and Brookhaven Lab.

With deep experience in university administration and national laboratory research, Dr. Schoonen understands the challenges engineering deans face in diversifying funding portfolios. He speaks to concrete mechanisms for university-lab collaboration including user facilities, Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), Strategic Partnership Projects, and joint research programs. His unique perspective from working on both sides of university-national laboratory partnerships provides practical insights into how engineering colleges can leverage DOE lab collaborations to access world-class facilities, support graduate students, and reduce dependence on traditional competitive federal grants.

Dr. Schoonen earned his PhD in geochemistry and mineralogy from Pennsylvania State University and holds advanced degrees from the University of Utrecht, the Netherlands.



Jed M. Shivers

Jed M. Shivers is Stony Brook University's Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration. He is responsible for managing Stony Brook's financial, administrative, and facilities operations, helping guide the financial direction for the university as it advances its institutional mission of education, research, and service. Shivers was previously Vice President for Finance and Operations at the University of North Dakota, where he oversaw the operations of the university's nine schools and colleges.

Shivers also served as Associate Dean for Finance and Administration at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. He was previously at the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine and Medical Center, Yale University School of Medicine, University of Miami Health System, and Stanford University School of Medicine. Shivers received his Bachelor of Science degree from Johns Hopkins University and MBA from the University of Connecticut with specialization in healthcare management.



Gregory E. Triplett

Dr. Gregory Triplett is Oliver L. Parks Dean of the School of Science and Engineering at Saint Louis University. Dr. Triplett began his career in academia as Assistant Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Missouri. His research leverages advanced computational tools and semiconductor device fabrication technologies for addressing core issues linking quantum phenomena and nanomaterial synthesis. He has received more than \$18 million in research, mentored more than 50 students, and garnered numerous awards for research, teaching, and mentoring. Before becoming Dean, he served for eight years as an Associate Dean (graduate studies, research and graduate studies, and Senior Associate Dean) in the College of Engineering at Virginia Commonwealth University.



Sharon Walker

Dr. Sharon Walker is Distinguished University Professor and Dean Emerita at Drexel University. She is an engineer, scholar, and higher education leader who believes strongly in the power of universities to serve the public good. She has been Dean of two R1 engineering colleges (Drexel University and University of California, Riverside). She is also deeply engaged nationally, having served as Chair of the ASEE Engineering Deans Council and on the Boards of ASEE and AEESP, and continues to serve on numerous academic and research advisory boards.

At the heart of Dr. Walker's work is a passion for developing people and helping academic leaders thrive. She serves as Executive Director of ELATES, an internationally recognized leadership program for STEM faculty. She has also led three NSF ADVANCE grants focused on professional development, pay equity, and policy justice, and founded K-Line Executive Coaching and Consulting, where she partners with academic and education leaders navigating complexity, change, and growth.



John-David (J.D.) Yoder

Dr. John-David (J.D.) Yoder is Dean of the T.J. Smull College of Engineering at Ohio Northern University, and previously served as Chair of Mechanical Engineering. Before joining ONU, he was Proposal Engineering Supervisor at Grob System, Inc. He has held numerous leadership and advisory positions in various entrepreneurial ventures. Listed as inventor on 11 patents, he has served as Faculty Fellow at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California, and Invited Professor at INRIA Rhone-Alpes, Monbonnot, France.

Dr. Yoder's research interests include computer vision, mobile robotics, intelligent vehicles, entrepreneurship, and engineering education. He has been an active member of the Kern Entrepreneurial Engineering Network (KEEN), and currently sits on the KEEN Leadership Council. He has served as both Secretary and Chair of the Ohio Engineering Deans Council. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the ASEE Engineering Deans Council (EDC) and is Past Chair of the EDC Undergraduate Experience Committee.

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