

## **IEEE Baltimore Section 2021 Officer Nominees**

IEEE Baltimore Section Members:

Officer election for Baltimore Section Executive Committee Officers for 2021 is planned to occur in November. Candidates are:

**Chair:** Michael Powers

**Vice Chair:** Benjamin Tsui

**Treasurer:** Priya Narayanan

**Secretary:** Don Herres

Voting will take place via web with voting instructions provided at a later date. Ballots are expected to be available around 1 November and remain available through 13 December.

Following are brief biographies from each of the nominees. Thank you for your support of IEEE and Baltimore Section.

Best regards,

Dave Kisak

Chair, Officer Nominations

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**Michael Powers****Nominated Position – IEEE Baltimore Section Chair****Bio:**

I am seeking election as chair of the Baltimore Section. I was previously the section secretary in 2019 and vice-chair in 2020. My educational background includes a B.S. in Computer Engineering, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering. I am currently the Vice President and Chief Innovation and Strategy Officer at First Financial FCU, a large credit union serving the Baltimore area, where I manage strategic-level projects and organizational initiatives. Previously, I was the leader of the Optical Sensing and Imaging Team at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory. I started my career at General Dynamics Robotic Systems, an organization that was an early pioneer of autonomous vehicle technology. My technical specialty and the subject of most of my published research is optics and photonics applied to imaging, chemical detection, and autonomous vehicle perception. I have supported the engineering profession as an IEEE volunteer and as a mentor to undergraduate students in engineering.

**Position Statement:**

As chair I will have three priorities for 2021: (1) Keep the EXCOM meetings on time, on topic, and efficient, (2) Enhance the social media presence of the Baltimore section, and (3) Support programs and activities that appeal to and attract new members.

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**Benjamin Tsui, Ph.D.****Nominated Position - IEEE Baltimore Vice-chair****Bio:**

I am seeking election as Vice-chair for the Baltimore Section of IEEE. I have been a member of IEEE for over 36 years and am currently a Life Fellow of the Nuclear and Plasma Science Society (NPSS). In my educational background is a B.S. in Physics, 1970, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, A.M. in physics, 1982, Dartmouth College, and Ph.D. in Medical Physics, University of Chicago. I am a Professor of Radiology, Biomedical Engineering (BME), and Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE), at Johns Hopkins University. My research interests have been focused on clinical and pre-clinical biomedical imaging, especially in SPECT, PET and CT. I am a Fellow of the IEEE, IOP and AIMBE and member of SNMMI and AAPM. I am well published in scientific journals and have advised a substantial number of M.S. and Ph.D. students in BME and ECE. I have served on scientific review committees of federal agencies and foundations, and as a reviewer for numerous professional journals. I also have served on IEEE NPSS subcommittees and conference committees. I was the MIC program chair of the IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium (NPS) and Medical Imaging Conference (MIC) in 2001 and the General Chair in 2007.

**Position Statement**

Engineering sciences continue to lead major technological advances that have growing impact on our daily lives. Research and professional engineers are in great demand to fill the needs of many research and educational institutions, governmental agencies, and industrial companies. The IEEE is an important organization promoting the research, education, application and dissemination of various engineering sciences. The Baltimore Section of the IEEE can play a useful role in coordinating, motivating and mobilizing grassroots efforts to promote IEEE's missions. If elected, I will try my best to continue and enhance the past efforts in introducing the engineering sciences, especially biomedical engineering, to high school students. I have constructed and administered numerous project and conference budgets and look forward to the opportunity to providing careful fiscal stewardship of the Baltimore section's resources.

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**Priya Narayanan****Nominated Position – Baltimore Section Treasurer****Bio:**

I am seeking election as Treasurer for the Baltimore Section of the IEEE. I have been a member of the IEEE for 5 years and am a member of Robotics and Automation (RAS) Society. I am a Mechanical Engineer in the Intelligent Perception Branch at CCDC Army Research Laboratory (CCDC ARL). I received my doctorate from the Mechanical Engineering Department at University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), masters and bachelors from the Aerospace Engineering Department at University of Florida (UF), and Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IITM) respectively. Prior to ARL, I was a NRC Fellow in the Navy Center for Applied Research in Artificial Intelligence (NCARAI) at the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL). My research interests include autonomous systems, computer vision, image processing, human-robot interaction, navigation and localization, instrumentation and controls, rehabilitation robotics and multibody dynamic modeling. My research activities at CCDC ARL in the past three and a half years have focused on developing disruptive warfighting capabilities using advances in the field of AI/ML and increasing synergistic effects to provide transformational overmatch for the Army. I am leading the development of perception capabilities for ground and aerial autonomous systems for operating in highly-complex combat environments and am playing a crucial role in initiating a new research program in Command and Control (C2) for Multi Domain Operations.

**Position Statement**

The IEEE is an important organization for the development and growth of currently-performing professional engineers and scientists; it is also a role-model for encouraging students to consider careers in engineering and science. It is important that the IEEE remain committed to its educational obligation in order to increase the number of engineering professionals available in order to solve today's evolving technical problems with efficiency and accuracy. Through activities such as the Teacher In-Service Program and the annual Robot Challenge, I hope to continue and advance IEEE's role in introducing and encouraging high school students to careers in engineering.

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**Don Herres****Nominated Position – Baltimore Section Secretary****Bio:**

Don Herres is currently IEEE Region 2 South Area Chair, which includes Baltimore, Washington and Northern Virginia Sections, and also is currently the Baltimore Section Chair. He moved to Ellicott City at the end of 2018 having formerly lived in Mountain Top, PA where he was Lehigh Valley Section Chair from 2016 until August 2018. Prior to that, he lived in the Syracuse area until 2013 where he was Section Chair there in 1992 - 1993 and again in 2010 - 2011 and additionally served in a number of other Section and Chapter offices including a couple of stints as Secretary.

Don is a past member of the IEEE-USA Career Equality Committee, Employment Assistance Committee, Professional Activities Committee, and Employment & Career Services Committee. If you do not recognize all of these, it is because he is adept at moving forward during reorganizations, both at IEEE and professionally.

Don is a Licensed Professional Engineer in NY and PA and earned a BSEE from University of Buffalo and MSEE from Syracuse University. He retired as an electronics design engineer from Marquardt Switches in Cazenovia, NY in 2013 and has done some consulting and contract design work since.

**Position Statement**

The Section exists to be the local contact and support for the members. This is primarily through meetings, workshops, and conferences. The Executive Committee meets to facilitate these by providing indirect Chapter Support (including funds) and also planning Section activities. A key element is to help recharge and develop chapter officers, volunteers and identify potential volunteers.

The Secretary is responsible for keeping minutes, submitting annual Officer Reports, and ensuring meetings are reported to IEEE (necessary for Section and Chapter funding). Beyond this, I expect to help support the other members in their activities.