

IEEE Baltimore Section 2024 Officer Nominees

IEEE Baltimore Section Members:

Officer election for Baltimore Section Executive Committee Officers for 2024 is planned to occur in November. Candidates are:

Chair: Oluwaseun (Olu) R. Shonubi

Vice Chair: John A. Orlando

Treasurer: Robert (Bob) Rassa

Secretary: Chinonso Ezeobi

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 10 December. The results will be presented at the 11 December EXCOM meeting.

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

Best regards,

David Kisak

Chair, Nominations & Elections

Oluwaseun (Olu) R. Shonubi

Nominated Position - IEEE Baltimore Section Chair

Biography:

I am seeking election as Chair for the Baltimore Section of the IEEE. My education background is a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (B.S.E.E '09) and Master of Science in Electrical Engineering (M.S.E.E. '11), from the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, Illinois.

I have been a member of the IEEE for 10 years and am a member of Power and Energy Society (PES) and a recently elevated senior member of IEEE (2022). I am currently the Chair of the Baltimore Chapter of the Power and Energy Society. I was nominated and awarded the IEEE PES Baltimore Section Outstanding Engineer award for my contributions to the Power and Energy space in the Baltimore area. I currently serve as the Vice-Chair for the Baltimore Section of IEEE where my current focus is on the robotics competition and power and energy industry engagement with our section.

Professionally, I am the Group Manager for Systems Engineering at Sunnova Energy Corporation, an energy independence company. In this position I am the technical lead for the implementation and execution of systems engineering designs for electric vehicle infrastructure, Battery energy storage systems and Solar design, engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC). Prior professional experience span in multiple industries within the power and energy sector including manufacturing, utilities, and clean energy development.

Position Statement

The IEEE is an important organization that advances technology for humanity. It is important to extend one's role by giving back to those who will come after us in this generation and future generation by paving the way in the advancement of the IEEE mission statement. Through educational, professional development and social engagement activities, we can continue this mission.

I wish to continue the executive committee (ExCom) in the Baltimore Section after over two years of being the chair of the PES Baltimore Chapter. I wish to stand on the shoulder of giants in our ExCom chapter who have coached and mentored me through my chair role in the PES Chapter and execute the Baltimore ExCom mission.

Thank you for your consideration.

John A. Orlando

Nominated Position - IEEE Baltimore Section Vice-chair

Biography:

I am a highly motivated and experienced engineer with a proven track record of success in risk management, governance, and marketing. I have been a member of the IEEE for 9 years and previously served as Treasurer. I have a M.B.A. degree from American University (2021) and a B.S. degree from McDonough School of Business, Georgetown University (2014).

Position Statement

As Vice Chair, I will be responsible for overseeing the operations and marketing for the Executive Committee. I will use my experience in risk management, governance, and marketing to help the Section achieve its goals. I will also work to increase membership and participation in Section activities.

Prior Experience

- In my previous role as Treasurer, I was responsible for managing the Section's finances and developing a strategic financial plan. I successfully increased membership by 10% and secured \$100,000 in sponsorships for Section events.
- In my professional career, I have worked in risk management for a financial services company and as a consultant to small and medium-sized businesses. I have a proven track record of identifying and mitigating risks, developing and implementing risk management plans, and communicating risk management information to stakeholders.
- I have also participated in the National Science Foundation's Innovation Corps program and collaborated with FedTech and the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) to develop a green technologies patent. This experience has given me a deep understanding of the latest developments in technology and the potential for engineering to solve some of the world's most pressing problems.
- I am a strong advocate for diversity and inclusion in engineering and have volunteered with several IEEE initiatives to promote these values. I believe that a diverse and inclusive workforce is essential for innovation and creativity.

Why I am the Best Candidate

I believe that my experience, skills, and passion for the IEEE make me the best candidate for Vice Chair. I am confident that I can use my skills to help the Section achieve its goals and make a positive impact on the engineering community.

Robert (Bob) Rassa**Nominated Position – IEEE Baltimore Section Treasurer****Biography:**

I offer myself as a candidate for Treasurer, Baltimore Section, IEEE, for 2024. I am a life Fellow of the IEEE and have been a member for 36 years. Currently I hold memberships in the Aerospace and Electronic Systems (AES) Society, where I am also a member-at-large of the Board of Directors; the Instrumentation and Measurement (I&M) Society, Systems Man & Cybernetics (SMC) Society, Computer Society (CS) and Communications Society (ComSoc). Previous offices held are President, and VP Technical Activities, I&M Society; President, AES, and most recently Treasurer (2012 - 2022). I am also the founder and past President of the IEEE Systems Council, previous VP Conferences, and currently Treasurer. I am also the VP Publications for the new Transportation Electrification Council and I am a Distinguished Lecturer for both AES and the Systems Council. At the IEEE level, I have held numerous positions, including member TAB Finance Committee (2021-2022), TAB Management Committee (2015-2019); TAB Hall of Honor Committee (2019 – 2020) and Chair, 2021. I was co-chair of the IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Chapter Support (2020-2022). I was also a member of the IEEE NextGen Finance System Ad Hoc Committee. Within MGA, I am the previous Conference Coordinator (Region 6, 1998-2002) and Region 2 (2014-2015). I am also currently a member of the MGA Geographic Unit Operations Support (GUOS) Committee and have been for the past 3 years.

My BSEE is from the University of California, Berkeley and I held employment at Westinghouse Electric Corp, Linthicum where my last position was Manager, Programs Electronic Systems Division. After Westinghouse I was Group Vice President, Mantech International Corporation, Pasadena CA, and most recently, Director, Engineering Programs, Raytheon Technologies Corporation, El Segundo CA and then Fallston, MD. My background is in Logistics, Radar, Program Management and Systems Engineering. I chaired the steering committee for the Capability Maturity Model Integration project (CMMI) which is a world-wide process model for design engineering, systems engineering, software engineering, and program management. I hold the patent for an Advanced Maintenance System that utilizes satellite communications to facilitate rapid repair of military systems; now deployed on the F-22, F-35 and multiple other platforms (Patent 5,931,877, August 1999). I founded the National Defense Industrial Association's Automatic Test Committee, and their Systems Engineering Division, the latter to promote the acceptance and use of systems engineering within the Department of Defense since I had determined that a lack of systems engineering was the cause of poor DoD weapons performance.

Position Statement

IEEE is the world's premier technical association/organization that focuses on engineering at all levels - student, academic, industry, and government, for the benefit of mankind. The 343 Sections of IEEE bring together the local members of IEEE to help promote the goals and objectives of IEEE. Included in those goals would be educational opportunities, events such as conferences or symposia, the Robot Challenge that is prominent within the Baltimore Section,

distinguished lectures to help broaden the experiences of local members, and more including social events for networking and similar. The Sections are where local networking for technical information exchanges and career building mainly occur, and the Baltimore Section is fortunate to have a number of prominent technology-based organizations that can greatly augment our capability. IEEE can assist in reducing the shortage of engineers that exist not only in the US but worldwide, and adding a focus on students would help this issue greatly. Students do not decide to become engineers the day they set foot on a college campus; that decision is made in high school and often earlier, so perhaps we can expand our outreach to high schools in the Baltimore area and help get more students interested in engineering, and I would hope to assist in that effort. And my background on the NextGen Ad Hoc, as well as over 10 years as a TAB Society/Council Treasurer gives me substantial experience to bring to the position as Treasurer, Baltimore Section, IEEE.

Chinonso Ezeobi

Nominated Position – IEEE Baltimore Section Secretary

Biography

I am the current secretary of the Baltimore section and will need your support in the form of votes to continue as secretary for the Baltimore Section of the IEEE. I have been a student member of IEEE for three years and a volunteer section officer for about a year. This volunteer opportunity as the IEEE Baltimore section secretary has helped me and is still helping me to build my leadership skills. It has offered me some great networking opportunities, and I would love to continue on this personal and professional growth trajectory.

I obtained a B.S. in Electrical/ Electronic Engineering from Nnamdi Azikiwe University Nigeria in 2001, an M.S. degree in Science Technology from the University of Vaasa, Finland, in 2015, a second M.S. from UMBC in 2022,. I am a G-RISE (Graduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement) Meyerhoff scholar pursuing a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at the University of Maryland Baltimore. I am also a research assistant at Center for The Center for Advanced Studies in Photonics Research (*CASPR*). My research interest is in photonics and optics, precisely characterizing nonlinear properties of semiconductor materials and fiber optics using nonlinear optical techniques like induced grating autocorrelation (IGA) and Z-scan.

I have about 15 years of working experience in Telecommunications as a transmission engineer with Airtel, a mobile network provider, and telecommunication equipment vendors like LMN Erickson and Huawei between my B.S., M.S., and current studies. Details of my work experience can be found on my LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/chinonso-ezeobi-65399b13/>.

I am the current UMBC Optica Student chapter president, formerly the Optical Society of America (OSA).

Position Statement

The IEEE is a professional organization that cares about the contributions of technology, and the gift of technical professionals that are improving global conditions, fostering technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity. It also has a history of mentorship and provides incentives for students to thrive in engineering and science careers. These lofty goals align with my personal goal of making this world a better place for all. My graduate assistantship work with PROMISE (an organization under the graduate school at UMBC sponsored by the National Science Foundation), ensures underrepresented minority graduate students' success in STEM by providing both professional development and networking opportunities programing. I would employ the skills developed through my work at PROMISE to make IEEE more inclusive for all scientists, professionals, and students in IEEE Baltimore. My primary goal in volunteering

as secretary is to harness the students' chapters in all the tertiary institutions in Maryland and see how IEEE Baltimore can provide mentorship in producing the next generation of scientists that will solve today's and tomorrow's problems.