



## Chair's Report

EDGD

ASEE Virtual Conference

June 21-25 2020

Welcome to the first ASEE Annual Virtual Conference.

We do indeed live in unusual times. How many of us would have believed that the 2020 ASEE annual conference would be virtual? That we ourselves would have to pivot our classes from face to face to online – often with only a few days to prepare. That our daily accessories would now include hand sanitizer and a facemask. As this highly dynamic and certainly unanticipated situation has evolved, I reflect on what my father often told me when I faced with an unanticipated obstacle that it is how we meet challenges that defines us not the challenge itself and to simply to get to it. I have been impressed with the generosity, the dedication, and the adaptability of the human spirit.

I wish to thank our program chairs Bob Chin and Ranjeet Agarwala for their dedicated and hard work for a truly unprecedented shift in conference formatting. Bob's thoughtful, timely, most importantly calm emails keep the executive committee, authors, and division informed of the evolving situation. With their careful stewardship, EDGD pivoted very smoothly to the online platform.

Old Dominion University hosted an excellent 74<sup>th</sup> midyear conference in November 2019. Congratulations to Petros Katsioloudis (Site Chair) and Vukica Jovanovic (Program Chair) for their hard work and tireless efforts to create a conference with interesting technical sessions in a world class venue.

In light of the ongoing uncertainty with the current pandemic, the executive committee decided to defer the 75<sup>th</sup> Midyear conference to 2021 when we can convene safely face to face. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

Please welcome our new incoming officers, Jennifer McInnis and Diana Bariatarova. Jennifer is ending her service as Director of Communication and assuming the Vice-Chair. Diana will be the Division's new Director of Communication. The executive committee looks forward to their contributions and involvement with the leadership of the division.

As my tenure ends as Division Chair, the position passes into Holly Ault's very capable hands. I look forward to her leadership of the division.

Finally, I wish to offer my thanks to the executive committee whose dedication and hard work keep this division functioning so smoothly. I encourage our division members to participate with leadership and guidance of this extraordinary division.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi M. Steinhauer  
EDGD Chair  
2019-2020