

## January 2020

### 📅 Panel Discussion on Space Policy and Economic Development



The Cape Canaveral Section of AIAA is hosting a moderated panel discussion on “Space Policy and Economic Development” on **Wed. February 19, starting at 6PM.** The

event will be held at the Cocoa Rockledge Garden Club, 1493 S. Fiske Blvd., Rockledge Florida 32955. Panelists will include US Congressman Bill Posey, who represents Florida’s 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, as well as industry representatives Leslie Lake, of RS&H Business Development, and Frank DiBello, Space Florida President and CEO. Email [aiacanaveral@gmail.com](mailto:aiacanaveral@gmail.com) for more information.

### 📅 Holiday Potluck!



Section members and their families gathered in early December at the home of Vice Chair Rachel Mocini for the Section’s Holiday Potluck. Guests enjoyed lasagna, pizza, pound cake, Brussels sprouts and more, while bonding over rousing games of “Oregon Trail,” the card game and discussing the future of engineering education.

### 📅 FIT Dinner Meeting in February



The Florida Tech Student Branch of AIAA has announced its annual dinner meeting will be held on **Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>** in the Denius Student Center on Florida Tech’s campus. Todd Barber, Senior Propulsion Engineer at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, will speak about his experiences with the Curiosity rover and more. Cost is \$25 for student members and \$30 for professional members. Please register at: [https://cctsonline.org/?page\\_id=2112](https://cctsonline.org/?page_id=2112) For more information, email [aiiaafloridatech@gmail.com](mailto:aiiaafloridatech@gmail.com).

### 🏆 Award Nominations Due Feb 1



Over the years, the AIAA Honors and Awards program has celebrated thousands of the best and brightest for their outstanding achievements in the aerospace profession. AIAA takes great pride in honoring dedicated individuals for their technical contributions, literary excellence, and service to AIAA. Please nominate your

outstanding Cape Canaveral Section colleagues that deserve recognition for their contributions to the aerospace industry. Nomination Deadline for the awards listed below is February 1, 2020. Please submit all nomination forms and endorsement letters to [awards@aiaa.org](mailto:awards@aiaa.org). For detailed requirements, nomination forms, and more information please see <https://www.aiaa.org/get-involved/honors-awards/awards>.

Award categories with nominations due Feb 1 include:

### Premier Award:

Daniel Guggenheim Medal - honors individuals who make notable achievements in the advancement of aeronautics.

### Technical Excellence Awards:

- Aerospace Power Systems Award
- Air Breathing Propulsion Award
- Dr. John C. Ruth Digital Avionics Award
- Energy Systems Award
- George. M. Low Space Transportation Award
- Propellants & Combustion Award
- Space Science Award
- Space Systems Award
- von Braun Award for Excellence in Space Program Management
- Wyld Propulsion Award

### Lectureships:

- Dryden Lectureship in Research.
- Durand Lectureship for Public Service
- Yvonne C. Brill Lectureship in Aerospace Engineering

### Council Member Spotlight



Greetings AIAA members! My name is Melissa Sleeper and I am the K-12 STEM Officer for the AIAA Cape Canaveral Section. I have a B.S. in Agriculture and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland, a Masters of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) from Johns Hopkins, and a Masters of Education in

Science and Math Education Leadership from George Mason University.

A National Board-Certified Teacher, I teach middle school science at Gifford Middle School in Indian River County. I am also a NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador and a MAVEN Educator Ambassador. I serve on the board of the National Middle Level Science Teachers Association and as a teacher ambassador for the National Center for Science Education.

My goal for this year is to increase Educator Memberships in AIAA. The future explorers and colonizers of Mars are currently sitting in our nations middle school classrooms. The sooner we can help these students learn about careers in the aerospace industry and get them excited about future space endeavors the better! Educator Members of AIAA, will help us accomplish this task.

### AIAA Foundation Scholarship Applications due Jan 31

The AIAA Foundation annually awards financial aid to undergraduate and graduate students in science or engineering programs enrolled in accredited colleges or universities in the US or US territories. Applicants may be students of any nationality, not restricted by the U.S. State Department, in full-time study. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$10,000.

In the past 20 years, the AIAA Foundation has provided over 1,300 scholarships and graduate awards to students at more than 150 colleges and universities worldwide, including students at Universities within the Cape Canaveral Section.

The AIAA Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships Program offers scholarships to college sophomores, juniors, and seniors each year, and recipients can apply to renew their scholarship annually until they reach graduation. There are several different undergraduate scholarships, including the Leatrice Gregory Pendray Scholarship for Female applicants. Detailed eligibility requirements are available online. For graduate student awards, applicants must have completed at least one (1) academic quarter or semester of full-time graduate-level college work and have a research topic approved.

Applications must be submitted online. Applicants must be current, dues-paying student members.

**Online applications and all required transcripts must be submitted by 31 January 11:59PM EST.**

For more detail and to apply, see <https://www.aiaa.org/get-involved/students-educators/scholarships-graduate-awards>.

## **AIAA Science Fair Judging**

Please consider serving as a judge during the upcoming Brevard County Regional Science Fairs. AIAA Cape Canaveral participates by providing scholarship awards in the Special Awards category. AIAA members seek out a list of aerospace sciences related projects and judge them based on merit in advancing our profession. We just need four hours of your time on a Saturday morning (8am to 12pm) during one of the following science fairs:

Intracoastal: February 8, 2020 at Merritt Square Mall  
Mainland: February 15, 2020 at Merritt Square Mall  
South: February 22, 2020 at Melbourne Square Mall

This is an excellent way to give back to our community while witnessing the brilliance of the next generation of engineers and scientists.

Please contact Melissa Sleeper at [scicrzy@gmail.com](mailto:scicrzy@gmail.com) for more information and to volunteer.

## **AIAA Cape Canaveral is on Social Media and we want to hear from you! Find us @capeaiaa**

Take a minute to follow the AIAA Cape Canaveral Section on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter at username @capeaiaa, or find us on Engage at [engage.aiaa.org/capecanaveral/home](http://engage.aiaa.org/capecanaveral/home)

We want to hear from our members! Tell us what you think. Do you have a question you need answered? Do you need a guest speaker and/or volunteers for your event? Use these tools to ask your fellow section members for their help!

## **2019 - 2020 Cape Canaveral Section Council Members**

Chair	Elizabeth Balga
Vice Chair	Rachel Mocini
Secretary	David Fleming
Treasurer	Matthew Zuk
Programs	Dennis Dali
Education	Naveen Sri Uddanti

Honors & Awards	Razvan Rusovici
Communications	Jacob Shiver
STEM K-12	Melissa Sleeper
Public Policy	Holly Petrucci
Career and Workforce Development	Dhuree Seth
Young Professional	Ashley Scharfenberg

## **Vacant Positions**

The Executive Council currently has two vacancies – Membership Chair and Technical Officer – and we are looking for motivated, hard-working members to fill those positions for the rest of the 2019-2020 term!

Not ready to chair a committee? Consider supporting an existing committee chair – Programs, Education, Honors & Awards, Communications, STEM K-12, Public Policy, Career & Workforce Development, Young Professional – to help plan and execute events, initiatives, and more.

If interested, please contact Section Chair Elizabeth Balga at [aiaacanaveral@gmail.com](mailto:aiaacanaveral@gmail.com).



 **Announcements**

**Daily Launch**

Want to receive a daily email summary from AIAA about all the latest aerospace news from Newspapers, TV, Radio and Journals? Sign Up for The AIAA Daily Launch. For member access to the AIAA Daily Launch, please log in to [www.aiaa.org/MyAIAA](http://www.aiaa.org/MyAIAA), navigate to "Access Publications & Materials" and select "Daily Launch." The AIAA Daily Launch, distributed to AIAA members each weekday morning, is a digest of the most important aerospace news

selected from thousands of sources by the editors of Bulletin Media.



**AIAA Career Center**

AIAA is pleased to provide members with a [Career Center](#), with extensive lists of resumes and available positions. A powerful and user-friendly search tool allows you to find the ideal job or candidate.

