

12/20/18

Dear AIAA GNO Members,

Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year! Thank you for your continued participation as a member of the AIAA. This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo 8 mission where, for the first time, a crewed spacecraft orbited the Moon. The echoes of this monumental accomplishment still reverberate half a century later. This coming year, our section is supporting a number of activities to promote excellence in the aerospace profession and shape the industry's future.

On March 8, 2019, LSU chapter will host our next section dinner meeting in Baton Rouge featuring AIAA distinguished lecturer Jim Horkovich. An AIAA Fellow, Dr. Horkovich is the Director for Directed Energy Programs for Schafer and previously directed all Strategic Defense Initiative Organization laser technology programs at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory. His talk, "Directed Energy Weapons; Promise & Reality", presents a history of missile defense and the "Star Wars" program and the fundamental physics and engineering of laser weapon systems. Contact Jace Boudreaux at [jace.m.boudreaux@nasa.gov](mailto:jace.m.boudreaux@nasa.gov) to RSVP or for additional information.

Registration is open for the 2019 Region II Student Paper Conference. The conference will take place at the Coco Beach International Palms Resort and Conference Center on April 4-5, 2019. The conference is an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research to their peers and professional members from industry. The deadline for abstracts is February 18, 2019. Additional information is available online: <https://www.aiaa.org/2019-Region-II-Student-Conference/>

The AIAA Space Systems Technical Committee (SSTC) is accepting submissions for the 2019 Student Essay Contest. All seventh and eighth grade students are eligible to participate. The section will select a winner for each grade to compete at the national level. The deadline to submit a paper is March 31, 2019. See the attached flyer for additional information on the contest.

The AIAA Foundation annually awards financial aid to undergraduate and graduate students in science or engineering programs. In the past 20 years, the AIAA Foundation has provided over 750 scholarships and graduate awards to students at more than 150 colleges and universities worldwide. The deadline to submit an application is January 31, 2019. Students may apply online at the following location: <https://www.aiaa.org/scholarships/>

Registration is open for Congressional Visits Day planned for March 20, 2019. CVD is an opportunity for AIAA members to build relationships with, and offer support as a technical resource to, national policymakers and their staff. Travel subsidy funding is available for AIAA members to encourage first-time attendee, student, and young professional participation. See the following for more details on this event: <https://www.aiaa.org/2019-Congressional-Visits-Day/>

Our section needs additional officers and volunteers to support our ambitious schedule for the 2018 – 2019 term. Opportunities to participate in event planning, STEM outreach, and leadership are available. Student members interested in gaining career experience are welcome to apply. Members with all levels of interest and availability are encouraged to participate, please contact me at [glen.a.guzik@nasa.gov](mailto:glen.a.guzik@nasa.gov) for more information.

With the passage of the new AIAA Constitution two years ago, all AIAA Section By-Laws became out of date because of the changes to the national governance structure. All Sections are required to pass new By-Laws this coming Spring. The Regional Engagement Activities Division (READ) has prepared a draft Section By-Laws template for all Sections. The draft of our new bylaws is available on our section website: <https://engage.aiaa.org/greaterneworleans/>

Very respectfully,

Glen Guzik  
Chair, AIAA GNO Section