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12



37



70



68

- 2 **WELCOME LETTER** By Khánh Vũ – SASE CEO & Executive Director
- 4 **SASE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
- 8 **SASE's PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS** By Tom Fernandez – SASE Co-Founder
- 12 **SASE STARS** By Charlotte Thomas – These SASE stars build bridges to create personal and professional success
- 23 **SASE INSPIRE AWARDS** With every passing year, the SASE community grows in size, talent and contribution
- 30 **SASE CHAPTER MAP**
- 35 **SASE PROFESSIONAL** Helping SASE pro's excel
- 37 **WELCOME TO PITTSBURGH!** By Trinity Key, David Kim and Melissa Yang  
Pittsburgh rolls out the red carpet for this year's National Conference and STEM Career Fair
- 43 **SASE REGIONAL CONFERENCES** The 2019 SASE regional conferences have continued to please
- 51 **SASE LEADERSHIP AWARDS** Celebrating technical accomplishment and leadership in science, engineering and technology
- 61 **SASE 2019 ROLE MODELS** Meet this year's models Tien Duong and Christina Chen
- 64 **SASE COMMUNITY SERVICE** Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank aims to eliminate hunger
- 66 **SASE JR** Impacting the lives of high school students
- 68 **GIVE BACK TO SASE** Individual giving is crucial to helping SASE empower Asian American students and professionals
- 70 **SASEsalutes** Honoring those of Asian heritage who serve or have served in our country's military
- 71 **SASE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS** Companies and government agencies highlight top talent within their organizations
- 72 **SASEhack** Annual hackathon promises to be an exciting event

## 2019 SASE NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND STEM CAREER FAIR

- 75 **CHAIR WELCOME** Erica Chang, SASE 2019 National Conference and STEM Career Fair Committee Chair
- 77 **GOVERNOR WELCOME** Governor Tom Wolf
- 79 **MAYOR WELCOME** Mayor William Peduto
- 81 **SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE**
- 83 **THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!**
- 101 **STEM CAREER FAIR FLOOR PLAN**
- 103 **THANK YOU OAC!**
- 104 **THANK YOU SPONSORS!**



71

A special SASE thanks to Johnny Vo from Black Frame Photos for his help and support with the photography. Featured on the cover are Tien Duong and Christina Chen.

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**Advertising:** René Avendaño – [rene.avendano@saseconnect.org](mailto:rene.avendano@saseconnect.org)  
**Editorial:** Bruce Matzner – [bruce.matzner@saseconnect.org](mailto:bruce.matzner@saseconnect.org)



**Art Direction:** Linda L. Titus  
**Information about SASE:** [info@saseconnect.org](mailto:info@saseconnect.org) or [www.saseconnect.org](http://www.saseconnect.org)

In Memory of Mary Jo Scibetta

SASE encourages you to recycle this magazine.



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# CEO & Executive Director **WELCOME**

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## **SASE's Vision**

As our 9th Annual National Conference begins, I reflect on SASE's future and how to expand our reach, while remaining faithful to our central mission. The SASE Core Team went through a strategic planning retreat earlier this year and we coalesced around 3 areas: 1) Supporting and serving our volunteers and members, 2) Engaging and providing value to professionals, and 3) Continuing to grow our collegiate members/chapters and developing their leadership skills. While these goals might seem obvious, we will need to strategically invest in and continue to nurture these areas to ensure future success.

I'm excited about what the next few years will bring. Volunteers are vital to SASE – they are the lifeblood sustaining the SASE family. Last year, we had our first-ever volunteer appreciation lunch at the National Conference in Illinois. Many volunteers were surprised at the large number of dedicated members who were also giving their time and talent to make SASE extraordinary. It was a great opportunity to connect and show our appreciation. This year's event will be even better, while we consider ways to continue to provide volunteer-specific growth opportunities, such as implementing programs to help our volunteers in their leadership roles. This year, we will have 6E leadership assessments and volunteer evaluations. We also created SASEleads – liaisons from each company who understand the company's culture and needs to directly interface with SASE. This creates a community of SASE professionals who will have a special relationship with SASE, and additionally, be in a position to acquire a better understanding of their own company's organizational and political structure.

Many of our young graduates have said to me, "I loved SASE in college. Now that I have graduated, what can SASE do to help me in my career?" Under the guidance of the professional committee, SASE is expanding engagement with professionals at the National Conference where a variety of opportunities will be available for professionals to learn, train, and network. On Wednesday, some companies are taking advantage of being on location by doing a "Company Day," where they will strategize, celebrate, connect, or strengthen their internal cohesiveness. SASE will provide space and some logistical support for these activities. Thursday encompasses professional training, the military recognition awards luncheon SASEsalutes, and the Achievement Awards Dinner. Two, 3.5-hour training sessions from national facilitators will target young, ERG, middle career professionals, and executives via seven tracks. There will be professional workshops on Friday to continue the conversation, which will include the Women's Initiative.

Collegiate members are the heart of SASE. To continue that strong heartbeat, we have a growth target of 150 chapters in the next 4 years. To support that growth, we are creating a team to identify, support, and onboard new chapters. For our existing chapters, we are creating content to strengthen them. The collegiate and leadership committees are working on creating leadership training and tools to help our chapter officers and members become stronger leaders.

SASE has hit its full stride as a young adult. We want to take those awkward growth years and build strong collegiate leaders, develop professionals to reach their full potential, and continue to have a SASEfam feel among our volunteers as they grow. I hope you sense that SASE is "Building Bridges" and "Connecting Leaders."

If you want to learn more about any of the above, don't hesitate to reach out to me. I look forward to a great conference and I hope to meet many of you in person.


Sincerely,

**Khánh Vũ**

*CEO and Executive Director*

*Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers*





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# SASE 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **SHEKHAR MITRA** Co-Founder and President

Shekhar currently serves as Premium Consulting Partner at YourEncore, Inc and President of Innopreneur LLC, a global new venture and leadership development consultancy. Prior to this, Shekhar served as the Senior Vice President of Global Innovation for Procter & Gamble and was a member of top executive team, Global Leadership Council. He was on the ground in China starting P&G's well-recognized global innovation center in Beijing and led the start of the strategic partnership with the Government of India's Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR). He is passionate about enabling younger generations of scientists and engineers across all cultures, companies, and businesses to achieve their full potential as professionals. In 2010, he was awarded the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor by the U.S. Congress for his contribution in touching and improving lives through his leadership in bringing break-through innovations and for community service.



## **SANJAY CORREA** Vice President

Sanjay retired as a Vice President at GE in the Aviation business. His cross-functional teams in engineering, R&D, manufacturing, joint ventures, and supply chain operations were based in the US, Europe, India, Japan, and China. They addressed the aeropropulsion and power generation sectors. He enjoys leveraging the full complement of his business and scientific experience to drive innovation and change. Sanjay generates support and adoption for the implementation of new ideas at the highest levels of an organization. His work is characterized by a commitment to excellence, which includes serving as an engaged resource to promote the professional development of others, which has led to his position of Vice President on the SASE board.



## **TOM FERNANDEZ** Co-Founder and Secretary

Tom is CEO and Co-Founder of Last Mile Food Rescue. This non-profit provides self-funded, data-driven food donation programs. He is also Senior Business Advisor in the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber of Commerce's Minority Business Accelerator. He coaches minority businesses in order to add \$1 Billion in sales and 3500 jobs in the next 5 years. Tom served a 23-year career at P&G, including as Associate Director, Purchases for Acquisitions & Divestitures as well as roles in External Manufacturing, Chemicals and New Business Development in the United Kingdom. Tom has been active in Organizational Development since 1989 including as Recruiting Manager, P&G Product Supply. In 2007, Tom co-founded SASE and has served as Secretary of the Board since its founding.



## **TABREZ MALIK** Treasurer

Tabrez is a senior executive with over 16 years of global leadership & P&L experience in operations, strategy, turn-around, commercial finance, FP&A, M&A, and regulatory compliance (GAAP, IFRS). Tabrez is currently CFO of \$1.5BN, Engineered & Product Solutions for ABB. Prior to this he has worked in multiple industry segments in leadership roles to drive operations and finance linkage for growth and business turn-around. He has trained through GE Corporate programs and was a trainer for corporate programs/training. He received the Multi Cultural Leadership Award as part of external recognition by the National Diversity Council. Tabrez is a graduate of Bhilai Institute of Technology, India with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering and also holds a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the State University of New York, Buffalo. Tabrez has additional responsibilities as Treasurer for SASE and sits on the SASE Board. He is based out of Atlanta, GA.



## **SHWETA KURVEY-MISHRA** Board Member

Shweta is a senior executive with over 15 years of global experiences in strategic human resources business partnership, executive and leadership development, and diversity and inclusion, in multi-billion dollar, fortune 200, public as well as private companies. She is currently the Vice President of Human Resources at Silver Eagle Distributors, a beverage distribution company based out of Houston, TX. Shweta completed her Bachelor's Degree in Commerce (Business) from University of Mumbai in India and earned her Master's in Organizational Communication and Master's in Human Resources and Labor Relations from Michigan State University. She has worked in several different environments, cultures and business structures that have required her to drive human capital strategies to make progress and deliver results.



## CAREERS AT RAYTHEON

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- Supply Chain
- Operations
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#### Booth #209

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# SASE 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **AJAY MEHTA** Board Member

Ajay Mehta works in Shell's technology organization where he serves as the General Manager for New Energies Research & Technology. He leads a global group of scientists and engineers dedicated to developing innovative and competitive technologies to meet the demand for more and cleaner energy. Ajay has worked at Shell for his entire career of 23 years. He has assumed a wide range of technical and leadership roles in Deepwater R&D, Production Operations, CO<sub>2</sub> Mitigation, Project Engineering and General Management. He is a subject matter expert in natural gas hydrates and has served as a Distinguished Lecturer for the Society of Petroleum Engineers. Ajay holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Karnataka, India, a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines, and an MBA from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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## **SRINIVAS REDDY** Board Member

Srinivas is currently the Director of Product Supply for P&G Global Grooming Business that includes some of P&G's iconic brands - Gillette, Braun, Venus and The Art of Shaving. Srinivas is responsible for Global Innovation, Supply Network Operations, and North America Product Supply. Srinivas led the Asian American affinity network for P&G Product Supply from 2006 until 2009 and also served as a member on the Asian American Leadership Team for the company. Srinivas graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, where he serves as the Executive Sponsor for P&G Recruiting. Prior to his current role, he led the Global Engineering organization for P&G Grooming. Srinivas started his career with P&G in 1990 at a Manufacturing Plant in Georgia as a Controls Engineer. Since then he has held variety of leadership positions in Product Supply and R&D with responsibilities across product innovation, process development, capital & program management, engineering, global expansion, and supply chain management.

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## **KISHORE SUNDARARAJAN** Board Member

Kishore has spent his time focused on impacting the top line, bottom line, and cash flows in his 30+ years in the Industrial Automation space across different global industry segments. He invests time in sharing these learnings by recruiting, mentoring and developing individuals, and building and coaching teams. Proud moments for him are when his teams have gone the extra mile and when he has helped organizations win through tough times. His customer experience obsession, global cultural experiences, and career journey have contributed to the cultural and organizational changes he is proud to have led. Outside of work, Kishore loves spending time with his family, especially his grandson, eating vanilla ice cream, and vacationing on a beach. In his free time, he likes to read, learn new things, and support Asians developing leadership abilities through his engagement in the Society of Asian Scientists & Engineers (SASE) and the Asia Society of Texas. Going forward, Kishore's interests include leading a small to medium size business and helping its people break barriers, scaling up a startup, and helping organizations overcome their challenges by being an active and engaged executive.

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## **PIA MUYOT** Member Representative Board Member

Pia is a Senior Research Associate at Rubius Therapeutics in Boston, MA. She has over four years of experience working for small biotechnology companies, where her goal is for one of her projects to one day be approved for patient use. She graduated in 2014 with a degree in Molecular and Cellular Biology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and then began her career in the biotechnology industry. Her involvement in SASE began during her time at UIUC where she helped to revive the SASE chapter on campus in 2013. After graduating, she started her volunteer experience under the SASE Marketing team as the Midwest Regional Marketing Representative (RMR). She moved on to become the RMR Manager, and eventually, Marketing Chair for the organization where she oversaw the branding, communications, and marketing strategy for SASE. Her proudest contribution to SASE so far has been starting the She Inspires Me campaign to honor Women's History Month in March. With over 5 years of experience in SASE, Pia looks forward to representing the SASE membership on the board and voicing the different perspectives of our members.

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## **BEN TSANG** Member Representative Elect Board Member

Ben Tsang is a recent graduate of Lockheed Martin's prestigious Operations Leadership Development Program (OLDP). He currently works as an F-35 Project Engineer in Fort Worth, Texas. He is also currently the Aeronautics Business Area President for PAAN (Professional Asian American Network) which is an Employee Resource Group at Lockheed Martin. Originally from New York City, he holds a dual degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering and Mathematical Sciences from Binghamton University. Through his short tenure at Lockheed Martin, he has been at the Lockheed Martin sites across three of the four business areas. Outside of work, he volunteers heavily for SASE. He has served as a Regional Marketing Representative for two terms and 2017 was the 4th SASE National Conference he has helped plan! He has tremendously challenged himself and stepped out of his comfort zone to take on roles of increasing responsibility. From starting out as General volunteer in 2014, he most recently served as the 2017 National Conference Chair. In his free time, he enjoys being a chef, taking photos, volunteering, traveling and exploring nature.



# Be part of the conversation

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# 1.3 Million Reasons

## SASE's Professional Program (for Asian Americans in STEM) is flourishing

Did you know there are 1.3 Million Asian Americans / Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in STEM professionals? Did you know that AAPIs make up 20% of the STEM workforce? Not many do. But they will soon. Why? Because SASE is galvanizing and giving voice to help America's largest STEM minority group. You may recall that in SASE's first decade, SASE Collegiate focused on providing top recruiting talent to our Corporate Sponsors. We started off with one collegiate Chapter, Carnegie Mellon, and 1 Corporate Sponsor, P&G. That has now grown to 90 chapters and 80 Sponsors. SASE Collegiate is now humming and will continue to grow. This achievement allowed us to look for SASE's next breakthrough focus area. About 5 years ago, we began our journey to explore how we serve AAPIs not only after we place them in corporations but throughout their career. So now in our 12th year of operation, SASE is fulfilling our commitment that our second decade would focus on helping the 1.3 Million Asian American professionals achieve their full potential.

Multiple studies confirm a disparity showing that AAPIs are approximately 3 times under-represented in the C-Suite. So for every 1 promotion, 3 others did not get promoted. Let that sink in. The reality is that AAPIs have no problem entering companies. But we suffer the indignity of being passed over for deserved promotions or developmental assignments. There can be multiple reasons for that – none of which are acceptable when taken on the whole. So what starts out as 1 missed promotion often lasts for an entire career or ends up with the person leaving for another company that truly values her/him. So what can SASE do? The answer is a lot!

SASE polled senior executives from our Sponsor Companies. An overwhelming 80% of those executives said that SASE could help AAPIs advance or get promoted. They identified specific focus areas namely executive leadership development, mentoring, networking and sharing of learnings. These insights have led to outstanding content for the 2019 National Conference including:

- Extending the SASE Conference to 4 days from 3
- Creating a Company Day on Day 1: Participating companies will conduct internal meetings to address topics such as how it recruits, convening the Asian American Employee Resource group. These activities build alignment and commitment as the sponsor company participates in the SASE National Conference.
- Expanding Training Day and Awards on Day 2: SASE

Professional has a total of 7 training tracks available that are focused strengthening individual capabilities. These tracks include Executive Leadership Development, Early, Mid and Executive Leadership Development, Employee Resource Groups, Networking and Relationship Building. I am so excited for the couple hundred executives who will participate this year. They will learn from each other and develop relationships that stress the importance of helping each other succeed. How wonderful is that.



- Awards will be inspiring again this year. Too often, Asians don't celebrate earned recognition. We are thrilled to present our first SASEsalutes Awards recognizing contributions of Asian Americans in the Armed Forces as well as supplier partners in the Defense Industry. Also, companies have nominated their own employees to be recognized in the Achievement Awards Dinner. This truly is one of the most moving parts of the SASE National Conference. Every year, several AAPIs cry with pride at being recognized by their co-workers and bosses for meritorious service.
- Expanded Professional Panels and Workshops on Day 3: We are excited to panels for participants to dialogue from the best of the best. Additionally, we'll have 4 panels on various topics including the difficult and critical skill of managing up.
- Career Fair on Day 4 is where SASE Professionals find the next generational of talent and screen them into their company.

That is what we are doing in 2019. Think of the continued innovations on SASE Professional for the next several years!

So what can you do to help?

It is really simple. Engage. Ask questions. Be authentic. Ask about what your co-worker is feeling, ask how you can help AAPIs in your company. If you are that young AAPI like I was 30 years ago at P&G, I beg you to let down your guard. Asking for help from a mentor is a sign of strength – not weakness. I promise you that good people want to help you achieve your full potential.

In closing, SASE has upped our game on serving SASE Professionals. We have 1.3 Million reasons to do so! Enjoy the SASE National Conference 2019.

**Thomas J. Fernandez**

*Co-founder and Secretary of the Board*

*The Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers*



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# SASE STARS

THESE SASE STARS BUILD BRIDGES TO CREATE  
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS



## Jenny Cheung | Collegiate Star



Beginning her freshman year at Northeastern University, Jenny Cheung wasn't sure what major to take or which Asian American organization on campus to join. Then she met an upperclassman who said, "Join SASE. You don't have to be an engineering major and you'll meet a lot of people." That sure did it. Jenny just began a full time job with Northrop Grumman after recently graduating with a B.S. in computer engineering

and a M.S. in engineering management. Describing her first time at a SASE gathering she recalls meeting a lot of people who were passionate about what they were studying and told her they were

there to help her. Thinking of how SASE has helped her, she notes, "In terms of my professional goals, I feel that the network SASE gave me has been awesome. I've been able to try out so many different things."

In SASE she's done so much, beginning as a Finance Chair of NERC 2016, on to Corporate Relations Officer, and was the Co-President in her 4th year. Seeking to work on a broader scale, Jenny joined the national level of SASE. She is now the Logistics Team Manager for SASEtank, a competition for members who have a year to create an original idea, come up with a plan covering their motives, application, and market, and then present a prototype of it to a panel of judges at SASE's conference.

According to Jenny, her experience with SASE over the years got her out of her comfort zone by putting her in situations that forced her to grow and expand her network. "When I first joined, it was for fun. I'd always liked socializing with a lot of people, but SASE has been a life changing experience because I could do a lot of things in it. I really believe in its mission statement to bring a lot of people together to create this community." Jenny wants to give back what she has experienced during her time with SASE and pay it forward, especially to show other underclassmen in the community what she was given when she was a freshman entering college.

## Tiffany Lim | Collegiate Star

Tiffany Lim knew how to "spice things up" as she describes what she did as the new president of Minnesota University's SASE. For example, even though the chapter had fun cultural events with high attendance, getting people excited about professional events was hard. Members thought it was boring to hand out their resumes. Not Tiffany. Her mindset was "I'm sure we can do this." And they did after she and the corporate relations and marketing officer discussed new ideas, like inviting two companies not just one, opening the event for a wider field of people, to changing the marketing strategy. Instead of the usual 10 attendees, 60 came. "It was crazy successful," she recalls.

This was only one out of many examples of what Tiffany has accomplished since she first joined SASE's mentorship program in her freshman year. At first, she didn't feel like she fit in and stopped attending, but a new program, SASE Labs, opened up and she returned. "It was to extend your technical resume, do science projects, and try new things. All the SASE board members were involved to make it successful." She got to know the board members which encouraged her to become secretary. "I was finally in a position where I felt like I could plan and prepare things for others to enjoy," she says.

Halfway through her junior year, Tiffany realized she wanted to make more of an impact on SASE so she ran for president, which

she became. And this, too, gave her the opportunity to make changes such as restructuring a mentorship program she'd attended as a freshman that had since stopped. It's called a Taste of SASE. Her enthusiasm had 80% of members returning and applying for board positions.

Tiffany will continue with SASE as one of the colleagues for SASEhack, a series of cybersecurity challenge-based events at the national conference. She is graduating this spring in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota to begin a job with Mu Sigma, a science consulting firm in India.





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## David Bang | Collegiate Star



David Bang first joined SASE so he could put it on his resume. However, as he will soon graduate in 2020 from the University of Virginia with a degree in computer science, he's gained many more reasons for why he joined. "I've learned a lot of tactile skills like speaking in public or just meeting people and reaching out to them. Since working with my excellent team and spending

time with them, we've grown close. I really enjoy being able to work with them. There are also interpersonal skills such as dedication and motivation to keep on going even when it seems really hard and you're

forcing yourself to do things that you normally wouldn't want to do. I think those skills really helped me." Then there was the fun he's had getting to meet people, noting that having a small group of high-quality people is a lot better than a large group of semi-involved people.

When he first joined SASE, it was a small organization and again, David saw this as an opportunity to help it grow. He was asked to be president and this, too, showed him how to take on new responsibilities. "We really tried to build a community feeling to our club rather than just being another organization at the university. We did a lot of social events and sometimes we just had dinner together. We went to places like Virginia Tech and Richmond. I think those hours of driving we just got to talking and to know each other."

This coming year David decided to be treasurer because he saw there are other qualified members and he wants them to see what they can do and grow as a president. He knows how these positions have grown him. His advice for others who will choose to be in leadership is commitment and the willingness to work 110% all the time. Recalling the benefits he's received from SASE, David says, "Leadership gave me experience. I learned what sometimes works and what sometimes doesn't. I definitely want to see my chapter grow after I'm gone."

## Swetha Cherukuir | Collegiate Star

Initially what encouraged Swetha Cherukuri to join SASE as a freshman entering the University of California Santa Barbara was that she wanted to be more involved with things other than her physics major. Now in her senior year and much involved in SASE, she says the organization has been "the perfect way to not only meet more people who aren't in my major, but also people who have different perspectives about life. Many of the older officers were really encouraging, suggesting you should run for this, you should get more involved with that, like helping with planning, and asking for our opinions," she recalls.

Meeting a lot of people in SASE led to her becoming the Fundraising Chair later in her freshman year. In her sophomore year she became Vice President and went on to serve as Co-President. Though these changes were definitely an adjustment, she points to the "amazing officers who helped us transition even after they graduated as we had each other's numbers and were connected on social media."

For Swetha, volunteering with SASE let her see how a little bit of her time could immensely help other people and the community. She says, "It really opens your eyes like, hey, not only does it help others, it can also help me understand things in a different light." She tells about when her SASE chapter recently partnered in an activity with the Santa Barbara Food

Bank. "We actually gathered produce from a local farm and not only learned about how people grow fruits and vegetables and the best way to pick them, we also learned how they distribute them."

Now in her senior year at the university, Swetha is considering graduate school. In thinking about how SASE has helped her in college and personally, she says, "It helped me grow as a person. It helped me meet so many people whom I don't think I ever would have met otherwise. It gave me a whole new avenue of mentorship and help that I wouldn't have received otherwise."





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## Alex Chen | Emerging Star



While studying materials science and engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, Alex Chen joined SASE. Since his graduation in 2016 he's kept a close connection with the organization. Currently employed by Sevan Multi-Site Solutions he has multiple roles on various teams such as project coordination, on-site field project management to business development support and financial analytics.

"I am fortunate to have friendships with people I met five years ago who are still involved in SASE," he says. While in college he gained experience to become Chapter President and started volunteering nationally as a Regional Marketing Representative. "I'm currently the Marketing Chair. I love being involved with marketing because we have so much exposure into the communication processes and defining SASE's identity," he notes.

For those who also would like to be in SASE leadership, Alex says, "As a general rule of thumb, I don't have a particular structure or way I lead a team, but I think the most valuable thing is to understand those around you. Pay special attention to those you work with, such as their ambitions, ideas, and work styles since an effective team revolves around understanding how you work together."

Talking about what he's learned from SASE, college, and work, Alex recommends that those who are still in college and considering possible careers to "Be flexible. Don't limit yourself to any specific career path. The real world is a lot more free-form than we make it out to be. Don't be afraid to take opportunities and explore your options. I can't tell you how many people I've met who've switched career trajectories two, three, even four times throughout their lives." As to what drives him to continue volunteering with SASE, he says, "It's my interest in process improvement, knowing things can be better, and wanting to be part of that process."

Alex recalls that when he first joined SASE what drove him to become more involved and continue in the organization was that it provided him the opportunity to meet people from all over and see them grow.

## Aimee Chun | Rising Star

"I wanted to continue helping" was Aimee Chun's key motivation to stay with SASE. Since joining in 2012 as a student at Georgia Tech and now as a Regional Manager, she's still helping in multiple ways and has held many positions because she so enjoys what the organization does and the people she's been with. Starting as Vice President in 2013 and on to President in 2014, she helped in the planning and communications of the first Southeastern Regional Conference and was instrumental in reviving Georgia Tech's SASE chapter. It is now the one of the oldest chapters in the South Region. She also became a national volunteer.

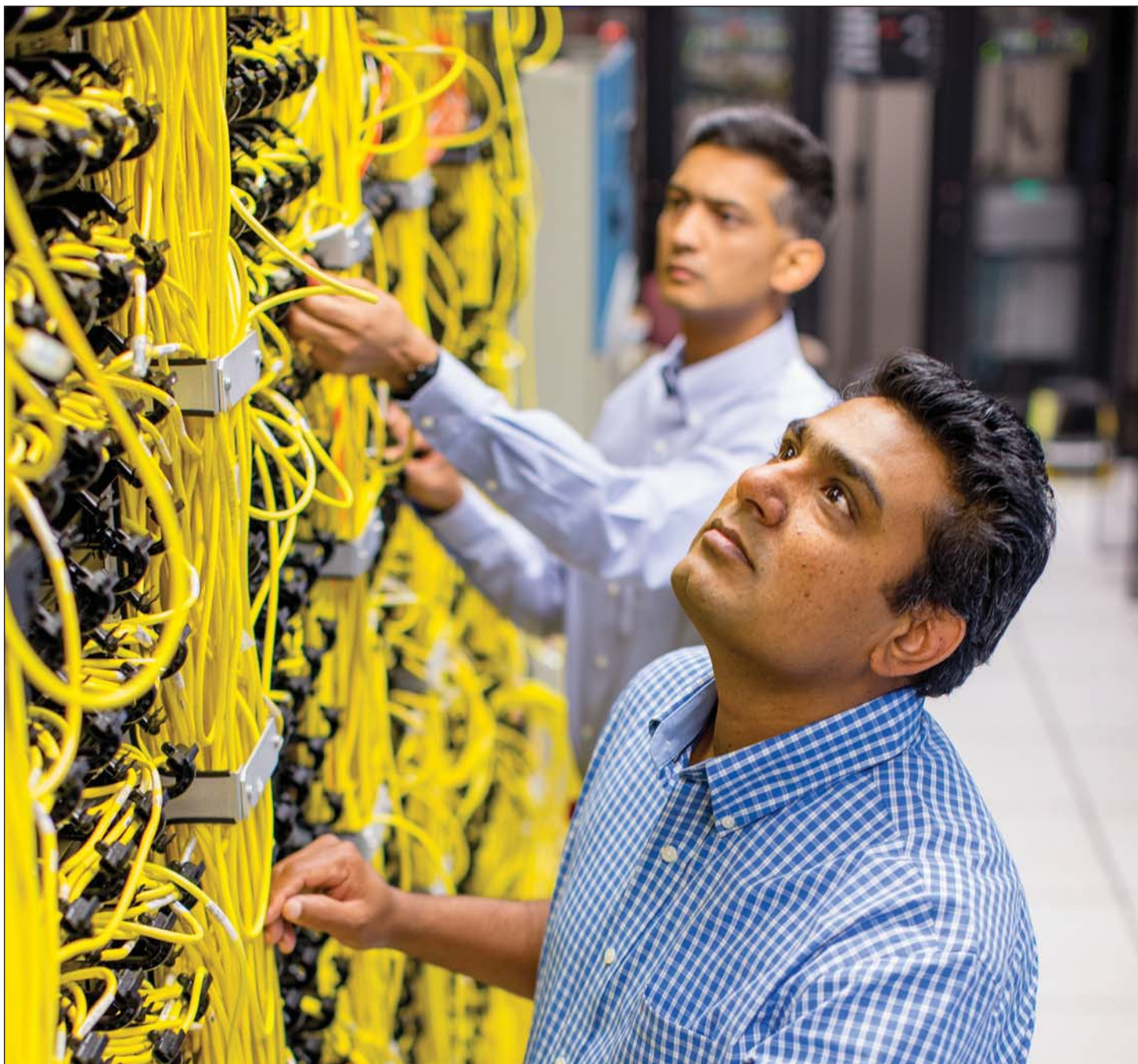
After graduating in 2015 in business administration with a concentration in IT and completing a successful summer internship that became a full-time job at Baker Hughes, a General Electric company, her connection with SASE continued with the position of Regional Coordinator. "I made a lot of good relationships within SASE," she recalls. Indeed she did. She was the female winner of the 2014 SASE Role Model contest. The next year brought even more changes when she became a Regional Coordinator and with other members founded the entrepreneurial competition, SASEtank. Now in its fourth year she's its Co-Director and Marketing Chair. In 2017 the regional manager decided to leave the position early and asked Aimee to step in, which she did, becoming Regional Manager and still is.

People often ask Aimee why she's stayed in SASE for so long. She cites many reasons, but to sum it up, she says, "As part of SASE, I've been able to make direct and almost immediate changes. SASE has shaped me to become a more confident leader. Because of my experience with my chapter before I became a national and regional leader, I was able to figure out what type of leadership style works for me and

how I want to help shape those whom I work with. The biggest reason why many of us stay in SASE is because of the people we're with."







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## Christopher Lui | Rising Star



Christopher Lui still remembers the first conversation he had with a SASE regional coordinator about eight years ago when he was a new member in a recently formed chapter. “I told myself I wanted to be like him. How do I get to be where he is?” is how he describes it. Having recently left the aerospace industry as a systems engineer, Christopher is currently a student in MIT’s Leaders for Global Operations program pursuing a master’s in

electrical engineering and computer science and an MBA.

He also currently oversees all of SASE’s collegiate chapters within the

Midwest region while using what he learned since he began in the organization. “Each chapter has their own chapter supervisors and I oversee them as someone who was in their shoes not too long ago. This is my opportunity to help them grow in their leadership ability,” he says.

Beginning his involvement with SASE as it expanded in that region, Christopher has since had many opportunities to be involved in both leadership and non-leadership roles. He started by going to national and regional conferences plus events at other chapters. Wanting to become even more involved with SASE, he looked at their website to discover what he could do. This led him to volunteer with SASE’s national organization, which he describes as “a nonprofit really aimed at making a positive impact for both collegiate students and professionals who are aiming to develop and grow from being part of this group.” As one of SASE’s Midwest regional coordinators, he helped chapter leaders by giving them advice and suggestions while assisting them in planning and developing goals.

For Christopher, volunteering is being able to help someone else. “Seeing that smile at the end of the day,” as he describes it. Teaching someone something they might not understand right away and then when it clicks and they have that “aha” moment or the “oh, that’s what I need to do!” eye-opener is what gives him pleasure. “That’s why I volunteer,” he notes, “for the happy times they have, for the smiles they bring back.”

## Sudarsan Venkatachalam | Rising Star

When asked what he finds most satisfying about SASE, Sudarsan Venkatachalam answered, “Its growth.” And as a member since 2008, he’s seen it grow. His long experience gave him meaningful insights to offer. For example his eagerness to attract more members when he was part of a small group that decided to develop starter packs for college students who were interested in SASE to encourage them to start college chapters. At that point SASE had no college chapters.

Sudarsan didn’t stop helping SASE grow. After graduating from Carnegie Mellon with degrees in chemical engineering and business administration, he began working at Procter and Gamble while initiating the first SASE chapter at his college. “My goal was to grow the collegiate chapters as much as possible and we did, going from three to 17, 25, 50 and so on. Since then I’ve been a volunteer and have touched pretty much all parts of SASE,” he says. He’s also been involved in national conference planning with the professional committee. “Right now I’m working primarily with SASE professionals. Our collegiate chapters have grown very well, so now I’m figuring out how we can do the same for professionals.”

The fact that SASE is primarily a volunteer driven organization is another challenge he’s taken on. “You have to inspire people to do what needs to be done because you’re asking volunteers to put in

hours outside of their own work. Walk around in their shoes anytime you’re frustrated when a volunteer’s work wasn’t done. Being kind and understanding goes a long way. I would say that has contributed most to my growth,” he explains.

For Sudarsan, SASE isn’t just making things happen, he also enjoys the family feel it has, remembering when he moved from Cincinnati to New York to get married and had to find a new job. “A lot of SASE people gave me recommendations. I used them as references. Overall there’s just a huge family feeling. I’ve found some really amazing friendships,” he recalls.



### SASE National Volunteer Recognition Award Sponsored by The Shekhar & Anu Mitra Family Fund

The Shekhar and Anu Mitra Family Fund is honored to provide funding to SASE to award those volunteers who exhibit exceptional leadership within SASE, as well as their community. The Mitra family believes that volunteerism and leadership go hand-in-hand

and without its hard-working volunteers, SASE would not be where it is today. Individuals were selected based on their contributions to SASE, how they’ve grown as a leader, and how they’ve exemplified their own values and personal mission.

SASE is incredibly grateful for The Shekhar & Anu Mitra Family Fund’s desire to reward our extremely talented and dedicated volunteers.

Please be on the lookout next year to see how you can be recognized for your volunteerism.

If you are interested in donating to the SASE National Volunteer Recognition Award, please contact Khanh Vu, [khanh.vu@saseconnect.org](mailto:khanh.vu@saseconnect.org)





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A photograph of a wooden surface with a lightbulb on the left and the word "INSPIRE" in large, 3D wooden block letters on the right. The word "Awards" is written in a white, cursive script below the letters.

# 2019

# INSPIRE

## Awards

**WITH EVERY PASSING YEAR,  
THE SASE COMMUNITY GROWS IN SIZE,  
TALENT AND CONTRIBUTION.**

The SASE Inspire Awards are designed to recognize those chapters around the nation who have gone above and beyond the call of duty over the past year. These chapters are measured in professional development, cultural awareness, diversity, community involvement, impact of events, initiatives, and event attendance, to name a few. The 2019 SASE Inspire Awards are described as follows:

**OVERALL STRONGEST:**

Outstanding contributions and advancement of SASE's three core mission statements.

**MOST INFLUENTIAL:**

Outstanding leadership, outreach, creativity and/or other qualities that indicate large-scale vision and planning.

**MOST IMPROVED:**

Displays the most growth and improvement over the past school year.

**MOST PHILANTHROPIC:**

Awarded to the chapter that has demonstrated and embodies the spirit of service within their chapter, community, region, and/or nation.

Each of these categories recognizes both a primary recipient as well as an honorable mention recipient. Throughout the upcoming year, all of the recipients will be featured on the various SASE social media channels to share ideas and strategies that can help others grow. In the meantime, here is what each recipient has to say about their achievements.

## WINNER: Drexel University



The SASE Drexel Chapter puts tremendous effort into shaping their chapter for continued growth and success. The chapter brings a diverse selection of professional and cultural events to their members, hosts at least 15 events each term, garners over 300 hours of community service, and oversees the first SASE Junior Chapter, SASE Central. For the third year in a row, they have increased attendance numbers, outreach, and made an impact in their community. Kicking off the year with 122 people at their first general body meeting, they hosted a variety of events such as Mental Wellness Workshops, workshops discussing AAPI identity, personal growth workshops, and workshops to heighten professional skills. By hosting an event every day during SASE Spirit Week, they had a total of over 200 sign-ins for this week, making it their most successful Spirit Week to date. By revamping their mentorship program, they increased mentorship sign-ups by 42% this year, and had a total of over 1000 sign-ins from events this year alone.

For success tips, they suggest thinking outside the box and re-evaluating everything your chapter does each year. Take the summer, or any time of the year, to think about how to improve your chapter, from the bylaws, to how e-board meetings are run, how events should be planned, and define and push the goals that your chapter wants to meet each year. They also suggest setting goals for your general members to reach, where upon achieving them, they can gain added benefits from your SASE chapter. For example, after implementing an event quota for people to vote and run in e-board elections this year, their chapter's event attendance, membership numbers, community service hours, and e-board applications, rose tremendously. Giving potential general members a goal to accomplish within the organization will not only make them feel like they are a part of the group, but will also increase overall attendance and involvement for your chapter.

## HONORABLE MENTION: Stevens Institute of Technology

It's easy to become complacent once you go through a period of growth and grab a taste of success. Now in its sixth year of operation, Stevens SASE has grown tremendously from the small chapter it was in its infancy. From a small, but dedicated group of students, to one of the largest active membership bases in the region, Stevens SASE now stands as one of the veteran chapters in the Northeast region.

There are two main struggles that most chapters face. The first is convincing students to join SASE. The second is making sure they stay and continue to be active. Stevens SASE is no stranger to these issues, but through the years, we have found solutions that have resulted in the chapter's current state today.

Primarily, Stevens SASE has a strong focus on quality and consistent event programming. Every single general body meeting and event is put in place the semester before and we make sure that our members can get something of value each time. General body meetings can range from professional workshops given by upperclassmen to alumni and faculty panels, while events involve large networking dinners or a cultural showcase along with other Asian cultural organizations on campus. Afterwards, we look at what went well and what can be improved in order to refine events for future semesters.

The other major focus of Stevens SASE is to make sure that every member of this chapter feels like a part of a large family. While we do have programs like the mentor/mentee pairings each year, those are meaningless if no other interaction takes place. It's the small conversations and daily



encounters that built the strong relationships that exist in our chapter. Board members and upperclassmen make it a point to break away from their usual friend groups and greet new faces each year, making sure that anyone coming to our events will always have a familiar face to go to. Without this, Stevens SASE would not be able to maintain its growth and membership. It's important to stress how important both of these aspects are in conjunction with each other. Without proper planning for events, there's no time to get to know your members. You'll either be too busy worrying about the event or they'll stop showing up altogether. On the other hand, no interaction with the general body will leave them uninterested and unattached to the organization and the people involved.

The best advice is to start small. It can be daunting to try to plan an entire semester, so start with one event. Focus on a few objective goals that you want to achieve with that event, whether it's making time to interact with members or being able to impart valuable information in a fun and interactive manner. Afterwards, reflect and see what you can improve on or keep for the next events. It'll take time to grow, but we already had six years to learn and grow to this point. Hopefully, it'll take newer chapters less time to surpass us.



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## MOST IMPROVED

### WINNER:

#### University of Houston

From serving various ethnic foods at our meetings to starting the first SASE Jr. chapters in the region, SASE-UH has always proven to uphold the 3 pillars. We've held multiple professional development events, in collaboration with other engineering organizations, that helped our members to develop their communication and networking skills. At our General Meetings, we were grateful to represent countries all over Asia by serving Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese, and Chinese food. This year, we volunteered with Project C.U.R.E. to prepare medical equipment for 3rd world countries. We also participated in the Chevron Girls in Engineering and Circle K International's Mini Cougar Einstein event, exposing young students to STEM related activities. To promote inclusiveness, we established a Dynasty system where members could socialize within smaller groups. Lastly, we established two SASE Jr. chapters, providing high school students with leadership opportunities and professional development workshops.

All of us have asked or been asked the infamous question, "What advice do you have for me?" At first, we take the advice we hear and



work towards implementing it into our lives. Eventually, we find ourselves on the other side, now giving back advice to someone else in our footsteps. This cycle continues forever with information being passed on from one generation to the next. But what if it didn't? This brings us to the one piece of advice we'd like to present. That is to simply keep giving. In a world where there is already so much hurt, anger, and resentment, why add to it? We're supposed to be helping each other up, yet we see so much of putting each other down. We challenge everybody to take something you've learned along your journey thus far and pass it on to ensure that the cycle of giving back will always continue.

## MOST IMPROVED



### HONORABLE MENTION:

#### Rochester Institute of Technology

Started in 2014, SASE RIT was created to build leaders in the Asian American community. In addition to reinforcing the National organization's mission, we sought to help our members feel at home when away from home. We created our own goals to ensure we would always be moving forward as a chapter. Within the five years that we've been on campus, we have collaborated and co-hosted events with many different organizations along with other minority

clubs, held countless professional events to prepare our members entering the workforce, and volunteered with and financially contributed to multiple organizations, giving back directly to the Rochester community. For example, we have the opportunity of a large deaf culture in RIT because of the National Technical Institute of the Deaf (NTID) and this allowed us to bring the hearing and deaf community together to recognize and accept each other's identities. This was completed through our collaborations with the Asian Deaf Club on American Sign language and Resume workshop. We have also committed to reaching out to a high school on a weekly basis so as to teach Python to a group of students as an afterschool activity. This enforced the SASE Jr initiative, in hopes that a programming project can open their eyes to the STEM field. For our members, several general body meetings were held that were catered in preparing for the Career Fair held on campus. The workshops focused on improving one's resume, learning technicalities of an elevator speech, and establishing one's presence during an interview. All of these efforts have aided in making SASE known on campus, more people acknowledge us, and in turn we can help more people. College isn't an easy step for most, therefore learning to understand what your members want, we believe, is most important.

## MOST INFLUENTIAL

### WINNER

#### Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

SASE at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is very proud of the growth we have had in membership, event planning, and our overall organization. It has been a great year that has really set a foundation for us to continue to grow and evolve as a chapter. This year, we have a total over 82 paying members that are active throughout the organization. We organized and executed on our biggest event yet, a Formals with an attendance of over 80 people. Our campus presence is the largest it has ever been from our effective advertising and recruitment. The connections between us and different Asian and Engineering organizations are much stronger with joint events being more and more common. We are very proud of our Nationals and SCRC attendance rate as we able to bring out more than 15 students to Nationals every year. Our biggest achievement, however is the creation and continuous fostering of the sense of community and



family that we have at our chapter. Our members are able to come to our events and feel like they have a place away from their stressful college lives that is among friends who understand the struggles they are going through. The biggest piece of advice we can give to other chapters is to strive and create this culture. Having that strong sense of community between members is what drives membership, events, and the overall strength of your chapter.



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## MOST INFLUENTIAL

### HONORABLE MENTION:

#### The Ohio State University

SASE OSU was established in 2008 with the goal to create a community that is empowering and safe to all Asian scientists and engineers within the local Columbus community. We are determined to uphold the pillars of SASE to allow our members to feel empowered in their education and employment so that they can achieve their full career potential. SASE OSU has been actively hosting events that provides networking, leadership, and volunteering opportunities. We develop our events to provide a welcoming space, not only for our members to develop professionally, but also for a diverse community to call home.



This enables members to translate their learnings and achievements to give back to the OSU or local community.

## MOST PHILANTHROPIC



### WINNER

#### University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

SASE UMN has always strived to empower the Asian student community at the University of Minnesota with every event we hold and every program we offer. We recognize the importance of diversity not only within the Asian heritage community, but also

throughout the entire College of Science and Engineering. Minority empowerment comes from a united front. That is why SASE UMN has expanded our focus on our cultural events, such as exploring the different cultural meanings behind the ubiquitous dumpling from India, to Tibet, to China. This is why we sought out professional collaborations with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the National Society of Black Engineers on the UMN campus to host companies in order to give opportunities to all minority students. Much of our success lies in the new and exciting ideas generated by our increasingly diverse pool of members. These new and different ideas is what drives innovation and it is what makes SASE UMN a leader in the College of Science and Engineering. SASE UMN works hard to be a community that is open to everyone who wants to learn about Asian culture, strengthen their technical skills, and grow as an individual. SASE UMN is incredibly honored and humbled to receive this award and will strive to continue to uphold our mindset and vision to inspire and strengthen SASE's mission, not only in the Midwest Region, but to all of the chapters nationwide.

## MOST PHILANTHROPIC

### HONORABLE MENTION:

#### University of Florida

The University of Florida (UF) chapter of the Society of Asian Scientists & Engineers is proud to produce remarkable leaders every year, with alumni hailing from California to Pennsylvania. UF SASE is home to the 2018 Emerging Leader Jackie Lu and the 2018 SASE Hack Winner Victor Lin. From mentoring programs, to professional development, to philanthropic endeavors throughout the whole year, this organization strives to create well-rounded and strong-minded individuals that can serve as leaders no matter the workplace. This organization firmly believes in quality over quantity, having a chemistry between its board and members that is unlike no other.

For new chapters, UF SASE advises to always think big, because attitude is what determines altitude. To succeed, the leaders of that organization must be in a mindset that they will succeed and failure is not an option. UF SASE also recommends to start getting comfortable being uncomfortable, because the road to success is



always under construction. There will always be new obstacles to face, but with a strong mentality shared by leaders who care about the present and the future, the limits to what can be achieved are boundless.



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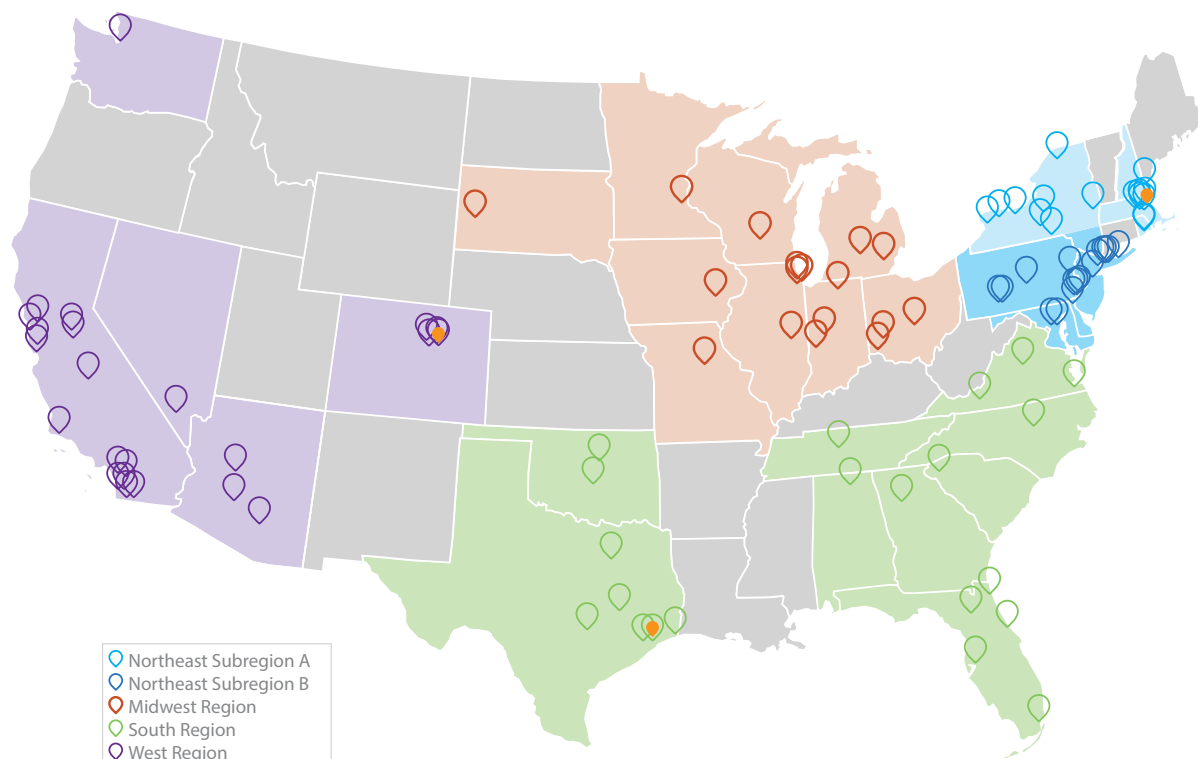
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A FedEx Express aircraft is shown from a low angle, flying through a dense layer of clouds. The sun is shining from the upper right, creating a bright, golden glow and illuminating the clouds. The aircraft is white with the FedEx logo in purple and orange. The words "The World On Time" are written on the nose, and "Gauguin" is written near the cockpit. The engine also features the FedEx logo.

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Derek Luellen

BASF

**"I knew BASF  
was the company  
for me."  
Derek Luellen**

## BASF, an innovative company with strong employee groups

Derek Luellen always knew he wanted to work for a company with strong, science-based innovation capabilities. After graduating from Western Michigan University in 2007 with a bachelor's in physics and minors in astronomy and math, he happily accepted a contract employee position at BASF Corp. in Wyandotte, Michigan.

"BASF was always a company that I had my eye on," Luellen said. "When a full-time position became available during my time in a contract position, I was eager to apply. I knew BASF was the company for me."

Currently as a technical service data specialist in BASF's Performance Materials – Engineering Plastics group, he manages incoming technical questions and product inquiries. He describes the role as unique and dynamic. "I'm in technical service for plastics and am interested in moving to the polyurethane system side," Luellen said. "Positions with technical service do a lot more problem solving at the customer level, such as formulating materials to fit their specific needs, which is really appealing to me."

Beyond his day-to-day role, Luellen is also an active member of the Wyandotte site's building safety council. Additionally, he currently leads the onboarding program for new or transferred employees into the Performance Materials business group.

Another reason Luellen was drawn to BASF is the number of employee resource groups. The groups provide a convenient way to network, build knowledge, and talk with colleagues about markets and customers. The Asian


Business Community (ABC) employee resource group particularly caught Luellen's attention. ABC holds events that help forge a path toward a diverse corporate culture - one that understands and appreciates Asian culture. Though his background is Welsh and German, Luellen was drawn to the group because of its sense of community and goals. What prompted him to attend meetings, however, was simple: new, delicious food. "I came for the food and stayed for the people I had the opportunity to meet," he said.

Luellen's initial interactions at ABC events ignited his passion for both collaborating with and advocating for his Asian colleagues at BASF. He's now been an active core team member of the Wyandotte BASF ABC employee resource group for more than five years and currently serves as the group's treasurer. The group hosts events such as a Lunar New Year, Diwali and an Asian Heritage celebration.

"BASF really gives us the opportunity to expand our horizons by experiencing other cultures," he said. "That all ties into the company's culture, and I believe BASF has really created something special with the help of our employee resource groups."

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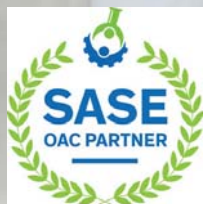
A photograph of two scientists, a man and a woman, in a laboratory setting. They are both wearing white lab coats and safety glasses. The man, on the right, is wearing white gloves and is using a pipette to transfer liquid into a multi-well plate. The woman, on the left, is looking at the plate. The lab coats have a BASF logo on the left chest. The background shows laboratory shelves with various bottles and equipment.

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**SASE 2019 Emerging Leader of the Year Award:**  
Dr. Mahmud Hussain



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# SASE Professional

## Helping SASE pro's excel

We are excited to bring a new, robust SASE Professional (“SASE Pro”) Leadership Development Training experience to the 2019 National Conference!

Recall, SASE Pro is a new strategic focus for SASE, built on the historical strength for SASE Collegiate. This was agreed by the SASE Board in 2018 to create a more intensive approach to serve Professionals. SASE Pro’s mission is To Unlock the Leadership Potential of Asian STEM Professionals. You can read the “business case” for SASE Pro in the Fall 2018 article, “SASE Steps Up Efforts for Professionals” (pages 33-34), authored by Dennis Hirotsu.

SASE Pro seeks to increase the business impact of Asian-American STEM professionals. Involvement in SASE Pro is good for companies - helping strengthen results and increasing employee satisfaction, retention, and recruiting potential. And over time, we believe this can strengthen Asian representation at higher managerial/technical levels in industry, which is significantly (~3X) less than at lower levels. SASE Pro involvement is also good for the individual - strengthening your unique business & technical impact, while expanding personal networks to share and gain new insights. The SASE Pro experience during NC2019 is focused on addressing flat spots on ‘soft skills’, combining development in leadership, cultural awareness, and cultural agility to unlock Asian STEM leadership potential.

This year’s expanded Professional Development experience has many exciting features, each designed to serve unique target audiences: Early-Career Professionals, Mid-Career Professionals, ERG Leaders, and Asian Women in STEM. We have also expanded the Executive Forum, including 30+ highly successful Asian STEM executives and advocates across industries:

- 7 Tracks of Experiential Training Sessions: These half day sessions are led by world-class Asian Leadership training providers - LEAP (Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics), Elevate’s Asian Upward and ERG Economy sessions, Ascend’s Executive Insight Series, and Harrison Monarth, Executive Presence Coach and NYT Best Selling author.
- 20+ Workshops and Executive Talks/Panels: Led by additional providers as well as Executive Forum members, who will share their career stories and insights to inspire you and help guide your personal growth as leaders.

- Professional Networking Receptions, Dinners, and Awards Ceremonies: a fantastic opportunity to meet your peers from other industries, to share insights and gain insights.
- A Vibrant Peer Community Solving Common Problems: We want to go beyond unstructured networking, to capitalize on the opportunity to bring together professionals to discuss, ideate, and develop solutions for the most common challenges facing Asian Professionals and Asian ERG/BRGs. During Friday’s program, we will experiment with “Peer Sharing and Learning” sessions on a few focused topics (e.g. Asian Women’s Needs, Building Bridges to Asia, etc). These topics may also serve as a platform for a sustaining dialogue even outside of the National Conference setting.

The SASE Pro NC2019 Experience was created by a small, but mighty Professional Committee, as well as an ever-expanding network of “SASE Company Leads”, representing about 35+ different companies and serving as their primary liaison with SASE Pro. If you know of other companies who want to get involved in SASE Professional to develop their Asian STEM workforce, please connect them with me or any SASE Professional Committee member.



*Uday Sheth, SASE Professional Committee Co-Chair*





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# WELCOME TO PITTSBURGH!

By Trinity Key, David Kim, and Melissa Yang

As the 9th annual SASE National Conference & STEM Career Fair kicks off in Pittsburgh, you may find yourself wanting to satisfy that craving for Thai food you've had all day or that thirst for bubble tea you've been holding back. After all the talk of building bridges and connecting leaders, what better way to continue the theme by exploring the "City of Bridges!"

## GETTING AROUND

Pittsburgh has a great network of public transportation routes that will deliver you safely and reliably to the site-seeing and grub spots of your choice. There is a plethora of transportation options to choose from, of course, Uber and Lyft being the most common. The Pittsburgh Port Authority Association also provides the T, which is a light-rail system that can take you from one end of Pittsburgh to the other, with popular stops being Station Square and Oakland, the home of Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh campuses. Public Port Authority Buses are also available to take you further and, in more directions, than the T does if you're on a budget. Schedules can be found on the Port Authority website.

## TAKE A LOOK

Pittsburgh is home to a vibrant arts and culture scene, cultivated with influences from all generations that inhabit the city. The most popular art museums include: Randyland, the Mattress Factory, The Carnegie Art Museum, The Andy Warhol Museum, and The Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Also, the world-class Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens is in the Oakland neighborhood.

If you're feeling artsy,

**RANDYLAND** is a must-see Pittsburgh staple. Randyland is the home and open art exhibit created by Randy Gilson, a Pittsburgh native and local artist. Dive deep into the colorful world of miscellaneous items Randy has salvaged and revamped with his own twist.

**LOCATION:** 1501 Arch St, Pittsburgh, PA 15212-4028

**PRICING:** FREE | **HOURS:** 10 am - 7 pm



Just a few streets down from Randyland is home to one of the coolest museums in Pittsburgh: **THE MATTRESS FACTORY**. This museum has a rotation of live-in artists, hand-selected by the Mattress Factory organization. Each artist creates room-sized, interactive exhibits, collectively making up the





three-building museum campus. Pictures are encouraged through this unique museum experience.

**LOCATION:** 500 Sampsonia Way, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**PRICING:** \$15 | **HOURS:** 10 am - 5 pm, Closed Mondays



Also, in Pittsburgh's North Shore is **THE ANDY WARHOL MUSEUM**, a seven-floor building dedicated to telling Pittsburgh-born Andy Warhol's story and legacy through his art. **FUN FACT:** This is the largest museum in North America dedicated to a single artist.

**LOCATION:** 117 Sandusky St, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**PRICING:** \$20 for adults; \$10 for students, seniors (65+), and children (3 - 18)

**HOURS:** Sat - Thurs: 10 am - 5 pm; Fri: 10 am - 10 pm; Closed Mondays



If you find yourself in Oakland with some free time, **PHIPPS CONSERVATORY AND BOTANICAL GARDEN** is a must-see. Founded in 1893, the conservatory boasts an impressive 14 rooms of both indoor and outdoor gardens and environments.

The greenhouse is impressive in its Victorian style architecture.

**LOCATION:** 1 Schenley Drive, Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

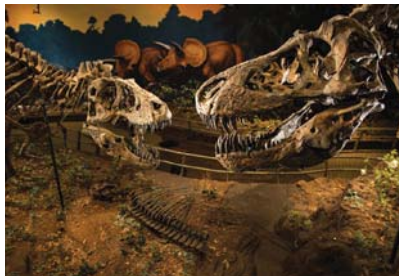
**PRICING:** \$16.95 for Students (w/ID), \$17.95 for Adults

**HOURS:** Sat - Thurs: 9 am - 5 pm, Fri: 9 am - 10 pm

The **CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF ART** showcases both fine and modern art. The museum has a strong emphasis on contemporary art and was one of the first in the United States to do so. Additionally, the museum is jointly attached to the **CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**.



The Museum of Natural History has a wide range of collections and artifacts, and the two museums combined provide a wide range of activities that could fill an entire day. One ticket gets you into both, so be sure to check them both out.



Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

**PRICING:** Students: \$11.95, Adults: \$19.95

**HOURS:** Sun - Wed, Fri: 10 am - 5 pm; Thurs and Sat: 10 am - 8 pm

## DOWNTOWN

If you have the urge to see one of the best views in all of Pittsburgh, the **DUQUESNE INCLINE** provides just that. The incline takes you up 400 feet to the top of Mt. Washington, where you can see the entire Pittsburgh skyline. Perfect for snagging a memorable photo of your trip.



**LOCATION:** 1220 Grandview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA

**PRICING:** Adults: \$1.75 one way (\$3.50 round); Children: \$1.00 one way (\$1.75 round)

**HOURS:** Mon - Sat: 5 am - 12:30 am; Sun: 7 am - 12:30 am

Another amazing sight to see is all of the species of birds found in the **NATIONAL AVIARY**. It features over 500 birds, more than 150 species from around the world, including Andean condors, African penguins, and American flamingos. Keep an eye out for a sloth in the Tropical Rainforest.

**LOCATION:** 700 Arch St, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

**PRICING:** Adults: \$17; Children (ages 2 - 12) and Seniors: \$16

**HOURS:** 10 am - 5 pm, daily

**TAKO** is a great restaurant if you're looking for a So-Cal style experience. Home to a variety of different tacos and sides, Tako offers classic toppings like chorizo or carnitas, in addition to unique choices like their octopus or Korean tacos. This place is frequently packed, so make sure to set a reservation beforehand.

**LOCATION:** 214 6th Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15222

**PRICING:** ~\$10-22

**HOURS:** Mon - Thurs: 5 pm - 10 pm; Fri - Sat: 5 pm - 11 pm; Sun: 3 pm - 9 pm

Known for their steaks and Argentinian delights, **GAUCHO PARRILLA ARGENTINA** is an amazing spot in Pittsburgh's Strip District to grab a quick lunch or a sit-down dinner. Their unique first-come, first-served and "crash the counter" style usually creates a line that goes out the door, so be sure to get there early. Their 2018 Best of 'Burgh accolade proves the line is definitely worth the wait.

**LOCATION:** 1601 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**PRICING:** \$10 - 15 sandwiches, \$21 - 42 steak plates

**HOURS:** Tues - Thurs: 11 am - 9 pm; Fri - Sat: 11 am - 10 pm; Closed Sun - Mon

Home to one of Pittsburgh's most iconic foods is **PRIMANTI BROS.** They have "almost famous" sandwiches packed with meat, french fries, coleslaw, and tomatoes. Can't get a seat? Don't worry, the Market Square location is surrounded by many other restaurants and the occasional night market.

**LOCATION:** 2 South Market Square, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (original location); also in Strip District, South Side, Oakland, Garfield, Waterfront, Robinson

**PRICING:** \$7 - 9 for a sandwich

**HOURS:** Open 24/7

If you've got a sweet tooth, **THE MILKSHAKE FACTORY** is the perfect dessert. With all kinds of specialty milkshakes made from locally sourced dairy, The Milkshake Factory has some of the best in all of Pittsburgh.

**LOCATION:** 314 Fifth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15222 (also in Oakland)

**PRICING:** \$5 - 7

**HOURS:** Sun - Thurs: 10 am - 11 pm; Fri - Sat: 11 am - 11 pm



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## OAKLAND



A true landmark of the Oakland neighborhood, **THE CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING** is often heralded as the second tallest university building in the world. A part of the University of Pittsburgh campus, the building houses several classrooms and study facilities, in addition to

several Nationality Rooms that showcase cultures from around the globe.

**LOCATION:** 4200 Fifth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15260

**PRICING:** FREE

**HOURS:** 7 am- 11 pm (Nationality Rooms hours vary)

Want some great Asian cuisine? Don't have time for a sit-down restaurant experience? **OISHII BENTO** is the place to go! A fast-casual bento restaurant, Oishii Bento sells multiple different styles of bento and bowl meals, udon, and even sushi. Choose from all kinds of sides, and you have yourself a great meal on a tight schedule.

**LOCATION:** 119 Oakland Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

**PRICING:** ~\$7 - 15

**HOURS:** Mon- Fri: 10:30 am - 9 pm, Sat: 11 am - 9 pm

**FUKU TEA** is the go-to place to satisfy your boba addiction in Oakland. Situated directly between the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University campuses, Fuku Tea is always packed with students lining up, even extending out the door at times. Be sure to try their signature Black and Gold tea, or any option from their seasonal menu.

**LOCATION:** 3800 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

**PRICING:** ~\$3-6\$, depending on what you get

**HOURS:** Mon - Sat: 9 am - 9 pm; Sun: 12 pm - 9 pm

**LAS PALMAS** is a great gem hidden inside the Oakland neighborhood. While it is a grocery store, Las Palmas also runs a taco stand out front. Here you'll have, arguably, some of the most authentic tacos around.

PS: careful with the sauces if you happen to have a low tolerance, even the milder ones tend to be higher in spiciness.

*(Note: Also goes very well with boba from Fuku Tea, especially if you get the spicy sauces)*

**LOCATION:** 326 Atwood St., Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

**PRICING:** \$2.50/Taco

**HOURS:** Mon - Thurs: 9 am - 5 pm; Fri: 9 am - 10 pm; Sat: 12 pm to 7 pm; Sun: 12 pm - 4:30 pm

If you're looking for some great late-night options, **STACK'D** is a great place to start. With multiple locations across Pittsburgh, Stack'd is known for its build-your-own-burger with toppings ranging from traditional lettuce and tomatoes to more non-traditional ones like peanut butter and jelly. With the Oakland location having late-night specials starting at 9 pm like half-off burgers or chicken fingers, it's a great place to hit up if you're on a budget.

**LOCATION:** 3716 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15213

**PRICING:** \$6 - 11

**HOURS:** Sun - Thurs: 11 am - 11 pm; Fri - Sat: 11 am - 12 pm

Another late-night option is **FUEL AND FUDDLE**, a gastropub with a wide variety of finger foods, salads, wraps, burgers, pizzas, platters, and desserts. If you're craving a bite after 11 PM, be sure to stop by

for their late night half-off menu.

**LOCATION:** 212 Oakland Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**PRICING:** \$8 - 13 food, \$5 - 12 drinks

**HOURS:** 11 am - 1 am (kitchen), 11 am - 2 am (bar)

## SHADYSIDE



**WALNUT ST.** in Shadyside has a whole slew of stores ranging from locally owned small businesses to brand name stores. If you have the urge to go on a shopping spree while also exploring the local neighborhoods, Walnut St. is perfect for you.

**LOCATION:** Walnut Street, Pittsburgh, PA

After shopping along Walnut St., **FUJIYA RAMEN** is a great spot for a warm bowl of ramen that fills the stomach and the soul. If you're craving traditional Japanese foods, Fujiya Ramen is the place to go.

**LOCATION:** 815 S Aiken Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

**PRICING:** \$12 - 14

**HOURS:** Mon - Fri: 11:30 am - 2:15 pm, 4:30 pm - 9:30 pm; Sat - Sun: 11:30 am - 9:30 pm

**NOODLEHEAD** serves some of the best Thailand inspired noodle dishes in Pittsburgh. If you're in the mood for some sukhothai or kee mao, this is the place for you. Note: Noodlehead only accepts cash and it's frequently packed, so be sure to get there early to minimize wait time.

**LOCATION:** 242 South Highland Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206

**PRICING:** \$6.50 - \$9.50

**HOURS:** Daily 12 pm - 10 pm

**MILLIE'S HOMEMADE ICE CREAM** is a great spot to hit up right after dinner in Shadyside. Next to Noodlehead, Millie's offers, as the name says, homemade ice cream with all kinds of specialty flavors, including Vietnamese Coffee and Olive Oil. They even offer unique ice cream sandwiches served on brioche buns.

**LOCATION:** 232 South Highland Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206

**PRICING:** ~\$4.50 - 7.50

**HOURS:** Sun - Thurs: 12 pm - 10 pm; Fri - Sat: 12 pm - 11 pm

**THE YARD** is a late-night staple of the Shadyside neighborhood. Known for their specialty grilled cheeses, you'll often find the gastropub packed, especially on its famous trivia nights (Wednesday nights at 9pm). Fun fact: The Yard has the official grilled cheese of the Pittsburgh Penguins.

**LOCATION:** 736 Bellefonte St., Pittsburgh, PA, 15232

**PRICING:** \$4 - 15

**HOURS:** Mon - Thurs: 3 pm - 1 am; Fri: 11:30 am - 2 am; Sat: 10 am - 2 am; Sun: 10 am - 1 am

Another eatery to stop by after shopping along Walnut St. is **MERCURIO'S**, a family owned Neapolitan pizza and gelato restaurant. Their award-winning homemade gelato is a delicious late night (or day time) treat and traditional Italian antipasti, insalate, panini, and pizze make a filling meal.

**LOCATION:** 5523 Walnut St, Pittsburgh, PA 15232

**PRICING:** \$9 - 15 per pizza; \$0.76 / ounce of gelato

**HOURS:** Sun - Mon: 1 pm - 9 pm; Tues - Thurs: 11 am - 10 pm; Fri - Sat: 11 am - 11 pm





# Congratulations to our 2019 Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers Award winners!

**Shiva Duraiswamy**

*Professional Achievement Award*

**Jihong Han**

*Career Achievement Award*

**Sagar Khire**

*ERG Leadership Award*

**Ajith Kumar**

*Technical/Research/Business Achievement Award*

**Priya Maccaferri**

*Promising Professional Award*

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# *Welcome*

## SASE National Conference and STEM Career Fair 2019



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# SASE REGIONAL CONFERENCES

THE 2019 SASE REGIONAL CONFERENCES HAVE CONTINUED TO PLEASE.

**Each** year, SASE chapters across the nation apply to host one of six regional conferences. These events are designed to provide personal, professional, and leadership development tracks open to all of the chapters within their region.

In support of their hard work and dedication, these hosts receive visibility on the [SASEconnect.org](http://SASEconnect.org) website, chapters get to hear from these hosts in this annual SASE Magazine, and not to mention, they receive an undeniable sense of accomplishment. Each regional conference is one-hundred percent run and operated by the hosting chapter's members with additional support from SASE volunteers. Here are the stories from this year.





**FEBRUARY 9, 2019**

## NERC - University of Maryland, College Park

The Northeast Regional Conference (NERC) was held on February 9, 2019 at the University of Maryland, College Park (UMD). Along with the co-hosting chapters Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Stevens Institute of Technology, and University of Maryland, Baltimore County, SASE UMD chapter was able to lead the event as a success! “Imagine. Ignite. Illuminate.” was the theme of this year’s conference. It focused on synthesizing different aspects of a successful professional to create a whole, greater than the sum of its parts. Consequently, the mission in this conference was to challenge participants to find their drive for success through a series of professional development and networking events. This year’s NERC had a total of 15 sponsors, and 421 professionals, students, and representatives working together to promote the three pillars of SASE. We had the honor of having our keynote speakers Lily Qi (Maryland



*Northeast Regional Conference attendees gather for group shot.*

State Delegate), Clarence Lam (Democratic member of Maryland State Senate), Matt Diaz (SASE Collegiate Program Coordinator), and Dr. Michael Yu (NAVAIR) give us some wisdom to thrive in our work environment and encourage us to become better leaders.

**FEBRUARY 15-16, 2019**

## MWRC - The Ohio State University



*Regional Conference attendees group photo*

Through our smaller conference, it was easier for chapters to strengthen their bonds with other SASE chapters making an impact on a National level. We had many company sponsors and professionals attend this regional conference. These companies and sponsors include: Arconic, The NPD Group, Amazon, Accenture, GE, Boeing, Banzo and Beyond LLC, Healthy Asian Youth, DENSO, ITW FEG, Mid West Fabricating Co., American Navy, United States Marine Corp., TechR2 LLC, and Nestle Purina. Many of these companies and professionals presented workshops, gave speeches, and participated in our networking fair in which many students received internships & co-ops. Our conference had several cultural performances during our lunch. These included traditional Chinese Folk Music Orchestra, Chinese Kung-Fu (WUSHU), as well as dances with Japanese and Korean influences. During our closing ceremony, we had representatives from the SASE Regional and National Team talk about the SASE National Conference. In addition to this, they also showed an exclusive promotion video which recapped the SASE National Conference in 2018.



*Regional Conference Breakfast Keynote*





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**FEBRUARY 23, 2019**

## WCRC - University of California, Santa Cruz

The 2019 SASE California West Regional Conference was hosted at the University of California: Santa Cruz on Saturday, February 23. On the day of the event, the conference saw 10 different SASE chapters and a total of 170 participants, which included both university students as well as professionals. In total, the Santa Cruz chapter hosted 11 different workshops spanning throughout the entire day. The theme of the conference, “Breaking

Down Barriers,” encouraged each guest to challenge their uncertainties in their professional fields. Many of the workshops held during this conference tackled issues commonly faced by Asian Americans in the workplace, such as impostor syndrome, the “bamboo ceiling,” and cultural stereotypes. In addition to professional development, this conference also hosted a cultural performance from a K-Pop dance group and was catered by a local on-campus restaurant.



*Attendees networking prior to closing ceremony*



*A captivated audience is a learning audience*

**FEBRUARY 23, 2019**

## SERC - Georgia Institute of Technology



*Attendees of the 2019 SASE Southeast Regional Conference stand together to show their SASE pride!*

The 2019 SASE Southeast Regional Conference (SERC) was hosted on Saturday February 23, 2019 at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference was centered around the theme “Empowering You to Ignite Your Dreams.” The conference programming aimed to celebrate the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and dreams of the attendees and emphasize the value of self-confidence and self-worth. A brief welcome and introduction to SERC from Manzano Akhtar, the Conference Director, was immediately followed by a morning keynote speech from Dr. Hailong Chen. Dr. Chen spoke about his journey from his childhood in China to his professorship in the Mechanical Engineering Department at Georgia Tech. After some icebreakers and a group photo, the attendees split off to attend 4 separate workshop blocks. This year, the diversity and variety in the workshops shone through. Workshop topics varied from professors discussing their cutting-edge research, to company representatives

hosting information sessions, to current and recently graduated students passing on insight into starting your own business or succeeding in the corporate world. SERC was also the first regional conference to ever offer a Lean Six Sigma White Belt Certification course to the attendees. Over 45 attendees took part in the course and were able to receive their certificates. After the workshop sessions were complete, attendees had the opportunity to network with our corporate sponsors and partners and participate in the community service event where they wrote cards to military veterans. The conference was concluded with a banquet dinner which included a multitude of performances and an evening keynote speech from Dr. Mark Mandica. Dr. Mandica is the executive director of the Amphibian Foundation and spoke about how his childhood encounters with frogs and salamanders ignited his dreams and led him to lead a foundation tasked with preserving the habitats of endangered amphibians.



*Workshop attendees listen intently as Chief Kelly Ringaman outlines Lean Six Sigma and Continuous Process Improvement.*





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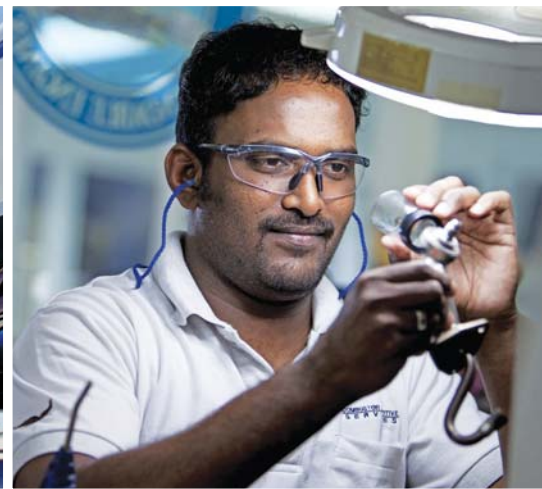
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MARCH 16, 2019

## WMRC - University of Colorado, Boulder

The West Mountain Regional Conference 2019 was an overall success. The theme “Incredible Minds. Infinite Potential.” was a hit among attendees and was unique compared to previous conference themes. The idea of focusing on building self-confidence and working on the individual from the inside out, created an environment for new

workshop ideas and keynote speakers. Everyone put in time and effort to make the conference a reality, especially in the last few weeks before the conference date. The subcommittee did a fantastic job with budgeting expenses and receiving funding. Thank you to the SASE WMRC 2019 Subcommittee for their hard work and dedication to the conference!



*Ty Tashiro, author of, “Awkward: The Science of Why We Are Socially Awkward and Why That’s Awesome,” delivers the keynote address.*



*Attendees networking with each other and company sponsors.*

MARCH 30, 2019

## SCRC - University of Texas at Austin



*During the event icebreaker, attendees huddle for the championship rock-paper-scissors championship match*

On Saturday March 30, 2019 the 2019 SASE South Central Regional Conference was hosted at the University of Texas at Austin. The theme of the conference was “Illuminate Your Future.” The conference focused on how members could improve the outlook of their future through meaningful actions that can be taken both now and in the future. The conference began at 8 am with registration and breakfast. After a quick icebreaker, we had our opening remarks and a keynote from Lea Hurley, Vice President of Booz Allen Hamilton, on “Finding Your Ambition and Chasing It.” Afterwards, we broke off into breakout sessions. This year, the breakout sessions focused on how students could improve professionally with topics ranging from “How to Shine in a Large

Organization” to “Networking Tips from Industry Professionals.” During the breakout sessions, students could also interact with our community service partner, Asian Family Support Services of Austin, and learn about their mission of providing for Asian and immigrant families who suffer from domestic violence, trafficking, and how to provide support. After two breakout sessions, Ajay Mehta, the General Manager for New Energies Research & Technology at Shell, gave the luncheon keynote speech on “Finding your Leadership Signature to Thrive in a Complex and Changing World.” His keynote was followed by a performance from the UT Austin SASE dance team. Following lunch, we had two more breakout sessions, and then a networking event where students could interact with various company representatives. The conference was concluded with closing remarks from Matt Diaz, and a group picture with all of the attendees. There was a post conference social with both bowling and billiards in the Texas Union.



*South Central Regional Conference group photo*



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# SASE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

You manage things; you lead people.

—Rear Admiral  
Grace Murray Hopper

A leader is best when people barely know he exists. When his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say, “We did this ourselves.”

—Lao Tzu

The nation will find it very hard to look up to the leaders who are keeping their ears to the ground.

—Sir Winston Churchill

Great leaders are almost always great simplifiers, who can cut through argument, debate, and doubt to offer a solution everybody can understand.

—General Colin Powell

Leaders aren’t born, they are made. And they are made just like anything else, through hard work. And that’s the price we’ll have to pay to achieve that goal, or any goal.

—Vince Lombardi

There are three essentials to leadership: humility, clarity and courage.

—Fuchan Yuan

The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do.

—Steve Jobs

Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.

—Mahatma Gandhi

The SASE Leadership Awards were established to celebrate technical accomplishments and advancements in the fields of science, engineering and technology and to recognize exemplary leadership in the SASE community, including volunteerism.

Determining the award winners was an arduous process. A committee of organizational and SASE representatives met regularly to establish rules and guidelines to ensure that the process was fair and transparent. Each individual nomination had to include a CV, bio, resume, essays and letters of recommendation. A total of 30 judges volunteered to review the nominations! This year SASE is recognizing ten individuals across 8 categories and two organizations.

There is a wide range of levels and types of support organizations provide their AAPI employees. Some do a particularly good job at providing effective programs and services. SASE is presenting two awards this year to recognize organizational excellence and leadership. This year these awards are being presented to Raytheon (Organization of the Year, Company) and Tennessee Valley Authority (Organization of the Year, Government).

The 2019 SASE Leadership Awards will be presented at SASE’s 2019 National Conference and STEM Career Fair, during the Friday evening Gala Dinner, October 11th, at the David Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA.

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*“To me, all SASE Leadership Award candidates have these things in common. It is breaking the ceiling, leveling the playing field and being the symbol of equality.”*

—Jacky-Vy Chau, Awards Committee Chair



# SASE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

## SASE ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR (COMPANY)

### Raytheon



One global company creating trusted, innovative solutions to make the world a safer place. Raytheon Company is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, civil government and cybersecurity solutions. Founded in 1922, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration, capabilities in C5I (command, control, communications, computing, cyber and intelligence), sensing, effects and mission support services. Raytheon is headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts.

*"We embrace diversity and diverse opinions; we treat people with dignity and respect to support our inclusive culture. This allows us to retain and attract the world-class talent and supplier base we need to develop the innovative solutions our global customers depend on. We view our diversity as a competitive advantage as a key enabler of our growth."*

— Thomas A. Kennedy, Raytheon Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

## SASE ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR (GOVERNMENT)

### Tennessee Valley Authority



Established in 1933 as part of the TVA Act, the Tennessee Valley Authority is a corporate agency of the United States government that provides electricity for business customers and local power companies serving 10 million people in parts of seven southeastern states. TVA receives no taxpayer funding, deriving virtually all of its revenues from sales of electricity. In addition to operating and investing its revenues in its electric system, TVA provides flood control, navigation and land management for the Tennessee River system and assists local power companies and state and local governments with economic development and job creation.

## SASE DISTINGUISHED CAREER AWARD



### Mr. Dennis Hirotsu

Retired Vice President of R&D  
Procter & Gamble

Dennis' 35-year R&D career spanned multiple P&G businesses; Baby Care, Femcare, Household Cleaners, and Hair Color. His global experience includes 13 years located in Asia building P&G's Baby and Fem business in the region, and the launch of Ultrathin diapers in Europe. Dennis also led innovation capability for the R&D function reporting to P&G's Chief Innovation and Technology Officer. Dennis supported the API community as the executive sponsor for APIs in R&D. Dennis previously served on the SASE Board, and currently is an Executive Advisor for SASE following his retirement from P&G in 2016.





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# SASE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

## SASE EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR



### **Dr. Malina Hills**

Senior Vice President, Space Systems Group  
**The Aerospace Corporation**

Dr. Hills is responsible for the company's support to all launch programs, ground networks, and satellite programs overseen by the U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center, support to Navy satellite programs, and support to the Missile Defense Agency. Previous roles include former vice president, Space Program Operations; former general manager, MILSATCOM Division; and former general manager, Systems Engineering Division. Dr. Hills earned a bachelor's degree in engineering and applied science from Yale University, and a doctorate in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology.

## SASE ENGINEER / SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR (COMPANY)



### **Dr. Thomas Bui**

Enterprise Domain Leader – Senior Technical Fellow,  
Boeing Research & Technology  
**The Boeing Company**

Dr. Bui is a Boeing Senior Technical Fellow with expertise cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. At Boeing, Tom has the role of Enterprise Domain Leader for Cyber & Artificial Intelligence. He also is the Technical Director to HRL Laboratories to prioritize R&D and transition advanced technologies into Boeing products. Tom has been an executive champion for SASE in the last five years where he sponsors chapter activities, supports the pipeline of Asians for leadership positions, and strategizes with SASE leaders on corporate engagement. Tom also participated with the Orange County Youth Motivation Task Force in California to motivate underprivileged high school students achieve higher graduation rates and attend college.

## SASE ENGINEER / SCIENTIST OF THE YEAR (GOVERNMENT)



### **Dr. James Joo**

Senior Aerospace Engineer  
**Air Force Research Laboratory, US Air Force**

Dr. Joo is an Advanced Structural Concepts Team Lead at the Air Force Research Laboratory. Dr. Joo graduated from Hanyang University with a BS in Machine Design & Production Engineering in 1994. He later earned M.S. & Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 1997 & 2001. He has been the author or co-author of over 75 scholarly publications including journal articles, technical papers, book chapters, and patents. In 2014 Dr. Joo was the recipient of the AF Civilian Achievement Award (2014), AFRL Innovation Award (2014) and Dr. Richard B. Rivir Scientific and Technical Achievement (2013).





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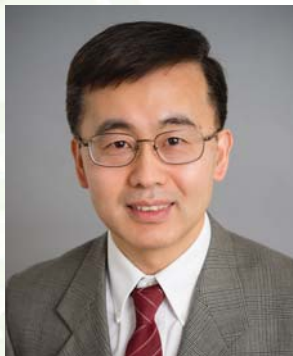


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# SASE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

## SASE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIST OF THE YEAR



### **Dr. Guijun Wang**

Technical Fellow/Chief Enterprise Architect-Digital  
Manufacturing, Manufacturing Operations  
**The Boeing Company**

Guijun Wang is a Senior Technical Fellow and an Enterprise Architect at Boeing leading the digital manufacturing, manufacturing operations management, advanced manufacturing and robotics, factory automation, Internet of Things, and Digital Twin enterprise technical strategies, capabilities, architectures, and technologies. He also has extensive research and development experience in large scale mission-critical distributed systems. He is recipient of the 2017 Asian American Engineer of the Year award. He holds 17 patents and has 45 publications in journals, conferences and books. He received a PhD in computer science from the University of Kansas.

## SASE ADVOCATE AWARD



### **Ms. Veronika Andrews**

Project Management Specialist,  
Boeing Commercial Airplanes  
**The Boeing Company**

Veronika grew up in Solo, Indonesia, and earned a Bachelors in Political Science from the Sebelas Maret University of Indonesia. After moving to the US, Veronika earned her Master's in International Business from University of Phoenix. She joined the Boeing Company in 2008 as a contractor and now is a Project Manager and a Subject Matter Expert for Engineering Scheduler. Veronika is deeply committed to promote and advocate diversity in the workplace and in her community. She is the President of Boeing Asian Professional Association (BAPA) and actively supports, volunteers and mentors others in the APPI (Asian-American Pacific Islanders) and STEM field. Because of that, Boeing honored her with its Global Diversity and Inclusion Award. Veronika sums up the importance of diversity, saying, "Different perspectives lead to more innovation, more opportunity for all, better access to talent, and better business performance."

## SASE SERVICE IMPACT AWARD



### **Ms. Kathy Moon**

Director, Information Technology  
**Northrop Grumman Corporation**

Kathy Moon has twenty-five years of diverse experience ranging from software development for space vehicles to leading mergers and acquisition of high technology companies. She is proud of her successful track record of leading cross-functional teams to superior performances.

She served as the vice president of business development for companies in Canada, Belgium and Korea.

Kathy received her BA in mathematics from Occidental College and MS in Computer Science from the University of Southern California. She completed executive management programs from Northwestern University and Stanford University. She is a Project Management Professional, Certified Enterprise Architect and Strategic Marketing Executive.





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# SASE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

## SASE EMERGING LEADER OF THE YEAR



### **Ms. Kristina Horita**

Government Supply Chain Services Program Integrator,  
Boeing Global Services  
**The Boeing Company**

Kristina (Kristi) Horita works for The Boeing Company as the Government Supply Chain Services Program Integrator focused on building alignment between the engineering resources and program requirements. She received her Bachelors of Science from Virginia Tech studying Mechanical Engineering and is currently pursuing a MBA from Washington University in St. Louis Olin Business School. As a student, she worked at NASA, Orbital Sciences Corporation, General Electric Aviation, and Toyota. Horita has a long history of involvement with SASE and finished her term as Board of Directors Membership Representative in July. For fun, she enjoys painting and hanging out with friends.

## SASE EMERGING LEADER OF THE YEAR



### **Dr. Mahmud Hussain**

Senior Scientist  
**BASF Corporation**

Dr. Mahmud Hussain is a senior scientist at BASF Corporation in Wyandotte, Michigan. Internationally recognized for his accomplishments in the fields of chemical synthesis of medically and industrially useful complex organic chemicals as well as development of novel chemical reactions, Dr. Hussain's work has been published in numerous publications and garnered multiple awards including the Sottery Award for Excellence in Chemistry and Siegel Memorial Prize in Science. Additionally, Dr. Hussain is listed as an inventor in nine patents. Dr. Hussain earned a PhD in organic chemistry from Univ. of Pennsylvania. Dr. Hussain was a Howard Hughes postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University.

## SASE EMERGING LEADER OF THE YEAR

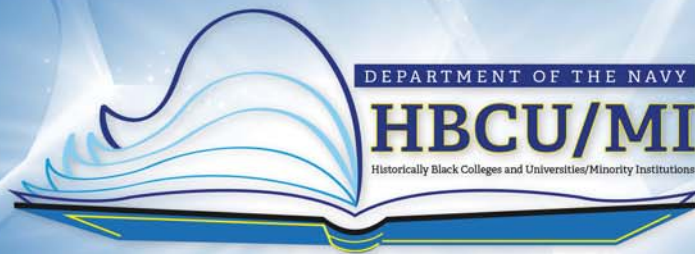


### **Dr. Vinita Yadav**

Technical Service and Development Scientist  
**The Dow Chemical Company**

Vinita Yadav was awarded her Ph.D. from Penn State University in 2015 focusing on nanoscale colloids. She then joined Dow as a Senior Engineer working on new product development and has since helped in expanding the adhesives business by > \$10 MM through new innovation. She has co-authored >15 peer reviewed publications including a book chapter with the Nobel Laureate Gerhard Ertl. She also has 7 patent applications and Six Sigma green belt certification. She is also very passionate about new employee development, coaching, mentoring & STEM education. Outside of work, she loves hiking, trekking and spending time outdoors.





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# 2019 SASE Role Models

Tien Duong & Christina Chen

**The** Role Model Cover Contest is an opportunity for the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) to annually recognize two individuals who excel in their fields and as leaders. This contest requires one to be nominated and go through an extensive voting process by SASE members from around the nation. We received nominations from coast to coast; however, we were limited to two winners. After all the ballots were counted, two exceptional individuals were selected: Tien Duong from the South Region and Christina Chen from the Northeast Region. Tien Duong is a Texas A & M University alumnus who is currently the CEO of MYNDSET. Christina Chen is a Binghamton University alumnus is a Product Manager-DTLP at General Electric.

## Tien

### How did you get involved with SASE?

- I joined SASE my sophomore year at Texas A&M because my friends and I had never joined any organization before. When we walked by, we saw that SASE had just started on campus and the founding officers were so funny and welcoming that we HAD to come check out the organization. We were so inspired by the meeting and the stories we heard, that we all hopped on the opportunity to be chapter officers that same year!

### What is something fun, interesting, or cool about yourself?

- Long story short, I almost got kicked out of Texas A&M University for having lousy grades. Then I worked myself into a position at Lockheed Martin which I consider a pretty highly sought after company. I believe

that if you TRULY want something and set your mind to achieving it, nothing can stop you.

### What are your thoughts about being nominated and selected as a Role Model by the SASE community?

- Each and every individual I have met and had the chance to converse with has taught me something. To be recognized by the very people that I look up to has been a huge honor for me, especially when I stand amidst so many talented and inspiring individuals.

### What is the secret to becoming a SASE Role Model?

- The “secret”...hahahaha! I do not believe there is a secret sauce for things in life. But, if there was one thing I would say that stands out from the rest, it is to be 100% authentic. Be congruent in all areas of your life, and you will become someone who other people can look to as an example.

### Imagine, Innovate, Inspire - which theme resonates with you the most and why?

- The theme of Inspire resonates the most with me simply because of my passion for helping people shift their mindsets to something that empowers them on a daily basis.

### Who inspires you/who is your role model?

- My role model(s) have always been my parents. Coming to America as immigrants only knowing Vietnamese, they have still managed to create massive success for themselves which provided a comfortable life for our family. They taught me that hard work will ALWAYS beat talent that doesn't work.

Be congruent in all areas of your life,  
and you will become someone who other people  
can look to as an example.

**What is the biggest challenge you have come across and how did you overcome it?**

• My biggest challenge was overcoming my own negative self-talk. I overcame it through a series of events such as hearing from a girl I liked tell me that being overly humble and putting yourself down is unattractive! I overcame it by REPLACING the negative thoughts and beliefs with positive ones. At the end of the day though, you handle your challenges by facing them head on, not by avoiding them.

**What are some words of advice you would like to give to those who look up to you as a role model?**

• Own everything that happens in your life (car accidents, failing a class, messing up an interview, getting sick, losing your phone, etc.). That is the only way you start to take control of your life, and it will allow you to CREATE your desired outcomes.

## Christina

**How did you get involved with SASE?**

• I first heard about SASE my sophomore year of college through my close friend Lucy Lin. I was interested in joining the executive board at Binghamton University because it was an organization with great objectives and so much potential to grow at the chapter level. This was an exciting time for me because I had the opportunity and freedom to shape the foundation of the chapter. Like many people who are part of SASE, I attended my first National Conference and was able to see how much SASE had to offer professionally and socially. Getting involved with multiple leadership positions and collegiate volunteer positions throughout the years has allowed me to discover my own leadership style and have the honor to mentor others in finding their own.

**What is something fun, interesting, or cool about yourself?**

• In my free time I like to try new fitness classes, drink wine, and hunt for great shopping deals. I love traveling and trip planning because it is the best way to meet new people and see different cultures. I really enjoy taking cooking classes in new countries that I've never been to and this is something that I make an effort to do.

**What are your thoughts about being nominated and selected as a role model by the SASE community?**

• Being nominated and selected as role model has helped me learn that no work goes unseen and no voice is unheard in the SASE community. I feel very thankful for those who value my advice and work enough to vote for me as role model. Throughout my time in SASE, I have seen myself get out of my own comfort zone and discover my own leadership



style. I have never imagined getting this much out of my journey with SASE and I feel honored to be given the opportunity to work with some many bright and like-minded volunteers.

**What is the secret to becoming a SASE Role Model?**

• The secret is to smile hard enough in your nomination picture so that people will be forced to vote for you.

**Imagine, Innovate, Inspire - which theme resonates with you the most and why?**

• I would definitely say "Imagine" resonates with me the most. A lot of times, we come up with amazing ideas from a simple imagination or wish to have something that will make our lives easier. Creativity allows us to have an imaginative mind and think about all the things that actually can happen once we have a clear plan.

**Who inspires you/who is your role model?**

• I look up to everyone in my Northeast Collegiate team. We all have very different careers and passions, but one thing that we all have in common is that we are all very motivated. They are always there to offer me advice on how to approach situations when I do not know how to. Sometimes, I just need to take a step back and see things in a different perspective and they are always there for that. With them around, I am never alone and I always have a family to lean on.

**What is the biggest challenge you have come across and how did you overcome it?**

• One of the biggest challenges that I have had is balancing the say/do ratio. Whether it be your boss, professor, or friend- they all have expectations for you. However, it is within your power to let others know what you are capable of doing and make sure you act on the tasks you promise to complete. I make sure I do not take on more than I can promise. It is easy to simply say you can complete something for others, but I make sure to ask myself if I am happy with the quality of the work that I am doing.

**What are some words of advice you would like to give to those who look up to you as a role model?**

• When you feel goal-driven and motivated to do something, go ahead and give it a try. There might be obstacles that you have to overcome, but you never know unless you give it a try! When you are passionate about something, make an effort to take action upon it. Lastly, remember to respect and listen to those around you. It is important to get different perspectives and try to understand where others are coming from. Often times, we are so caught up with wanting to get things done that we forget to step back and listen.



Being nominated and selected as role model  
has helped me learn that no work goes unseen and  
no voice is unheard in the SASE community.



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the Three Rivers Environmental Award and the Pennsylvania Waste Watcher Award for material reuse.

To support this project, please consider making a donation to the program. For your donation you will receive a reusable straw. There are also limited-edition SASE National Conference T-Shirts available with your donation of \$20 or more. All proceeds will be donated to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank to serve meals for the hungry. To find out more, please visit us at the Community Service table.





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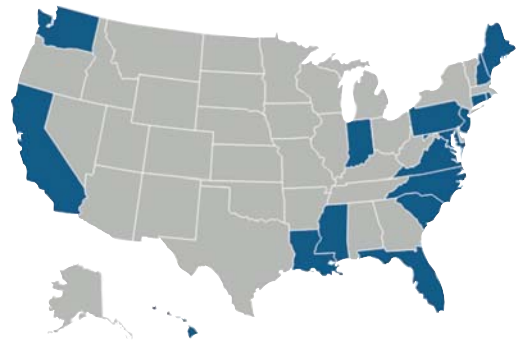


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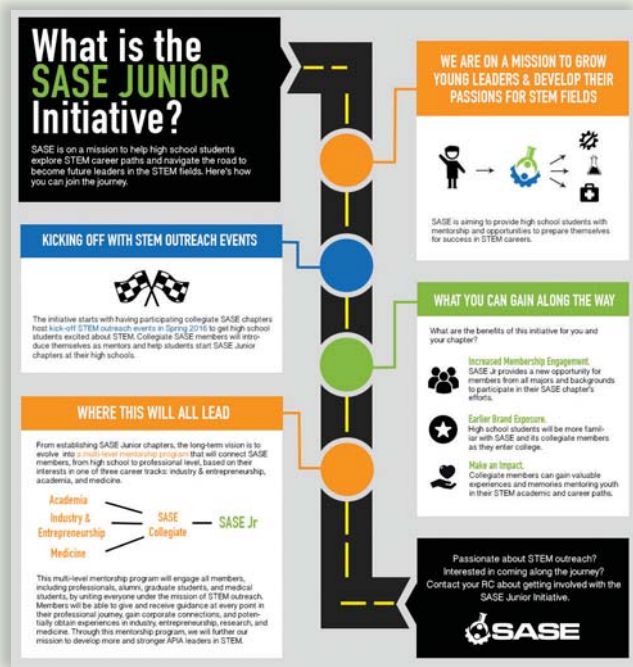
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Curiosity and the drive to innovate starts at a young age. As a result, there is a need to provide the next generation with the tools necessary to explore and succeed in STEM. By partnering with professionals, high schools and our collegiate chapters, SASE Jr. aims to bring knowledge and support to high school students and their communities. SASE Jr. hopes to grow exponentially during this next year with the establishment of new chapters and the continued support of our current chapters.

SASE Jr. has impacted the lives of many high schoolers since our initial start in 2015. Along with the numerous STEM outreach events hosted by many of our collegiate chapters, we saw the continued success of our SASE Jr. chapters at Central High School (mentored by Drexel University), Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (mentored by University of Illinois at Chicago) Stratford, Stratford High School and Elkins High School (mentored by University of Houston). We also saw the first ever high school team not only compete in SASEtank but win the entire competition. We are excited to see the two high school teams Fungi Factor and SmartBrace compete at this year's SASE National Conference.

Getting started with SASE Jr. is simple. From volunteering at local science fairs to mentoring a high school FIRST robotics team, STEM outreach can be accessible and impactful! For more information on how your chapter can get started please contact [sase.jr@saseconnect.org](mailto:sase.jr@saseconnect.org).



***"Working as an engineer at Bell is very exciting - that every day, we embrace challenges and opportunities to envision going above and beyond. Every progress we have made and every innovational idea we have put in, has contributed to delivery of safer and better vertical flight aircraft - and we really know that."***

**– Xiaoming Li**

Bell congratulates Xiaoming Li, an engineer who was nominated for the 2019 SASE Technical/Research/Business Achievement Award for having co-authored five patents. At Bell, we are achieving the impossible, together.



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# GIVING BACK TO SASE

For over a decade, SASE has provided young, like-minded individuals of Asian descent a unique place and voice within the STEM world; a network for young professionals, mentors for those in college, and resources for our rapidly growing community. Fueled by the strength and passion of our volunteers, we have made great strides in furthering our mission of advancing Asian heritage scientists and engineers in education and employment toward achieving their full career potential.

Has SASE made an impact on you and your future? Are you looking for ways to pay it forward for the future of the organization and its members? There are many new fun and exciting opportunities to give back to SASE that you can do today, this month, or this year! Together, with your generosity, we can continue to grow the programs and opportunities that make SASE the organization you continue to grow with. Any contribution great or small is sincerely appreciated.

## VOLUNTEER

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Ask your employer if they will match a donation you make to SASE. If they do, please email [admin@saseconnect.org](mailto:admin@saseconnect.org) to set up a matching gift program. Alternatively, find out if your hours volunteered at SASE enables you to request a gift from your employer to SASE.

## STOP BY THE GIVING TABLE

Want to learn more about giving opportunities? Visit our table at the SASE National Conference to speak with leaders from the Giving Team and check out merchandise. Donate to the National Conference Giving Campaign and make your mark on our Giving Wall!



2019 SASE Smiles Grant Awardee -  
University of Texas at Arlington

## BID ON AN AUCTION ITEM

For the second year running, SASE is hosting an unparalleled auction designed to provide mentorship opportunities - pairing leaders, professionals, and students together in fun and interactive ways. Auction items include opportunities like mentorship meals with senior level STEM executives and exclusive facility tours to see behind-the-scenes research at work. View and bid on all of the exciting auction items online at [biddingowl.com/SASE](http://biddingowl.com/SASE). Don't delay as the auction closes Saturday, October 12, 8pm EST.

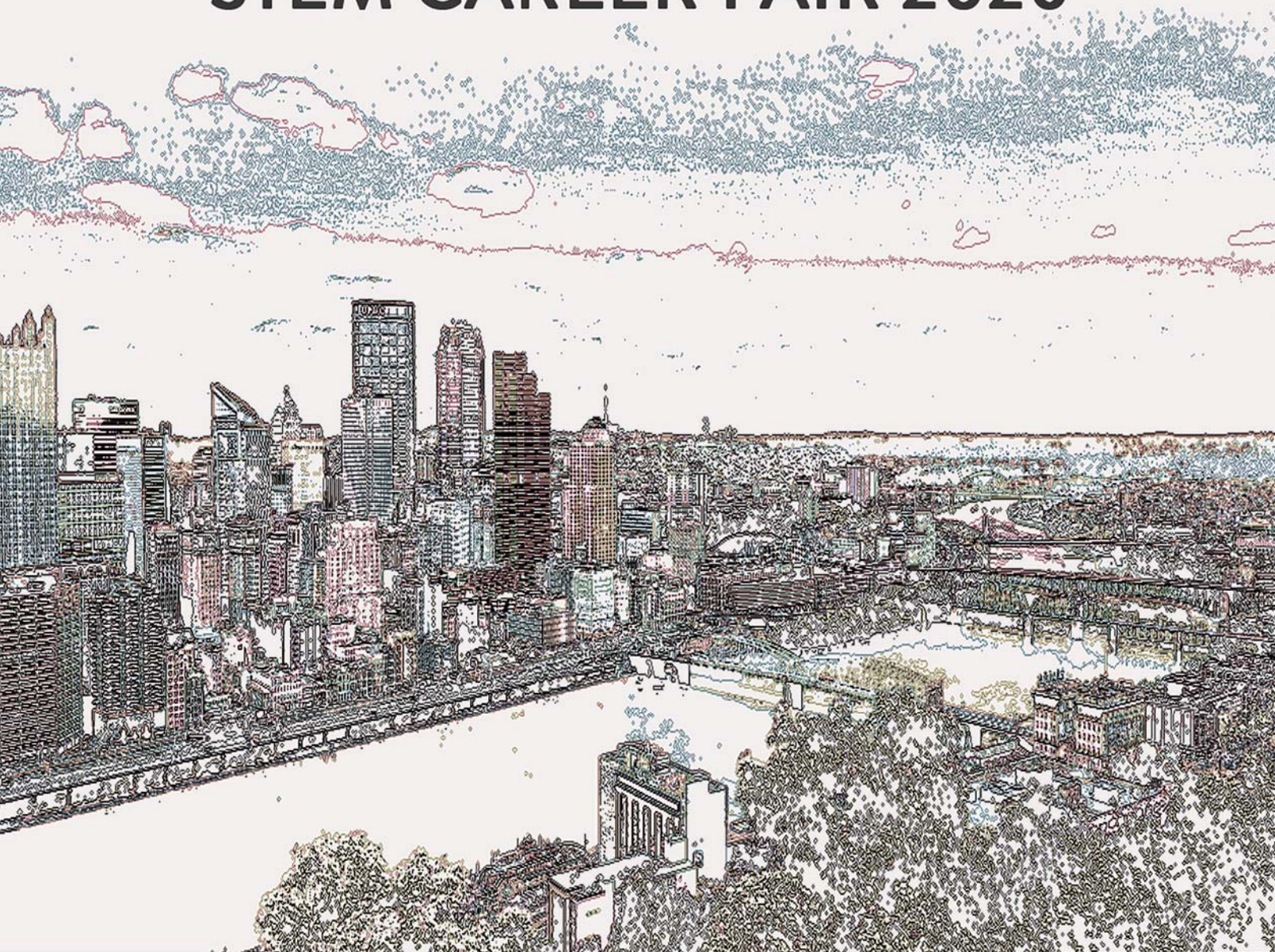
"After being involved in SASE for almost 5 years, it felt right to give back to the organization that helped me realize my potential and passion for leadership."

"I chose to give back to SASE because of the personal growth, career development opportunities, and lifelong friendships I've forged here."

*The Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible.*



# SASE NATIONAL CONFERENCE & STEM CAREER FAIR 2020



DAVID L. LAWRENCE CONVENTION CENTER

Pittsburgh, PA | October 8-10<sup>th</sup>, 2020



#SASENC2020



# SASEsalutes

**SASE** is a learning organization. We do this by sharing stories with fellow members in the organization, be they students or seasoned professionals. These stories hold lessons we can apply to our everyday lives. In doing so, we can achieve greater success, both professionally and personally.

SASEsalutes honors those of Asian heritage that serve or have served in our country's military. We believe that their stories are important ones that should be shared within the SASE Community. They are American stories that depict virtues that we value as Asian professionals, but more importantly, as citizens of our great nation.

Listen closely to the veterans we honor with our First Annual SASEsalutes Military Service Awards. Their stories teach us to be loyal to the companies we are a part of, as well as to those we work with. They express a sense of duty to causes greater than ourselves. They show us the importance of possessing integrity and defending what we believe in. They provide profiles in courage, examples of how to stand strong in the face of challenges and adversity.

Please join us in saluting the ladies and gentlemen listed below. We thank them for their honorable service to our country and are proud to have them as members of our SASE Community.

## **SASEsalutes Career Service Award**

### **Seth McMullen**

Intelligence Analyst  
DEA

The United States Navy, Retired

### **Lance Oskey**

Chief of Staff, US Army Cadet Command  
The United States Army, Veteran

### **Major General Richard Mark Toy**

Commanding General of the US Army Corps  
of Engineers (USACE) Mississippi Valley  
Division

President of the Mississippi River  
Commission

The United States Army Corps of Engineers  
The United States Army, Active Duty

### **Thi Truong**

Program Manager, Business Planning &  
Analysis SR

Tennessee Valley Authority

The United States Navy, Veteran

### **RAADM Joseph Vojvodich**

Deputy Commandant for Mission Support  
The United States Coast Guard, Active Duty

## **SASEsalutes Professional Service Award**

### **Ephraim Cubol**

Quality Manager, Flight Research Center  
Bell

The United States Army Reserve, Active Duty

### **Andrew Hung**

Sr. Principal Software Engineer  
BAE Systems

The United States Army, Honorable  
Discharge

### **Richard McMullen**

Management and Program Analyst  
(Webmaster)

Department of Veteran Affairs

The United States Army, Retired

### **Keith Oh**

Senior Lead Technologist

Booz Allen Hamilton

The United States Army, Honorable  
Discharge

### **Kimberly Page**

Systems Engineering Manager

Booz Allen Hamilton

The United States Navy, Honorable  
Discharge

## **SASEsalutes Promising Professional Award**

### **Andrew Chung**

Sr Facilities Engr, Shell Exploration &  
Production

Royal Dutch Shell (US)

The United States Army, Veteran

### **Caleb Koval**

Information Systems Security Officer

Booz Allen Hamilton

The United States Air Force, Veteran

### **Capt. Osbert Xiao**

AFRL DevSecOps Solutions Manager

Air Force Research Laboratory

The United States Air Force, Active Duty

Photo: Element5



# **SASETANK**

COMING SOON IN

**2020**

The 4th annual entrepreneurial competition returns,  
now with its very own Mentor Fellowship Program.

Find out more at [bit.ly/sasetank](https://bit.ly/sasetank)

## **BREAKOUT 3**

Check out the new Prototype Showcase

## **BREAKOUT 4**

Vote for your favorite during the Final Round



# SASE 2019 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Companies and government agencies highlight top talent within their own organizations through SASE's Achievement Awards. Individuals are recognized who meet or exceed the criteria in one of five categories

## SASE Career Achievement Award

### MR. JEFFREY CHIOU

Sr. Principal Engineer - RF  
BAE Systems

### MR. KENNETH CHU

Sr. Manager - Process Excellence  
BASF Corporation

### MR. BOB DALRYMPLE

Senior Vice President of  
Transmission and Power Supply  
Tennessee Valley Authority

### MRS. JIHONG HAN

Executive - Electronic Hardware  
Wabtec (GE Transportation)

### MR. CHIA-JUNG HSU

Manager III Electrical Engineering  
Raytheon Company

### MR. ABIE JACOB

Systems Engineering Manager  
Bell Textron Inc.

### MR. BLAKE KASHIWAGI

Director of Mechatronics Engineering  
Daimler Trucks North America

### MR. CHRISTIAN MANALO

Senior Lead Engineer  
Booz Allen Hamilton

### DR. SHRIDHAR NATH

Principal Engineer  
GE Research

### MS. HANH NGUYEN

QA Engineer Staff  
Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control

### DR. BO SHEN

Technical Fellow  
Corteva Agriscience

### MR. PATRICK WONG

Senior Program Manager,  
Naval Undersea Fire Fighting Trainers  
Naval Air Warfare Center,  
Training Systems Division

### MS. SHIRLEY YAP

Vice President Manufacturing US West Coast  
Shell Oil Company

### MR. JUNHONG ZHAO

Materials Engineer  
The Dow Chemical Company

## SASE Professional Achievement Award

### DR. KAORU AOU

Principal Research Scientist  
The Dow Chemical Company

### MRS. AMMANI BADERSCHNEIDER

Chief Engineer,  
Service Parts Management, AeroIT  
Lockheed Martin Enterprise IT (EIT)

### SCOTT CHIN

Engineering Manager  
Huntington Ingalls Industries

### RYAN DEDIOS

Engineer/Scientist 3  
SAIC

### MR. SHIVKUMAR DURAISWAMY

Senior Manager - Controls & Software  
Wabtec (GE Transportation)

### MR. RODERICK FLORES

Senior IT Project Manager  
Daimler Trucks North America

### MR. JIKKU JACOB

Lead Software Development Analyst  
Leidos

### DR. HYUKBONG KWON

Structural Test Engineer Lead  
The Boeing Company

### MS. SOPHIE LAI

Software Engineering Program Manager  
HP International Pte. Ltd., Taiwan Branch

### MS. MARIE LAWSON

Electrical Engineer 4  
Huntington Ingalls Industries

### DR. BAILIN LI

Technical Fellow  
Corteva Agriscience

### MR. CHARLES LU

Capture Manager  
Leidos

### DR. ALAN MAR

Principal Member of Technical Staff  
Sandia National Laboratories

### MR. HENRY NGO

Project Manager/Engineer  
Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific  
(NIWC) Pacific

### MR. TIN DUC NGUYEN

IT Business Systems Manager  
Daimler Trucks North America

### MR. TRUNG NGUYEN

Engineer  
Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific  
(NIWC) Pacific

### MR. KHANH PHAM

Senior Aerospace Engineer  
Air Force Research Laboratory

### MR. DANIEL RODGERS

Supervisory General Engineer  
Defense Contract Management Agency

### MS. SUZANNE SAUNDERS

Varec Commercial Solutions  
Lead Test Engineer  
Leidos

### DR. CHUNXING SHE

Materials, Process & Physics  
Chemical Engineer  
The Boeing Company

### MR. CHRISTOPHER SIV

Telecommunication Planning Engineer  
Tennessee Valley Authority

### DR. CHENG-HO THO

Engineer V  
Bell Textron, Inc.

### MR. NAM TRAN

Senior Product Manager  
GE Power

### MR. VIKAS VARSHNEY

Research Chemist  
Air Force Research Laboratory

### MR. PREM VUTHANDAM

Business Manager  
Shell Oil Company

### DR. NICK WANG

Principal Investigator  
Corteva Agriscience

## SASE Promising Professional Achievement Award

### DR. IDA CHEN

Sr. Research Scientist  
The Dow Chemical Company

### MR. EZRA FU

Cybersecurity Engineer  
BAE Systems

### MS. JOAN GARRETT

Electronics Engineer  
Defense Contract Management Agency

### MS. LUCY HAN

Staff Technologist  
Booz Allen Hamilton

### DR. I-WEN (EVAN) HUANG

Corrosion Scientist  
BASF Corporation

### MR. STEVE HWANG

Systems Engineer Stf  
Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Co

### MR. CRESCENT ISLAM

Engineer Material Process II  
Huntington Ingalls Industries

### MS. SARAH LEUNG

Staff Wells Engineer  
Shell Oil Company

### DR. CONG LI

Lead Engineer  
GE Research

### MS. NICOLA LIU

Commercial Chrome Portfolio Planner  
HP International Pte. Ltd., Taiwan Branch

### MR. ALAN LOVE

Project Engineer  
Bell

# SASEhack

Annual hackathon promises to be an exciting event

**SASEhack** is a hackathon to engage our computer science majors and other related fields. It is an opportunity to showcase their “programming” chops and an opportunity for companies to scout for talent during the competition. Teams of up to 5 get to solve a challenge during the overnight competition starting Friday evening and ending on Saturday. Though it is a competition, the atmosphere is one of learning and collegiality in the spirit of #SASEfam. In the past, the participants have played captured the flag, proposed solutions to grand challenges, analyzed public data, and built apps & hardware to solve problems. There are plenty of opportunities to learn new and creative techniques to the same challenge. You can find out more on our page <https://devpost.com/saseconnect/challenges>. We look forward to seeing you at SASEhack.



## VOLUNTEER

2 0 1 9

## SASE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Want to *learn* more about what happens behind the scenes of SASE National?

Want to *enhance* your leadership skills through an organization you love?

Want to *develop* your professional SASE network?



**Volunteer for SASE National!**

For more information, go to  
[www.saseconnect.org/volunteer](http://www.saseconnect.org/volunteer)

or

email [volunteer@saseconnect.org](mailto:volunteer@saseconnect.org).





# SASE 2019 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Companies and government agencies highlight top talent within their own organizations through SASE's Achievement Awards. Individuals are recognized who meet or exceed the criteria in one of five categories

## MR. JONATHAN LUONG

Staff Engineer  
Booz Allen Hamilton

## MR. HAO LUU

Sustainment Engineering  
Service Delivery Manager  
Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific  
(NIWC) Pacific

## MR. CHIAO MAC

Senior Engineer  
Daimler Trucks North America

## MRS. PRIYA MACCAFERRI

Lead Engineer - Testing  
Wabtec (GE Transportation)

## MR. FEBY MATHEW

Material Process Engineer  
Huntington Ingalls Industries

## MR. VICTOR OH

Head of Digital Innovation, Asia Pacific  
BASF Corporation

## MS. MARICRIS PALENTINOS

Deputy Engineering Project Manager  
Lockheed Martin -  
Rotary and Mission Systems

## MR. MAC PEGA JR.

Insourcing Design Engineer  
The Boeing Company

## MS. JACLYN POON

Boeing Test and Evaluation Flight  
Operations Systems Operator  
The Boeing Company

## MR. SUNNY RASAVONG

Electrical Engineer  
Huntington Ingalls Industries

## MR. CALEB TOWNSEND

Software Engineer  
Leidos

## MR. NATHAN WU

Engineer III,  
Aerodynamics & Aircraft Performance  
Bell

## MS. WEN XIAO

Metrics Lead for  
Mechanical Engineering Directorate  
Raytheon, Integrated Defense System

### SASE Technical/Research/Business Achievement Award

## MS. MONGTHU HOANG

Sr. Principal Software Development Analyst  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

## DR. SHWETA KARWA

Research Engineer  
Shell Oil Company

## MR. VINAYAKA KOTRAIAH

Life Sciences Program Manager  
Leidos

## MR. AJITH KUMAR

Consulting Engineer  
Wabtec (GE Transportation)

## MR. SUNIL KUMAR

Sr. Principal Software Development Analyst  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

## DR. XIAOMING LI

Associate Technical Fellow for Damage  
Tolerance, EFUM  
Bell

## DR. MEI LI

Global Formulation Portfolio Leader  
Corteva Agriscience

## DR. JERRY JIE LIU

Principal Scientist  
GE Research

## DR. ALBERT LU

Technical Manager  
Corteva Agriscience

## CAPT. DHARYL MONSALUD

Rocket Combustion Engineer  
Air Force Research Laboratory

## MR. JOSEPH MORELAND

Principal  
Booz Allen Hamilton

## MRS. PHUONG NGUYEN

Principal Systems Engineer  
BAE Systems

## MS. MYCHAU NGUYEN

Deputy Chief System Engineer for C4ISR  
Missile Defense Agency

## MS. SHAKERA THAMANNA

Application Specialist  
BASF Corporation

## MR. ABHISHEK UPADHYAY

Training Systems Facility Engineer  
Naval Air Warfare Center,  
Training Systems Division

## MS. TERRISA YEH

ME GTK Manager  
HP International Pte. Ltd., Taiwan Branch

### ERG Leadership

## MS. JOY ABARINTOS

Principal Project Management  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

## MRS. KRISTIN BARRACKMAN

Software Engineering Manager  
Lockheed Martin Corporation

## MR. HIDEYOSHI DELGADO

Sr. Systems Engineer II  
Raytheon

## MR. RAJEN DESAI

Senior Industrial Cooperation  
Relationship Manager  
GE Aviation

## MS. LINH DINH

Project Engineer  
Shell Oil Company

## MR. SAGAR KHIRE

Executive Technology General Manager  
- Controls, Electrical, and Software  
Engineering  
Wabtec (GE Transportation)

## MS. NAI LE

Senior Consultant  
Booz Allen Hamilton

## MRS. CLAIRE MAK

Manager, Prototype Development  
Daimler Trucks North America

## MR. KELVIN MAK

Finance Manager and Business Process  
Expert, DSS Finance Reporting,  
Planning & Analysis  
The Dow Chemical Company

## MR. MIKE MEATH

Global Director, Dow Mergers & Acquisitions  
Technology Center  
The Dow Chemical Company

## DR. MAZIDAH MUSTAFA

Research Scientist  
BASF Corporation

## MR. CARY NAKAMURA

Senior Program Manager  
Raytheon

## MR. DUY-HUAN PHAM

NAWCTSD Engineer/ AAPI Development  
& Advancement Lead  
Naval Air Warfare Center,  
Training Systems Division

## MR. TONY PHAM

Sr. Contract Specialist/ AAPI Advisor  
Naval Air Warfare Center,  
Training Systems Division

## MS. SHEENA SMITH

Senior Systems Engineer,  
Systems Design and Performance  
Raytheon

## DR. WEI SUN

Technology Development Project Supervisor  
- Marine and Mechanics  
ExxonMobil

## MS. SHERIL VARGHESE

Program Manager,  
Transmission Asset Management  
Tennessee Valley Authority

## MR. MICHAEL VILLANUEVA

Global Diversity & Inclusion Specialist  
The Boeing Company



## One question. Countless answers. How will you Create Amazing?

We want to help you answer this question in your own way.  
We share your commitment to the broad possibilities of a  
career in STEM, and we're proud to support SASE. So, how  
will you Create Amazing? We can't wait to find out.  
Start your amazing journey at [burnsmcd.com/SASE19](http://burnsmcd.com/SASE19).

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# CHAIR WELCOME

## Welcome to the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual SASE National Conference & STEM Career Fair!



**T**his year's theme "Building Bridges - Connecting Leaders" embodies SASE's mission of unlocking the leadership potential and spirit of the 9th annual National Conference & STEM Career Fair. SASE is connecting many leaders nationwide, from the East Coast to the West Coast, during this annual meeting. While connecting with speakers, recruiters, and peers at conference, I dare you to seek out mentors, make new friends, and unleash your hidden leadership potential.

This conference has grown tremendously since I joined the National Conference Planning Team four years ago, and it is my honor and pleasure to welcome you to this year's spectacular event. When I started out as a general volunteer, there were around 2,000 attendees. The conference has since grown to an expected attendance of more than 3,000 attendees this year. Every year we continue to provide high quality content as well as expand our programming.

Some returning highlights of this year's conference include the 4th annual SASEbowl, 5th annual SASEhack, Science Networking and community service collaboration with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. As our professional membership continues to grow, we have new initiatives this year including the Company Day, SASEsalutes Military Service Awards, Women's Initiative, and additional workshop tracks exclusive for professionals. The next few days will be action packed with a plethora of events to attend, so take advantage of all of these resources. I challenge you to step out of your comfort zone and build your network by connecting with other leaders with a simple greeting or exchange of business cards. You never know who you will end up meeting!

Conference planning is a worthwhile whirlwind and would not be possible without the help of all of the National Conference volunteers. I would like to personally thank all the past and current National Conference volunteers for their dedication and passion in fulfilling the SASE mission. Without the volunteers, we would not have the community that we have and to be able to put together such a tremendous event every year.

Planning National Conference has been a growth experience for me, and I urge you to consider volunteering for SASE nationally, whether it is through National Conference, Marketing, Leadership, HR, Development, or Collegiate. I encourage you to reach out to myself and any National volunteer about how we've grown our soft skills and leadership skills through this experience. Ask about how you can continue your SASE journey past the collegiate level and into your professional life. Whether you are collegiate member or a professional, I challenge you to be a part of something bigger than yourself and join the nationwide network of #SASEfam. I look forward to seeing you return to Pittsburgh for next year's conference!

**Erica Chang**

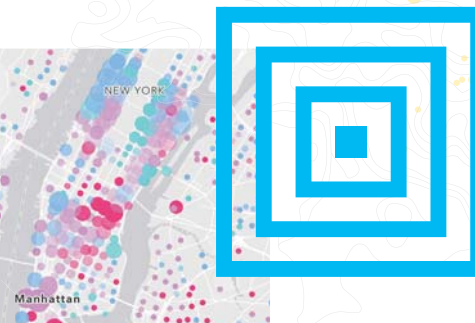
National Conference Committee Chair

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CHANGE,  
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EOE/M/F/Disability/Vet





# SASE NATIONAL CONFERENCE & STEM CAREER FAIR 2019

## GOVERNOR WELCOME



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



### GREETINGS:

It is my pleasure to join with the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) to welcome everyone gathered in Pittsburgh for the SASE National Conference and STEM Career Fair.

Science, technology, engineering, and math have been cornerstones of the commonwealth's economy and culture for generations, and we know that over the next ten years, seventy percent of new jobs will require these skills. Pennsylvania is home to rich, vibrant, and diverse communities that have made noteworthy contributions for the betterment of our citizens. For more than ten years, SASE has prepared scientists, engineers, and technologists of Asian heritage for success in the global business world. SASE has worked hard to provide an environment where Asian-American scientists—from students to working professionals—can make connections and challenge each other to grow. The workshops, speakers, and networking opportunities at this conference will provide all attendees with the opportunity to build meaningful relationships, create a personal brand, and develop the leadership skills necessary to succeed. I applaud this organization for its dedication to advancing the social and cultural heritage of the Asian-American community. I am certain SASE will have a positive impact on the commonwealth for years to come.

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I am pleased to welcome everyone to the SASE National Conference and STEM Career Fair. Please accept my best wishes for a productive event and continued success.



*Tom Wolf*  
TOM WOLF  
Governor  
October 10-12, 2019

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what  
matters  
most™



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We are hiring full time Engineers and Co-oping Students: ChE, ME, PSE and EE Majors.



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# SASE NATIONAL CONFERENCE & STEM CAREER FAIR 2019

## MAYOR WELCOME

CITY OF  PITTSBURGH  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

### *A Proclamation*

*Society of Asian Scientists & Engineers  
9<sup>TH</sup> National Conference and STEM Career Fair Day*

*October 12, 2019*

**WHEREAS**, the Society of Asian Scientists & Engineers' (SASE) highly successful annual National Conference and STEM Career Fair is now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year; and

**WHEREAS**, SASE serves Asian American students and professionals across the country; and

**WHEREAS**, over 3,500 SASE attendees will come to the David L. Lawrence Center for 2.5 days of personal/professional growth, networking and hiring; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting that this year's conference is in Pittsburgh, the City of Bridges, as our theme is "Building Bridges, Connecting Leaders" in celebration of the Society of Asian Scientists & Engineers' vibrancy and relevance.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, William Peduto, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, do hereby declare October 12, 2019 "Society of Asian Scientists & Engineers 9<sup>th</sup> National Conference and STEM Career Fair Day" here in our most livable City of Pittsburgh.



**WILLIAM PEDUTO**  
*Mayor*





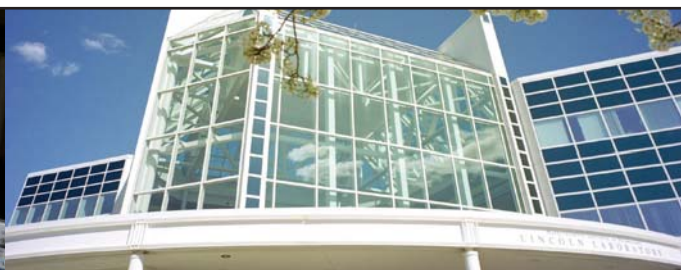
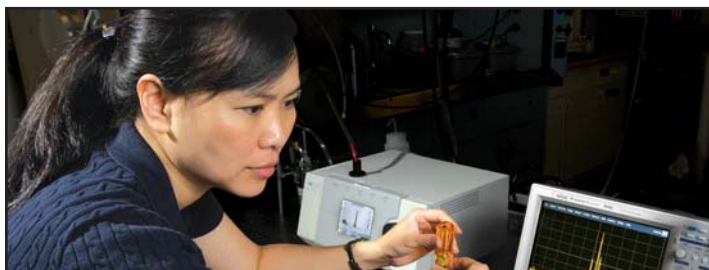
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**Medtronic**



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Behind every Laboratory solution are researchers with exceptional technical abilities and imagination, developing systems from the initial concept stage, through simulation and analysis, to design and prototyping, and finally to real world demonstrations. Cross-disciplinary collaboration and the breadth of Lincoln Laboratory's research enable continuous technical growth for its scientists – and they also inspire unparalleled creativity. In the past six years, MIT Lincoln Laboratory has been awarded 26 R&D 100 Awards that recognize the year's 100 most significant innovations in technology.

**All positions are located in Lexington, MA.**

**[www.ll.mit.edu/careers](http://www.ll.mit.edu/careers)**

*MIT Lincoln Laboratory is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, veteran status, disability status, or genetic information. Due to the unique nature of our work, we require U.S. citizenship.*

**Aerospace or Mechanical Engineering**  
**Algorithm Development**  
**Applied Math**  
**Circuit Design and Laser Development**  
**Computer Engineering**  
**Computer Science and SW Engineering**  
**Cyber Security**  
**Digital Signal Processing**  
**Electrical Engineering**  
**Machine Learning and Computer Vision**  
**Modeling and Systems Architecture**  
**Physics**

**Stop by Booth 230 to meet us!**

 **LINCOLN LABORATORY**  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
244 Wood Street, Lexington, MA 02420-9108





# SASE NATIONAL CONFERENCE & STEM CAREER FAIR SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

7:30 am - 12:30 pm  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
8:00 am - 11:30 am  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm  
11:35 am - 1:00 pm  
1:05 am - 4:00 pm  
1:05 pm - 4:30 pm  
2:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
5:00 pm - 6:15 pm  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Registration – Morning  
Company Sponsored Tours  
Professional Training AM  
National Conference Committee Meeting  
Lunch and SASEsalutes  
\*OAC Meeting  
Professional Training PM  
Registration - Afternoon  
Collegiate Opening Reception & Mixer  
Professional Networking  
SASEbowl  
Achievement Awards Dinner

Westin: Second Floor  
Buses from Westin  
Westin: Second Floor  
Lawrence CC: 313  
Westin: Allegheny Ballroom  
CC: 309  
Westin: Second Floor  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: North Terrace/ Concourse B  
Westin: Allegheny Ballroom Foyer  
Lawrence CC: 310/311  
Westin: Allegheny Ballroom

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

6:30 am - 7:30 am  
7:00 am - 9:00 pm  
7:00 am - 8:00 am  
7:50 am - 9:00 am  
9:15 am - 10:30 am  
9:15 am - 10:30 am  
9:15 am - 10:30 am  
9:15 am - 12:00 pm  
9:15 am - 5:00 pm  
10:15 am - 11:00 am  
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4:45 pm - 5:30 pm  
4:45 pm - 5:30 pm  
6:00 pm - 8:15 pm  
8:30 pm - 10:30 pm  
9:00 pm - 9:00 am (Sat.)

Morning River Run  
Registration  
Breakfast  
Welcome & Opening Remarks  
First Breakout (Collegiate)  
First Breakout (Professional)  
First Breakout (Women Initiative)  
Resume Review Rooms  
Community Service  
Morning Coffee Break  
Second Breakout (Collegiate)  
Second Breakout (Professional)  
Second Breakout (Women Initiative)  
Lunch  
Third Breakout (Collegiate)  
Third Breakout (Professional)  
Third Breakout (Women Initiative)  
Resume Review Rooms  
SASEtank  
Afternoon Snack  
Fourth Breakout (Collegiate)  
Fourth Breakout (Professional)  
Fourth Breakout (Women Initiative)  
Networking Session  
6E's: Redefine Your Leadership  
Science Networking  
Dinner Gala  
Hospitality Suites  
SASEhack\*\*

Leave from Westin Lobby  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom ABC  
Lawrence CC: Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom ABC  
Lawrence CC: 303-321  
Lawrence CC: 327-334  
Lawrence CC: 324-326  
Lawrence CC: 306-311  
Lawrence CC: Gallery  
Lawrence CC: Concourse  
Lawrence CC: 303-321  
Lawrence CC: 327-334  
Lawrence CC: 324-326  
Lawrence CC: Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom ABC  
Lawrence CC: 303-321  
Lawrence CC: 327-334  
Lawrence CC: 324-326  
Lawrence CC: 306-311  
Lawrence CC: 308  
Lawrence CC: Concourse  
Lawrence CC: 303-321  
Lawrence CC: 327-334  
Lawrence CC: 324-326  
Lawrence CC: West Atrium  
Lawrence CC: 316  
Lawrence CC: 309  
Lawrence CC: Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom ABC  
Lawrence CC: 302-307  
Westin: Pennsylvania Ballroom

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

6:45 am - 7:45 am  
7:30 am - 9:15 am  
8:00 am - 8:30 am  
8:00 am - 3:00 pm  
8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
8:30 am - 9:30 am  
9:45 am - 10:00 am  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
11:00 am - 11:30 am  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
12:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
1:00 pm - 1:30 pm  
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm  
1:30 pm - 6:00 pm  
2:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
4:15 pm - 5:15 pm

Morning River Run  
\*New Sponsor Breakfast and Discussion with the Board  
Yoga  
Registration  
Luggage Hold  
Breakfast Program  
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony  
STEM Career Fair  
\*Interviews  
Professional Member Headshot Picture I  
Volunteer Appreciation Lunch with Board  
\*Marketing FUN  
Professional Member Headshot Picture II  
\*High School Session  
\*Collegiate Leadership Workshop  
SASEesports  
Exhibitor Debrief

Leave from Westin Lobby  
Lawrence CC: 309  
Lawrence CC: 312  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: 319-321  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: Hall B  
Lawrence CC: Hall B  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: 319-321  
Lawrence CC: 316  
Lawrence CC: Concourse B  
Lawrence CC: 315  
Lawrence CC: 319-321  
Lawrence CC: Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom ABC  
Lawrence CC: 309

\* Invite only event \*\* SASEhack ends on Saturday at 9am

To find a more detailed schedule, please download the "ConfPlus" app in your app store and select "SASENC2019"

Photos: (Left and Right) JP Diroll, (Center) VisitPittsburgh

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SASE MAGAZINE | 81



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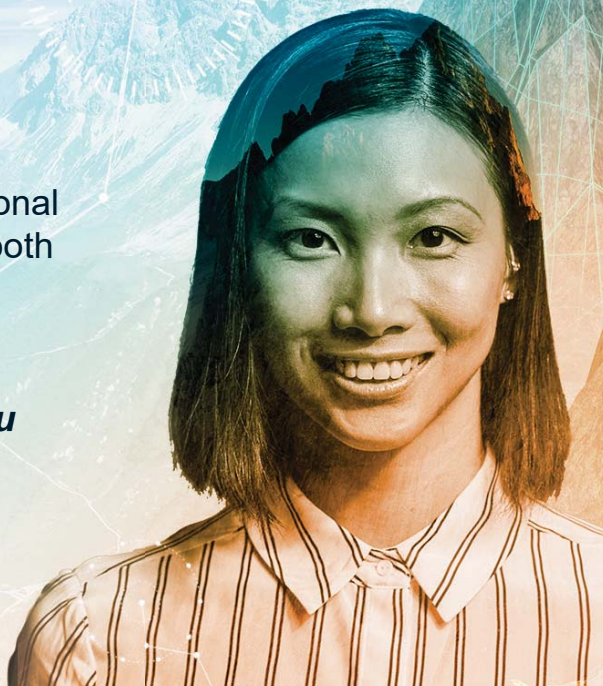
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\* Our apologies for any volunteers whose names are not listed. SASE could not be the organization it is without your help.

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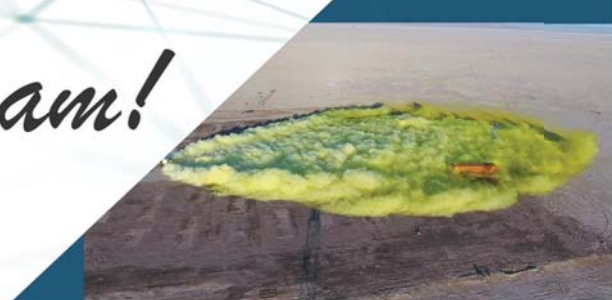
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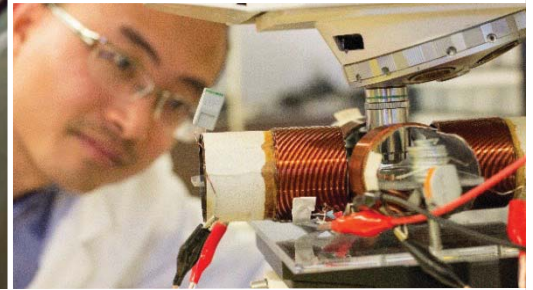
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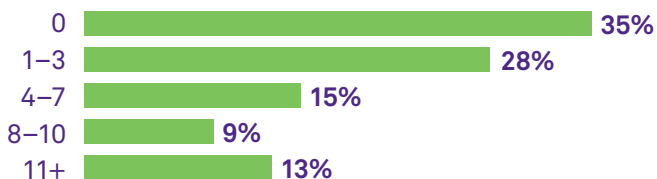
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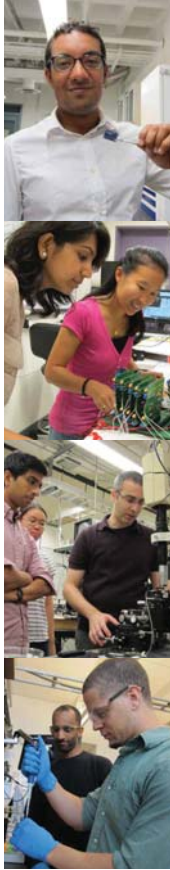
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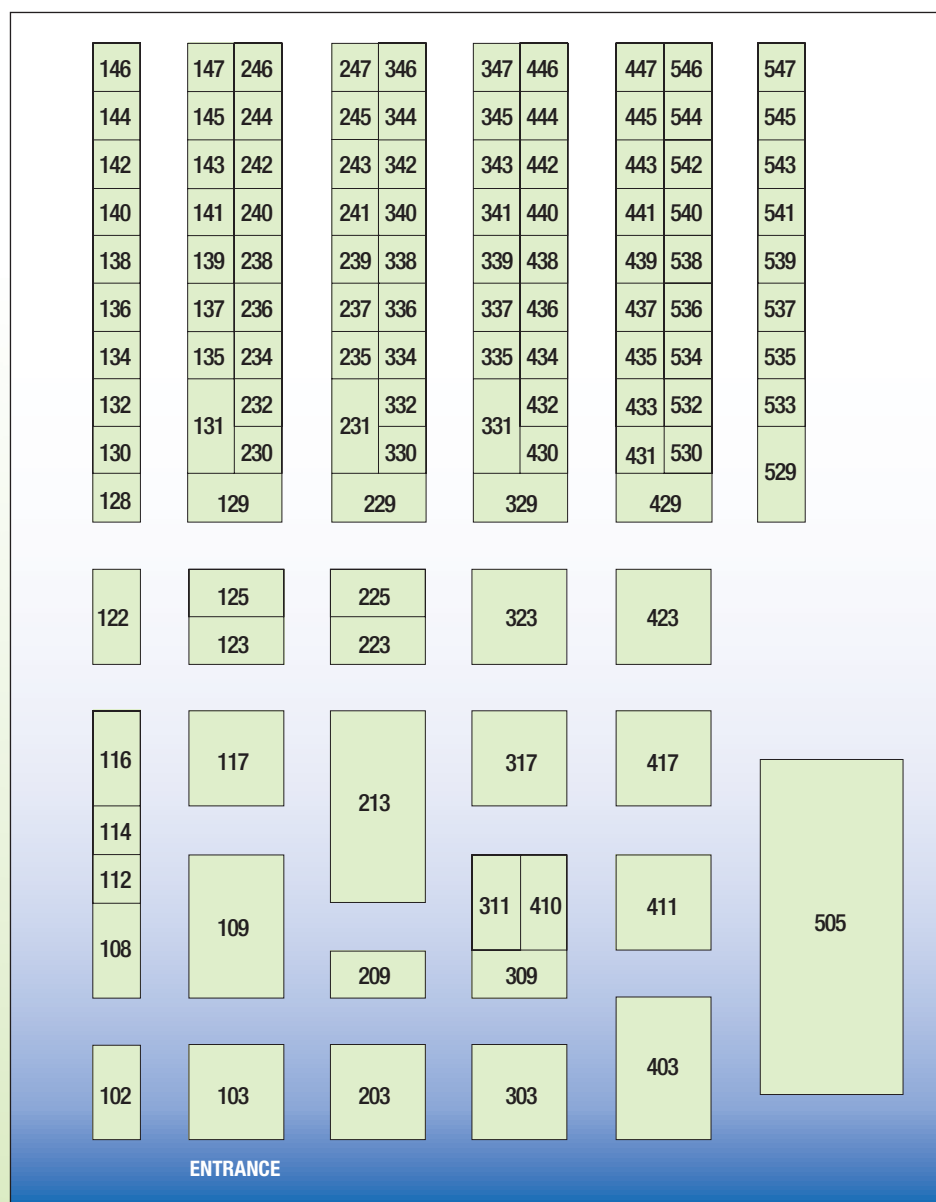


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| Bureau of Land Management.....                           | 438 |
| Burns & McDonnell.....                                   | 336 |
| Carnegie Mellon University.....                          | 223 |
| Central Intelligence Agency.....                         | 410 |
| CenturyLink.....   | 433 |
| Chevron.....   | 112 |
| Colorado School of Mines.....                            | 128 |
| Columbia University.....                                 | 141 |
| Covestro.....  | 429 |
| Defense Contract Management Agency.....                  | 439 |
| Department of Navy HBCU/MI.....                          | 309 |
| DoD SMART Scholarship.....                               | 137 |
| DTE Energy.....  | 234 |
| Eaton Corporation.....                                   | 235 |
| ESRI.....  | 330 |
| FedEx.....   | 417 |
| Fiat Chrysler Automobiles.....                           | 332 |
| FirstEnergy.....   | 303 |
| Florida International University.....                    | 537 |
| GAF.....   | 430 |
| GE Transportation, a Wabtec Company.....                 | 329 |
| General Atomics.....                                     | 436 |
| General Mills.....                                       | 229 |
| Georgia Tech Research Institute.....                     | 534 |
| Hormel.....  | 338 |
| Huntington Ingalls.....                                  | 505 |
| Illinois Department of Transportation.....               | 437 |
| Ingredion.....   | 114 |
| Keck Graduate Institute.....                             | 138 |
| Leidos.....  | 102 |
| Lockheed Martin.....                                     | 109 |
| Medtronic.....   | 435 |
| MIT Lincoln Laboratory.....                              | 230 |
| National Aeronautics<br>and Space Administration.....    | 339 |
| National Geospatial-Intelligence<br>Agency (NGA).....    | 337 |
| National Security Agency.....                            | 108 |
| Naval Nuclear Laboratory.....                            | 135 |
| Navy Civilian Careers.....                               | 411 |
| NCEES.....   | 532 |
| New York University Tandon<br>School of Engineering..... | 139 |
| NiSource.....  | 232 |
| North Carolina State University.....                     | 130 |
| Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District.....              | 536 |



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| Penn State Applied Research Laboratory.....  | 535 |
| PNC.....   | 231 |
| Pratt & Whitney.....   | 331 |
| Raytheon.....  | 209 |
| SAE Group.....   | 538 |
| Sandia National Laboratories.....  | 238 |
| Savannah River Remediation.....  | 334 |
| Shell.....   | 103 |
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| U.S. Air Force.....   | 213 |
| U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.....                                     | 125 |
| U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command.....                            | 335 |
| U.S. Census Bureau.....   | 341 |
| U.S. Coast Guard.....   | 340 |
| U.S. Department of State.....   | 225 |
| U.S. Marine Corps.....  | 323 |
| U.S. Secret Service.....  | 241 |
| University of California, Los Angeles.....                            | 132 |
| University of Maryland -<br>A. James Clark School of Engineering..... | 136 |
| University of Wisconsin-Madison.....                                  | 134 |
| Vibrant Pittsburgh.....   | 530 |
| Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI).....                            | 140 |



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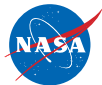


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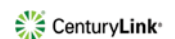


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