## Directors-at-Large Election

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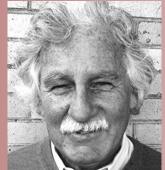












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Directors—at-Large: Abhaya
Datye, University of New Mexico;
Jim Dumesic, University of Wisconsin; John Armor, GlobalCatalysis.com; Bruce C. Gates, University of California at Davis; Fabio H. Ribeiro, Purdue University;
Stuart L. Soled, ExxonMobil.

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# North American Catalysis Society Director-at-Large Election

n the next week, all members of the North American Catalysis Society (NACS) will be able to access an electronic ballot to vote for six of the twelve candidates for the position of Directorat-Large (DAL): four DALs from academia and two from industry/ national laboratories.

Directors-at-large serve fouryear terms and are elected by the entire membership. Their new term will start during the Board of Directors meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Elected DAL represents the entire membership by attending annual NACS Board meetings.

The election for Directors-at-Large is scheduled to start on April 15, 2021 at 12:00 am EDT. The NACS will be using online balloting as the only way to cast your vote. We have contracted with a firm that is experienced in on-line voting to ensure the accuracy and confidentiality of the process.

You will be receiving two email messages before the start of the election with the subject headline "NACS ELECTIONS FOR DIRECTORS-at-LARGE".

A large number of email providers block emails with any kind of link as a security measure. For this reason the email will be forwarded twice. The first version contains your username, unique password and a link to a restricted voting webpage. The second version contains your username and unique password with instructions to visit the Home page of the NACS website (www.nacatsoc.org) which will have a link to the restricted voting website.

Please don't delete this email until you cast your vote. If you have a problem receiving this email, then you need to contact Edrick Morales at edrickmorales@live.com.

The voting site's log in page (see top image) will have instructions on how to cast your electronic ballot.

You can cast your vote starting on April 15th. The voting webpage will be held open for two weeks to those members of NACS (including students) who reside within North America. Background information for each candidate will be available on the ballot site with a hyperlink associated to each candidate's name

and represented by a question mark. On the ballot website, you will be selecting only six (6) or less members from the 12 candidates from academia and industry/ national laboratories for the office of Director-at-Large. The top 4 candidates in the academia group and the two top candidates in the industry/national laboratories will be elected to office.

The ballot section turns green when the voter has selected the maximum number of candidates.

Voters will need to log back in and complete the ballot from scratch if they log out or close the browser window without submitting their ballot. Your password will be deactivated after you record your vote.

You can download the PDF with the biographies and access the voting webpage from the NACS Home webpage.

The online balloting website will close on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm EDT.

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#### Ya-Huei Chin



Va-Huei (Cathy) Chin is Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering and Applied Chemistry and Canada Research Chair (Tier II) in Advanced Catal-ysis for Sustainable Chemistry at the University of Toronto, in Canada. She is an associated editor for the Journal of Catalysis. She is recoanized as an Emerging Leader in Chemical Engineering (2017), an award given by the Canadian Society for Chemi-cal Engineering (CSChE), and a recipient of Humboldt Research Fellowship (2018), Ontario Early Re-searcher Award

(2014) and Imperial Oil University Research Award (2014). She also received the Bill Burgess Teacher of the Year Award for Large Classes (2016). She currently serves as the Treasurer for the Canadian Catalysis Society and on the Board of Directors of Canadian Cataly-sis Foundation. She joined the University in 2011, after receiving her Doctor of Phi-

after receiving her Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) de-gree in Chemical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Before then, she was a research engineer (2000-2002) and then senior research scientist (2002-2005) at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), one of the ten National Re-search Laboratories for the U.S. Department of Energy.

Her recent work focuses on elucidating the molecular events during alkane conver-sions on Group VIII metal and oxide clusters and the conversion of oxygenates to val-ue-added chemicals and liquid fuels, emphasizing on the mechanistic similarities and differences across the different catalytic systems. Specifically, she applies isotopic, ki-netic, and density functional theory methods to interrogate the catalytic turnovers and how such turnovers change in response to changing active site

structure. She views catalytic reactions as dances of molecules on free energy surfaces and spends her life fantasizing about their catalytic fates, the transition states, and how to alter the free energy landscape.

## Abhaya Datye



A bhaya Datye, is the Distinguished Regents' Professor & Department Chair in the Department of Chemical & Bio-logical Engineering at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM.

He has been on the faculty at the University of New Mex-ico since 1984, after receiving his Ph.D. that year in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan. He has authored 260 publications, 6 patents and has presented 170 invited lectures around the world. His published work has received >19,000 citations with an h-index of 71 (Google Scholar). He has been actively involved in the North American Ca-talysis Society, having attended every meeting since 1985. He is actively involved in his local chapter since the inception of the Western States Catalysis Club (now Rocky Mountain Catalysis Club), where he has served as President and as the Club repre-sentative to the NACS board, where he currently serves as one of the Directors at large. Most recently he served as vice-chair for the International Congress of Catalysis 2020 (cancelled due to the pandemic). He served as co-chair for the Denver NAM meeting in 2019, the pro-gram co-chair for the NAM meeting at Snowbird, UT and the chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Catalysis in 2010. As a Director at large for the Society, he plans to continue to enhance the visibility of catalysis

and to help get new students, especially graduate and undergraduate students into the field. He would also like the society to offer more awards to early career researchers and faculty and to enhance the participation of industry and national lab researchers in the NAM meetings. His research group has pioneered the development of electron microscopy tools for the study of catalysts. Using model catalysts, his group has shown metal/ support interfaces can be stud-ied at near atomic resolution. His current work involves fundamental studies of catalyst sinter-ing, especially the stabilization of isolated single atoms on supports, synthesis of novel nanostructured heterogeneous catalysts including for conversion of natural gas into fuels and chemicals. He led the NSF Partnership for International Research and Education (PIRE) on Conversion of Biomass derived reactants into Fuels, Chemicals and Materials (a collaboration between faculty and researchers in the US, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands and Finland). His research has been recognized through numerous awards, including the Robert L. Burwell Lectureship of the North American Catal-

ysis Society (2019), Walter J Weber Distinguished Lectureship from the University of Michigan Chemical Engineering (2019), Eastman Lecture-ship from the University of South Carolina (2019) the John Matthews Lectureship from the Microscopy Society of South Africa (2012) and the 2008 Award for Excellence from the NSF IU-CRC program, In 2016, the ACS publication Chemical & Engineering News included his re-search on single atom catalysis as one of the top 10 stories for the year. He is a fellow of the AIChE, the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Microscopy Society of America.

#### **Bruce Gates**



Bruce Gates was a research engineer at Chevron, then a professor at the University of Delaware, and then a pro-fessor at the University of California, Davis. He has been a Director-At-Large of NACS since 1997; was Co-chair of the San Francisco NAM; and a Vice-chair of the can-celled 2020 ICC and the ICC pre-conference on Atomi-cally Dispersed Supported Metal Catalysts. He served on a recent subcommittee preparing advice to the NACS Board of Directors regarding adjustments in

planning for NAM meetings in the age of Covid and other uncertain -ties. He has served on DOE's Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee and the SSRL and NSLS-II Scien -tific Advisory Committees. He coauthored the textbook "Chemistry of Catalytic Processes" and authored "Catalytic Chemistry." He co-founded and directed the Delaware Center for Catalytic Science and Technology and is active in building the catalysis activities at the University of California, Davis. His research group works on catalysis by atomi-cally dispersed supported metals; supported metal clusters; catalysis by MOFs; and methods for spectroscopic characterization of working catalysts, especially with synchrotron methods. If elected, he would work to ensure the fiscal integrity and survival of NACS and continued support and encouragement of young scientists and engineers in NACS activities and the catalysis field.

## George W. Huber



eorge Willis Huber is the Richard Antoine Professor of Chemical Engineering at University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research focus is on developing new cata-lytic processes for the production of renewable liquid fuels and chemicals. He has won several awards includ-ing the AICHE Colburn award and the top 100 people in Bioenergy by Biofuels Digest. For the past 5 years he has been named a "highly-cited researcher" in the area of Chemistry an award given

to the top 1% most cited chemists. He has published over 200 papers, more than 20 patent applications, and received over 40,000 citations. He is co-founder of Anellotech (www.anellotech.com) and Pyran (www.pyranco.com). He is the director of the \$10 million **US Department of Energy Center** on Upcycling of Waste Plastics (CUWP) which was funded in 2021. Professor Huber has received a visiting professorships from the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2015 (at Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics), from the Roy-al Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2019-20 and the ExxonMobil Visiting Chair Professor at National University of Singapore in 2019. George did a post-doctoral stay with Avelino Corma at the Technical Chemical Institute at the Polytechnical University of Valencia, Spain (UPV-CSIC). In 2019-20 he spent several months working at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO. He obtained his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Univer-sity of Wisconsin-Madison (2005). He obtained his B.S. (1999) and M.S. (2000) degrees in Chemical Engineering from Brigham Young University.

#### Friederike Jentoft



Friederike Jentoft studied in Tübingen and at Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich, where she earned her doctoral degree. After a stay as a post-graduate re-searcher at UC Davis, she was a research group leader at the Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society in Berlin for 12 years. During this time, Jentoft also finished a Habilitation at Humboldt University. In 2008, she joined the faculty at the School of Chemical, Biological and Materials Engineering at the University

move to Amherst in 2015. Jentoft's main research interests are in acid-base catalysis and spectroscopic analysis of surface reactions. Her work includes a series of papers on sulfated zirconia cat-alysts, spanning synthesis, bulk and surface characteri-zation. and catalytic properties. She has refined the interpretation of UV-vis spectra to identify the nature of hydrocarbon surface species in catalysis and elucidated their role in alkane isom-erization and methanol-to-olefins conversion. She has explored the use of infrared absorption coefficients to track activation of molecules on surfaces. Recent publications focus on funda-mental research related to biomass upgrading via aldol condensation, deoxydehydration, and phenolics hydrogenation, and on basic or long-standing questions regarding carbide synthesis and the generation of active sites on the Phillips catalyst. Jentoft has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. She served as an editor of Advances in Catalysis (2009–2015). Her research was recognized with the Award for Young Scientists of the German Society for Petroleum and Coal

ty of Oklahoma, fol-lowed by a

Science and Technology (1996), a Young Scientists Prize from the International Association of Catalysis Societies (2000), and the Excellence in Catalysis Award from the Catalysis Society of Metropolitan New York (2018).

Jentoft has participated in nine "NAMs" and brings service experience from organizing ses-sions for AIChE or ACS meetings, terms as President (2009–2013) and member (2005–2013) of the Acid-Base-Catalysis Board of Directors, and Member-at-Large of the ACS CATL Division Executive Committee (2019–2021). She is fascinated by and enjoys "everything catalysis" and is committed to assist with the organization of upcoming NAMs and would be honored to take office as a Director-at-Large for the NACS. Fascinated by all aspects of catalysis, her goals are to enhance exchange and synergies between the subfields of catalysis across disciplines, maintain the NAM as a forum for intense discussion independent of its size, and promote diver-sity of researchers and ideas.

#### Eranda Nikolla



r. Nikolla is a Professor of Chemical Engineering and Materi-als Science at Wayne State University. She received her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan in 2009 working in the area of solid-state electrocatalysis. She conducted a two-year postdoctoral work at California Institute of Technology focused on synthesis and characterization of meso/microporous materials and functionalized surfaces for selective

catalysis. Her research aroup focuses on the devel-opment of heterogeneous catalysts/ electrocatalysts for chemi-cal and energy conversion/storage processes using a combi-nation of experimental and theoretical techniques. Dr. Nikolla is the recipient of a number of awards including the National Science Foundation CAREER Award, the Department of Ener-gy Early Career Research Award, Camille Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, the Young Scientist Award from the International Congress on Catalysis, and the 2019 ACS Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Rising Star Award.

Dr. Nikolla serves the catalysis community through active participation and leadership. She has served as the secretary/treasurer, vice-president, president, and director of the Michigan Catal-ysis Society. She recently finished her tenure as the chair of AIChE's Catalysis and Reaction Engineering division. She was previously program chair for the ACS Spring 2016 and Spring 2017 meetings. Dr. Nikolla worked closely with the NACS to apply and secure funding from federal agencies for students and postdoctoral scholars to attend the 2020 International

Con-gress on Catalysis (ICC). She has also promoted diversity and inclusion in the field but organizing events, such as the "Power Hour" at the Catalysis Gordon Research Conference. Being someone who benefited personally from early engagement with the catalysis community, if elected as Director-at-large, Dr. Nikolla will continue to support efforts toward involvement of graduate students and young scientists in the community. She will continue to raise funds to support their participation at catalysis conferences and other similar activities. Furthermore, she will continue to promote diversity and inclusion in the field by organizing events at the ca-talysis conferences and increasing participation throughout the community.

#### Umit S. Ozkan



mit S. Ozkan is a College of Engineering Distinguished Professor and the Chair of the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. She received her Ph.D from Iowa State University in 1984 and joined the faculty of The Ohio State University in 1985. Between 2000 and 2005, she also served as the Associate Dean for Re-search in the College of Engineering. Her current re-search interests are focused on heterogeneous catalysis and electro-catalysis.

She has edited eight books, has written over 250 refer-eed publications and book chapters, given over 350 con-ference presentations and over 150 invited lectures in 20 different countries. She has eight patents and over 11,000 citations with an H-index of 60. Professor Ozkan has held and continues to hold many leadership positions in several professional organiza-tions, including ACS, AIChE, and North American Catalysis Society. She is on the Editorial Boards of Catalysis Today, Journal of Molecular Catalysis, Catalysis Letters, Topics in Cataly-sis, The Royal Society of Chemistry Catalysis Book Series, Applied Catalysis B, ACS Applied Energy Materials, Catalysis Reviews in Science and Engineering, ACS Catalysis, and Nature Sustainability. Dr. Ozkan is a Professional Engineer registered in Ohio. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAS), American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AICHE), and American Chemical Society (ACS).

She has served as the Secretary of the North American Catalysis Society (2000-2009) and as a member of the Board of Directors (2009present). She was one of the meeting Chairs for NAM23 and one of the Vice Chairs of ICC17. Professor Ozkan is the recipient of many honors and awards among which are ACS Henry H. Storch Award (2017), ACS Energy and Fuels Distinguished Researcher Award (2012), John van Geuns Lectureship Award at the Van't Hoff Institute at the University of Amsterdam (2010), Iowa State University, Professional Achievement Citation in Engineering (2010), AIChE Men-torship Excellence Award (2009), Fulbright Senior Scholar Award (2007), the Society of Wom-en Engineers Achievement Award (2002. In 2013, she was honored by a special volume of Topics in Catalysis. The volume included contributions from 35 different research groups from 12 different countries. In 2019, she was again honored, this time by a special volume of Catalysis Today.

In her research group, Dr. Ozkan has advised and mentored over 100 graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and honors students.

#### Fabio H. Ribeiro



abio H. Ribeiro is currently the R. Norris and Elea-nor Shreve Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director of the National Science Foundation Engi-neering Research Center for Innovative and Strategic Transformation of Alkane Resources (CISTAR) at the Davidson School of Chemical Engineering, Purdue University. He is a member of the Catalysis Club of Chicago. He served as President of the New Eng-land Catalysis Society (NECS) 1997 – 1999 and

was the host of the semiannual meetings of the NECS in Worcester, Massachusetts, from 1996 to 2002. He served as Chair for AlChE's Catalysis and Reaction Engineering Division (2010) was co -Chair of the Kokes Award Committee for the 22nd North American Meeting of the Catalysis Society, is a member of the 27th NAM Fundraising Committee and has served as Director-at-Large for the North Ameri-can Catalysis Society since 2013. He organized 15 symposia for NACS, ACS and AIChE. He was the chair of the Gordon Research Conference on Catalysis in 2018, and chair of the 12th Natural Gas Conversion Symposium. San Antonio. Texas. in 2019. For the past 34 years he has worked in catalysis in industry and in academia. He was Edi-tor for Journal of Catalysis (2010-2018). His research interests are in the kinetics of heter-ogeneous catalytic reactions and catalyst characterization under reaction conditions. From past service to NACS, ACS, AIChE, and GRC he is familiar with our catalysis community. He believes that our field is enjoying new interest from the realization that catalysis will continue to

be a major enabler in providing

the world with sustainable tech-

nologies. He believes we can grow our membership and attract the best young people to work in cataly-sis. If elected, he will help NACS to continue to promote our field

## Candidates for Director-at-Large, Industry and National Labs

#### John Armor



Catalysis.com. My dedicated interests in catalysis continue through occasional strategic publications (such as in Applied Catalysis A: General 527 (2016) 182–189), invited lectures, and attendance at major national and international catalysis focused meetings. I bring over 40 years of experience in catalysis beginning with my undergraduate re-search at Penn State University and my PhD work at Stan-ford University.

After receiving my doctorate degree, I spent 4 years as an assistant professor at Boston University, then joined Allied Chemical Corporation's central re-search center for 11 years and moved to Air Products & Chemicals to lead a catalysis research center before retire-ment. I also serve as a member of the Editorial Board and a Senior Editor to the Journal of Catalysis.

#### Membership and Service

My past roles with the NACS (8) years as President, 7 years as Treasurer, and currently, a Trustee of our educational fund) focused on bringing visibility to the catalysis community at large, establishing our popular website, returning excess proceeds from our NAM meetings to the membership, strengthening the financial position of the NACS as well as the individual clubs, building up the corpus to the Keith Hall Educational Fund, establishing new ways to pro-vide educational assistance to the membership, and enhancing the number and identity of our professional Awards program. I have recently led a small group of Board members appointed to make recommendations regarding the operation of future NAM

meetings given the recent impact of the pandemic upon the NACS. Statement regarding desire to serve as Director-at-Large

I look forward to the opportunity to rejoin the Board of Directors as a Director-at-Large and again work for the entire membership. I would like to continue to serve as a resource to the Society by participation in Board activities utilizing my decades of experience within past oper-ations of the NACS while mentoring future generations of our leaders, because I believe there is much more that I can still contribute to advance catalysis to meet the needs of society and future generations. I intend to continue to work on growing and nurturing the NAM meetings, mentoring students and emerging leaders, as well as supporting other financial and education-al activities of the NACS.

## Anne M. Gaffney



Pr. Anne M. Gaffney is the Chief Science Officer of Idaho National Laboratory and Distinguished National Lab Fellow (2014 – present). She has thirty-four years of experience working in industry inventing and commercializing new technologies for major chemical man-ufacturing companies including Koch Industries, Lum-mus Technology, Dow, Dupont and ARCO Chemical Company. She has authored 134 publications and 255 patents. Dr.

and financial well being going into the future.

Gaffnev is also a distinguished Joint Appointment Fellow at the University of South Carolina (2018 - present) where she is the Technical Director of the National Science Foundation Center for Rational Catalyst Synthesis. Some of her recent awards in-clude: the 2019 American Chemical Society. Energy & Fuels, Distinguished Researcher Award in Petroleum Chemistry; the 2015 Eugene J. Houdry Award of the North American Catalysis Society; the Chemical Heritage Foundation, Women in Science Inductee, 2014; and the American Chem-ical Society, Industrial Chemistry Award, 2013. Dr. Gaffney received her BA in chemistry and mathematics from Mount Holyoke College and her Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from University of Delaware. Dr. Gaffney has been an active member of the North American Catalysis Society since 1982 and was the Meeting Chair of the 2005 NAM19. She was also a member of the financial fund raising team of the 2017 NAM25 and the Technical Program Co-Chair of the 1997 NAM15. If elected to the Director-At-Large position, Dr. Gaffney will seek to ensure the con-tinued successes in technical excellence, student mentoring

#### Stuart L. Soled



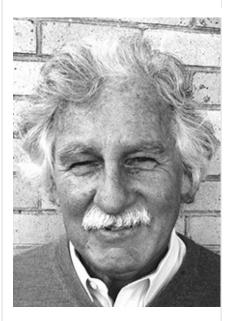
strongly about. One involves a closer working relationship between academia and industrial researchers- something he has personally tried to promote for many years in a multitude of ways, including being a strong supporter of the IUCRC program on the rational catalyst synthesis from its inception almost 6 years ago. Second, he likes to help students see what an exciting career and interesting life they can have in catalysis research if they can catch the "fever".

Stu has two issues that he feels

Stuart (Stu) L. Soled has worked at ExxonMobil's Corporate Research Center for almost in Clinton, NJ for almost 40 years. His contributions to the NACS include setting up and uploading almost all the 1700 videos on the NACS video-history-catalysis.org website and YouTube page, where there is a compendium of materials from hundreds of speakers (collected by the late Professor Burt Davis) given at multiple national meetings.

## Candidates for Director-at-Large, Industry and National Labs

### Stacey I. Zones



r. Stacey I. Zones is currently a Consulting Scientist at Chevron Energy and Technology. He has been a partici-pant for over 30 years in North American Catalysis Socie-ty is running for the Director-at-Large. He is particularly interested in helping to create an outreach program to various communities as to why they should be interested in careers in catalysis. As such, he would be involved in raising funding and promoting the travel and lectures

of mid-career research members to universities with science programs, but not necessarily Ph.D. programs, to see if we can excite and motivate students from different back-grounds to go to graduate school to study catalysis. Many programs do not know much about the very important impact on science and society catalysis has and this could be a significant opportunity.

lite science and technology,

working in industry but collaborating with several university programs in zeolites and catalysis. He is still currently collabo-rating with 6 university research programs, some but not all, with Chevron sponsorship for the work. In industry, he has been involved in inventive technology and also commercial imple-mentation of their breakthroughs. He is an author on close to 200 publications in zeolite sci-ence as well as about 200 US patents in this area of technology. He received the Houdry Award from the North American Catalysis Society in 2007, and was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2014. He has been very lucky.

## The 27th North American Catalysis Society Meeting

