



## Vice President Message

*From the desk of the Vice President, Andrew Ibey*

Happy belated Global Clinical Engineering Day! With September and October behind us we are well into the Fall. Last year, I sent a challenge out to everyone to push themselves professionally in whatever capacity. This past year I have discovered first hand one of the biggest challenges of my career. How do I explain the value of my profession to my hospital? I know the value I provide (and I know you know yours as well), but how is it that after 55 years, BME/CE are still working behind the scenes and have to explain what we do to everybody? I'm curious to know, how do you sell yourself or your program to your hospital? Send me an email with your thoughts.

## Membership Updates

*From the desk of the Membership Committee Chair, Gad Acosta*

This Fall we saw one of multiple climate strike marches walk by in front of our hospital. Events like these brought awareness to environmental stewardship at all levels of our organization. In the most recent email from our energy and Environment Department, there was a new R added to the usual three (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle): Repair.

Medical, Clinical and Biomedical Engineering departments can identify the importance of bringing back devices into functionality and their daily involvement with this activity. By performing these repairs in house, it is possible to decrease the amount of downtime as well as the costs, economical and environmental, associated with the transportation of the device to and from the company.

Selecting systems from OEMs that provide parts and training can also help reduce the amount of waste that is produced when a whole device is disposed of, and finding opportunities to responsibly reuse these systems in international outreach efforts, can prevent life-saving technologies from being thrown out when they are still working.

CMBES has numerous examples of these efforts, and being part of them can help us realize the common aspects of our profession at an international level. The key to the continuous functionality of sophisticated medical systems is maintenance. By participating in committees and international outreach projects, we can help other health institutions, share our know-how, as well as acquire a heightened appreciation of our resources, medical technology, and environment.

Please join me in welcoming the newest members of our Society:

Bradley Zachary Baron  
Kushal Soni

Juergen Trotz  
Alamelu J V

## Professional Affairs Updates

*From the desk of the Professional Affairs Chair, Michael Barton*

Greetings, everyone! Hopefully you are all had a beautiful fall season, now that we are sliding more seriously into winter.

I am very happy to report that we are kick-starting our webinar series! Some of you joined us recently on the presentation regarding technological advancements in the next generation of infusion devices. Many thanks again to Adeel Alam for organizing as well as Ben Powers and Bob Butterfield for sharing their wealth of expertise. It looks like accuracy and control for a wide range of flows is about to make a significant leap forward.

We wanted to stretch our technology brains a bit out of the mainstream hospital vein with the next webinar. Dr Tiago Falk will be getting us to look into the future a bit with “Artificial Intelligence, Signal Processing, and Wearables: Building Blocks for Healthcare Technologies of the Future.” He will be discussing how advances in biosensor tech have enabled the development of new and low cost wearables. This is a wonderfully hot topic given the health devices market over the last few years... byod (bring your own device) is only just heating up! Personal area networks (PANs) and associated devices are proliferating at an accelerating rate as more folks vote for more involvement in their own personal health care by opening their wallets. Dr Falk will also explore how advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) and signal analysis have improved diagnostic capabilities and other important factors to make health devices ever better. I can’t wait for this talk and hope that you will join us; stay tuned as we will clarify the day very soon.

Do you have a topic or two that you would like to see explored in the webinar series? Or are there issues that you would like to see discussed in this column? Or how about a colleague (or yourself!) that has some significant news that you would like to share? Please contact me at [Michael.Barton@nshealth.ca](mailto:Michael.Barton@nshealth.ca) and I will try to put it in our next newsletter.

## Awards Updates

*From the desk of the Awards Committee Chair, Murray Rice*

CMBES has a number of Awards (check them out [here](#)). There are also a number of other professional technology organizations (Engineers in Canada, Provincial Professional Engineering and Technologist Organizations, American College of Clinical Engineering (ACCE)...) that offer Awards. There are Award categories for everyone – students, people starting their career, people

who have done a great job on a project, and Awards that recognize a person for the work they have done over their career.

Please take a minute to think about your colleagues, the great work they do, and the individual(s) who go beyond the norm, who you would like to recognize through nominating for an Award.

The CMBES Awards committee would be glad to help you with the nomination, so please contact Murray Rice ([Murray.Rice@uhn.ca](mailto:Murray.Rice@uhn.ca)) and we would be glad to help.

### **Join the Awards Committee:**

The Awards Committee is looking for new members. This is a fun way to promote the profession and recognize our colleagues in the profession. What is involved would be a few teleconferences a year. The committee:

- Looks at Awards other professional groups have and work to nominate CMBES member for these;
- Promotes the CMBES Awards and reviews the nominations received;
- Considers the development of new Awards to recognize people and promote the profession.

## **Education Support for Vanessa's Law (Mandatory Reporting of Serious ADRs and MDIs by Hospitals)**

It will be mandatory for hospitals to report serious adverse drug reactions (serious ADRs) and medical device incidents (MDIs) to Health Canada, effective December 16, 2019. [Four PowerPoint modules](#) can be used (as entire modules or selected content) by hospitals, health care professionals, and educators, to explain, describe, or promote the reporting of serious ADRs and MDIs. Patients for Patient Safety Canada created an [additional PowerPoint module](#) to help patients and the public understand and promote the reporting of serious adverse drug reactions and medical device incidents.

If you have questions about Vanessa's Law and the mandatory reporting requirements, please contact [hc.canada.vigilance.sc@canada.ca](mailto:hc.canada.vigilance.sc@canada.ca).

## **Call for Sessions for EMBC2020**

*From the desk of Long Term Conference Planning Committee Chair, Sarah Kelso*

The EMBC2020 Organizing Committee is presently accepting proposals for special sessions for the Conference which will be held in Montreal from July 20-24, 2020. Proposing and organizing a session is an excellent way to promote the inclusion of speakers and content that you are interested in!

There are three types of special sessions that can be proposed:

1. Workshops (full or half-day hands on sessions which are focused on current and future

- trends in life sciences, biomedical engineering, and technology development in health care).
2. Special Sessions (90 minute session which is devised to include panel discussions or non-technical talks on topics such as research funding, entrepreneurship, or technology transfer, and can receive a wide interest across different themes of the conference).
  3. Mini Symposia (90 minute session dedicated to talks and panel discussions from leading researchers covering a specialized topic in multi-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary areas of biological and biomedical engineering, life sciences, health care, clinical applications, and biomedical education).

Each type of session has its own submission template, and proposal must be sufficiently detailed that the Organizing Committee is convinced that the session will provide excellent value to the attendees. Much more information and submission details can be found on the EMBC2020 website <https://embc.embs.org/2020/> under Call for Sessions.

The deadline for submitting proposals is November 22, 2019, so get started today!

**SAVE THE DATE**

The 42nd Annual International Conference of the  
IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society  
July 21 - 25



"Enabling Innovative Technologies  
for Global Healthcare"



**Palais des congrès de Montreal**  
-SAVE THE DATE-



The IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society is pleased to announce the **42<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, to be held in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, July 20th - 24th, 2020.** The theme of the meeting is "Enabling Innovative Technologies for Global Healthcare". As the worlds largest international biomedical engineering meeting. A broad array of scientific tracks will cover diverse topics of cutting-edge research and innovation in biomedical engineering, healthcare technology R&D, translational clinical research, technology transfer and entrepreneurship, and biomedical engineering education.

In addition to the high-profile keynotes, the conference program will feature mini symposia, workshops, special sessions, oral and poster sessions, sessions for students and young professions, sessions for clinicians and entrepreneurs, and exhibits from vendors and universities. Themes include:

**Biomedical Signal Processing**

**Biomedical Imaging and Image Processing**

**Micro/Nano-bioengineering**

**Cellular/Tissue Engineering & Biomaterials**

**Computational Systems & Synthetic Biology**

**Multiscale modeling**

**Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems Engineering**

**Neural and Rehabilitation Engineering**

**Biomedical Sensors and Wearable Systems**

**Biorobotics and Biomechanics**

**Therapeutic & Diagnostic Systems and Technologies**

**Clinical Engineering**

**Biomedical & Health Informatics**

**Biomedical Engineering Education and Society**

**Translational Engineering for Healthcare Innovation and Commercialization**

**Important Dates**

**Sessions Proposals, Mini-Symposia, Workshops, & Special Sessions**

Submission deadline	Nov 22, 2019
Accept/reject notification	Dec 19, 2019
Final submission deadline	Jan 16, 2020

**Full papers**

Submission deadline	Jan 23, 2020
Accept/reject Notification	April 10, 2020
submission deadline	April 30,2020

**1-page papers (Research Poster Papers)**

Submission deadline	April 17, 2020
Accept/reject notification	April 28, 2020
Final submission deadline	May 3, 2020

<http://embc.embs.org/2020/>

**Organizing Committee**

**Conference Chair – Mohamad Sawan**  
Westlake University

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Politecnico di Milano

Interested in publishing your story in the monthly e-Bulletin or the quarterly Newsletter? [Contact us](#) to discuss your topic!