

# 2025 BMES Annual Meeting: Bridging Healthcare Gaps



2025 BMES Award Winners  
2025 Class of Fellows  
Annual Meeting Photo Gallery

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Arnaldo Díaz Vázquez, Ph.D., Tran Nguyen, Ph.D., Samuel Achilefu, Ph.D., Anchal Ghai, Ph.D., Ian Corbin, Ph.D.

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Eric Topol, founder and director of the Scripps Research Translational Institute, delivers the opening plenary lecture.



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**Thank you to everyone who stopped by Booth 800 to play a game, learn more about our programs, or snap a picture with our very special guest, Dr. Humphrey Bone-Gart.**

**We loved meeting you.**

**Congratulations to our award-winning faculty and students on their recognition.**

**We look forward to seeing everyone next year in Orlando!**

# Bridging Healthcare Gaps: Reflections from BMES 2025

The 2025 Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) Annual Meeting at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, Calif., October 6-12, attracted nearly 5,000 attendees from 25 countries.

Program Co-Chairs Chiara Bellini, from Northeastern University; Craig J. Goergen, from Purdue University; and Karen May-Newman, from San Diego State University, utilized special sessions, platform sessions, and other special programming to highlight the annual meeting's theme, "Bridging Healthcare Gaps: The Role of Biomedical Engineering." This idea was brought to life, not only through poster presentations and sessions, but through several first-ever BMES initiatives and events designed to embody its mission. From a new awareness campaign to roundtables and keynotes, each element of the meeting was crafted to reflect BMES's commitment to advancing the field amid uncertainty.

BMES also partnered with Dexcom, Illumina, Roche, Orthofix, Lilly Biotechnology Center, Neurocrine, and Rady Children's Hospital (Motion Analysis & 3D Innovation Labs) to offer tours of the facilities to learn more about the companies' latest innovations.

Renowned expert Dr. Eric Topol, founder and director of the Scripps Research Translational Institute, kicked off the meeting at the Opening Plenary Session where he discussed his work centered around his latest book, *Super Agers: An Evidence-Based Approach to Longevity*, and the major NIH grants that promote innovation in medicine.

The program offered six plenary lectures, ranging from the state of the society, new approach methodologies (NAMs), cancer engineering, and a celebration of the prestigious BMES awards.

For the full list of the 2025 BMES award winners and lectures, see pages 11-13.

Other staple events included the Meet the Faculty Candidates Forum and the Medtronic/BMES Student Design Competition. The High School Poster Expo remained an attendee favorite and gave many students and early career biomedical engineers the opportunity to network and present to the broader community. Check out the photo gallery on pages 26-27.

BMES also introduced expanded programs, including Just for Laughs! LOL to Be Well, the Regulatory Science for BME Certificate Workshop & Webinar, Live from the BMES Show Floor: Office Hours Podcast, Voices and Stories in LatinXinBME, the Science Communications & Policy Workshop, the Career Fair and the Optimized Data-Driven AI for Biomedical Data Analysis Workshop, centering around real-world impact and community connection. Check out the photo gallery on pages 26-27.

The Society also opted to extend and combine the University Hosted Receptions and the Member Appreciation Night for a dynamic two-night event filled with networking, food, and a variety of entertainment options for all attendees to enjoy at Bayfront Park. Check out the photo gallery on pages 26-27. The evening was a true celebration of BMES' dedicated members and attendees, honoring their contributions and unwavering support of the Society.

The meeting emphasized the importance of creating a collective voice within biomedical engineering. BMES will carry on the conversations from San Diego to our next stop in **Orlando, Fla., from October 21-24, 2026.**

# BMES

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING SOCIETY



Your Field.  
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Our Healthcare.

# A World Without Biomedical Engineering? We're Making Sure That Never Happens.

A world without biomedical engineering means no devices to restart hearts, reduce Parkinson's tremors, restore movement or detect cancer early. BMES launched the "Pipeline to Progress" campaign at the 2025 Annual Conference to make sure that world never exists. How? By showing policymakers what you've built and what's at stake when research funding stops flowing.

## The urgency is real. Recent data shows:

- **71%** of surveyed BME departments have experienced grant terminations since January 2025
- **45%** were expecting to reduce graduate student enrollment
- **84%** of BMES professionals are ready to mobilize and demonstrate their field's impact

"We've had NIH grants terminated and many more delayed in the review process or in limbo as new levels of review were added or policies changed after grants were submitted or even funded. It's really challenging for folks to plan and sustain their research," said Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert, PhD, 2025-2026 BMES President.

But the field's value is undeniable. When research funding flows consistently, biomedical engineering delivers:

- **\$2.56** economic return for every federal dollar invested
- **\$94.58 billion** in annual economic activity
- **\$36.8 billion** in medical equipment exports (2024)

From pacemakers and contact lenses to neural interfaces and cancer detection tools, biomedical engineering breakthroughs power modern healthcare and drive American innovation leadership.

This is the story lawmakers need to hear. And we're making sure they do.

**That's where you come in.** We're inviting the entire BMES community to share patient-impact stories that demonstrate:

- Patient outcomes and improved quality of life
- How biomedical engineering has helped an individual better their life
- Research breakthroughs that became standard care
- Student innovations that changed lives
- How sustained funding flows from labs to real-world impact

When lawmakers see hundreds of breakthrough stories spanning every specialty, every decade and every type of innovation, they understand the direct connection between research funding and patient outcomes.

One story can be overlooked. Hundreds create a case lawmakers cannot ignore.

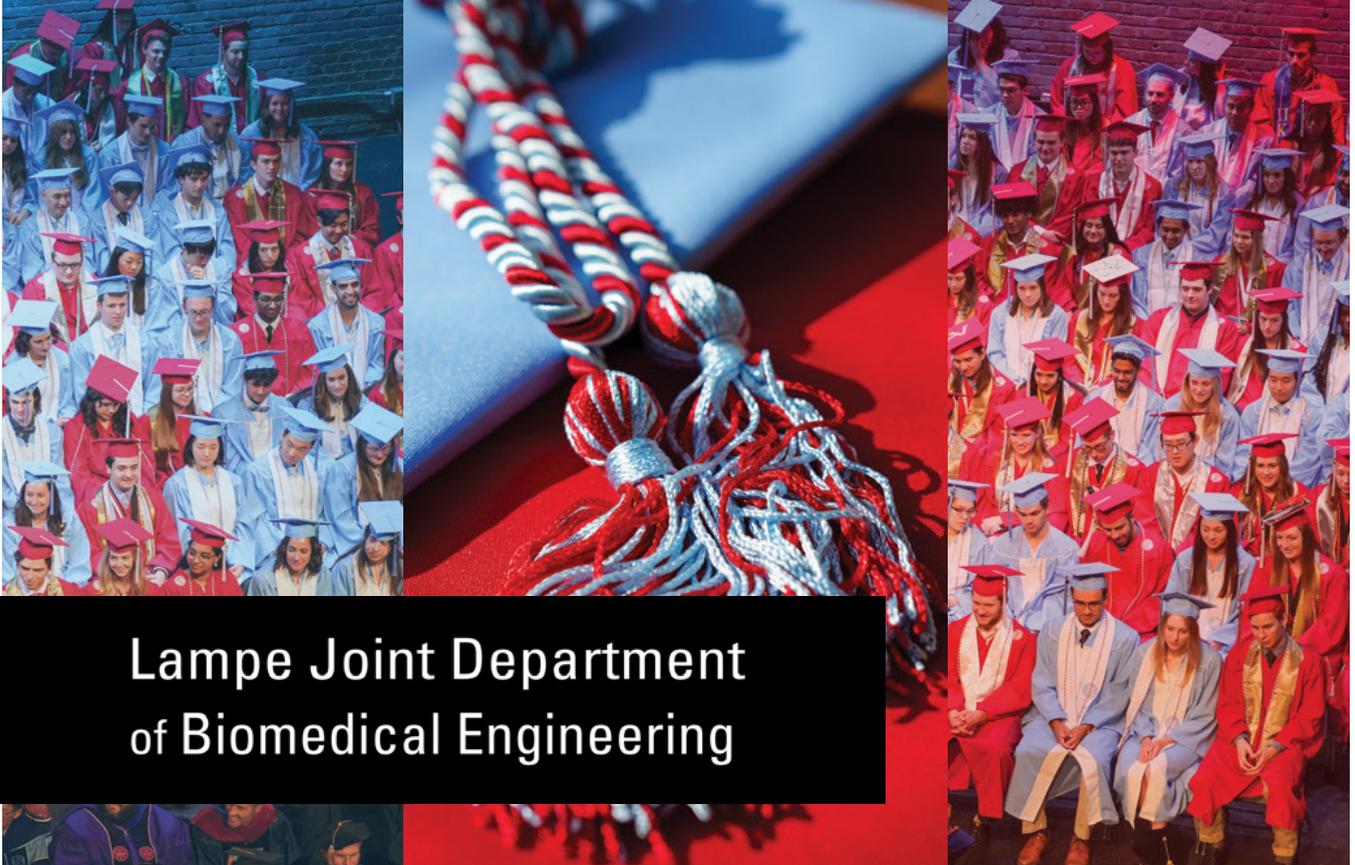
Your stories become the foundation for a broader industry alliance that elevates BME's visibility and strengthens public support for continued research funding.

**Share your BME impact story today at [bmes.org/pipeline-to-progress](https://bmes.org/pipeline-to-progress)**



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U.S. News & World Report 2024



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UNC-CH - U.S. News & World Report 2024



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NC State - AUTM 2023



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UNC-CH - U.S. News & World Report 2023

# congratulations to the 2025 BMES award winners

Each year, BMES recognizes the outstanding achievements and contributions of those in the field of biomedical engineering. Each winner gave a lecture at the 2025 BMES Annual Meeting in San Diego, Calif., from October 8-12.



**Robert A. Pritzker  
Distinguished Lecture Award**

**Linda Griffith, PhD**

Professor of Biological Engineering and Mechanical Engineering; Director of the Center for Gynepathology Research  
*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*



**BMES Athanasiou Medal of  
Excellence in Translational  
Bioengineering Award**

**Buddy Ratner, PhD**

Michael L. and Myrna Darland Endowed Chair in Technology Commercialization; Professor of Bioengineering and Chemical Engineering  
*University of Washington*

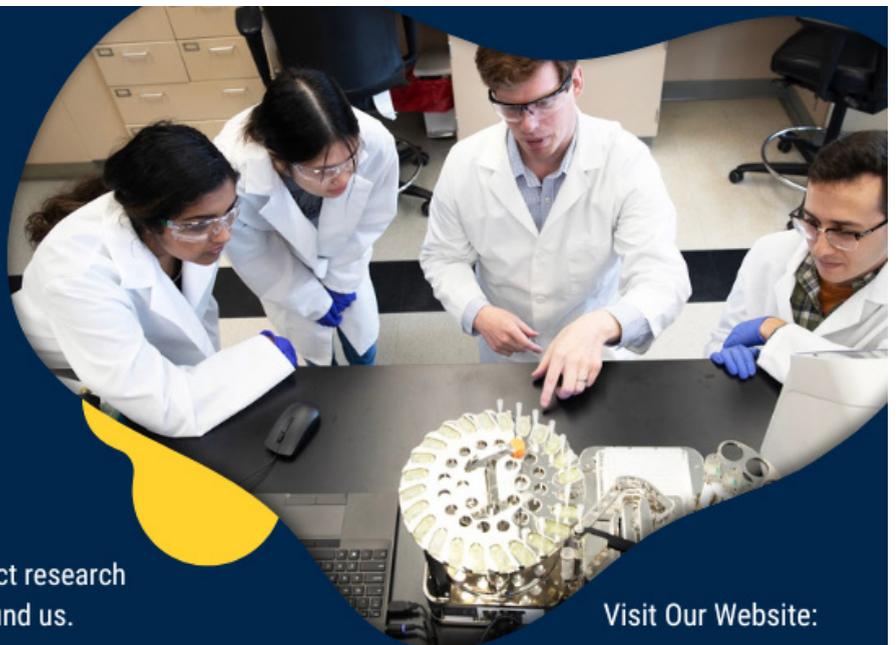


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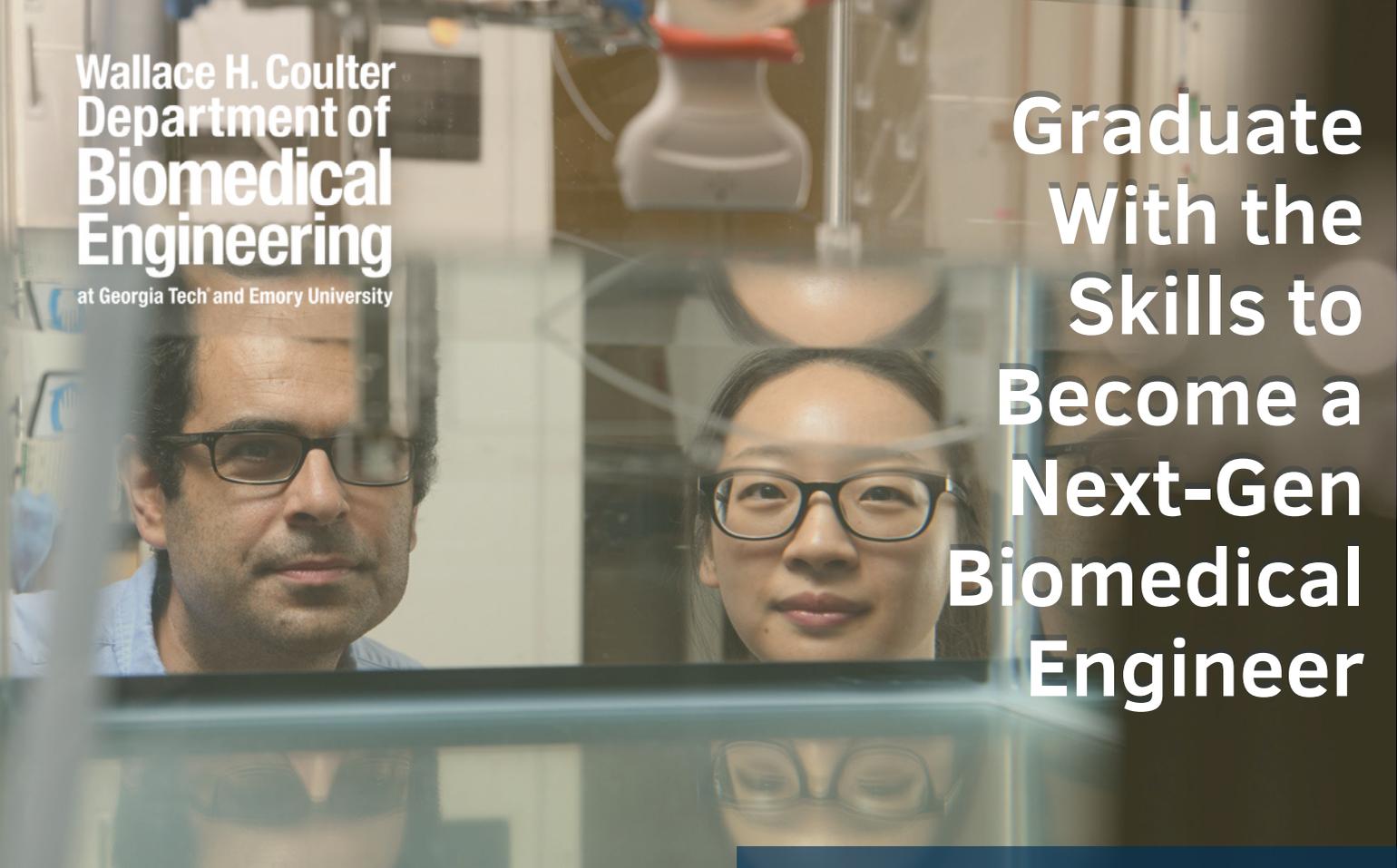
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Deadlines to Apply for Fall 2026:

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Master's - January 15, 2026



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# 2025 BMES award winners (continued)



## Wallace H. Coulter Award for Healthcare Innovation

**Gargi Maheshwari, PhD**  
Vice President, Biologics Science  
& Technology  
Merck



## Social Impact Lecture Award Princess Imoukhuede, PhD

Hunter and Dorothy Simpson Endowed Chair  
of Bioengineering; Professor of Bioengineering  
University of Washington



## Rita Schaffer Young Investigator Award

**Meenal Datta, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Aerospace and  
Mechanical Engineering  
University of Notre Dame



## Mid-Career Award Stacey Finley, PhD

Nicole A. and Thuan Q. Pham Professor, Alfred  
E. Mann Department of Biomedical Engineer-  
ing, Department of Quantitative and Compu-  
tational Biology, Mork Family Department of  
Chemical Engineering and Materials Science,  
Director, Center for Computational Modeling of  
Cancer  
University of Southern California

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**Application Deadline:**  
December 1st

**For More Information:**  
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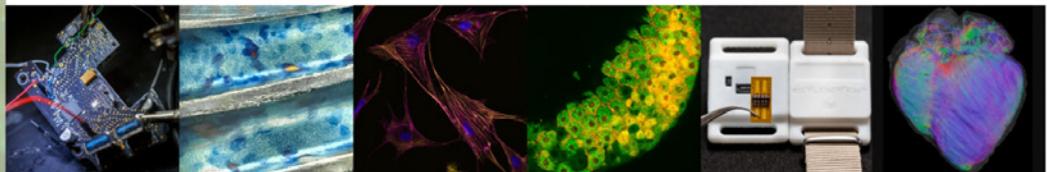
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# congratulations to the 2025 Fellows Class!

This year, the Board of Directors is honored to announce 13 members have joined the ranks as BMES Fellows.

The Fellow grade of membership is a prestigious honor recognizing outstanding achievement in biomedical engineering. Fellows have demonstrated impactful achievements and made significant contributions to the biomedical engineering community and to BMES. They are active leaders in the profession and within the Society.

The new BMES Fellows were honored during the 2025 BMES Annual Meeting for a special champagne toast. In addition to the celebratory bubbly, each Fellow was presented with their BMES Fellows pin.



## Allen Liu

For pioneering the engineering of synthetic cells at the interface of synthetic biology and biomaterials, and for sustained contributions to biomedical engineering through dedicated mentoring and service.



## Bryan Pfister

For significant contributions in research and education, including a decade of leadership as department chair, organizing the BME Education Summit, advancing diversity initiatives, and sustained service to the biomedical engineering



## Bingmei Fu

For pioneering work elucidating the structural and molecular mechanisms of the blood–brain barrier in health and disease, using in vivo animal studies, in vitro cultured cell models, and mathematical modeling.



## Daniel Gallego-Perez

For pioneering nanotechnology-based platforms for non-viral gene delivery and cellular reprogramming, advancing regenerative medicine and cancer therapies, and for dedicated efforts in promoting inclusivity, mentorship, and education in biomedical engineering.

# CARNEGIE MELLON BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

## Thank You for Attending CMU BME Booth!

### PhD in BME:

- PhD program is designed to nurture the next generation of leaders in biomedical engineering for the university and industry. Flexible degree requirements allow the student to balance breadth and depth, and to develop a research plan best suited to his/her career goal.

### BME MS - Applied study:

- Supplements the in-depth academic training of the traditional degree with practical, hands-on experience in a real-world setting.

### BME MS - Research:

- Supplements the in-depth academic training of the traditional degree with a research-focused experience that results in a thesis or a peer-reviewed publication.

### MS in Artificial Intelligence Engineering BME:

- Offers students the opportunity to learn state-of-the-art knowledge of artificial intelligence from an engineering perspective.

### MS in Artificial Intelligence Engineering Research BME:

- Provides students with expertise in AI and BME while applying machine learning to engineering design and system analysis for effective biomedical solutions.

### MS in BME/ETIM - Dual Degree:

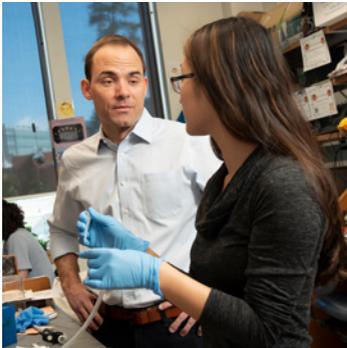
- Students earn degrees in Engineering and Technology Innovation Management and Biomedical Engineering simultaneously upon completion of their final semester.

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- The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC)
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- Mayo Clinic

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October 21-24, 2026  
Orlando World Center Marriott  
Orlando FL

[BMES.ORG](https://www.bmes.org)

# 2025 BMES Fellows Class (continued)



**David I. Shreiber**

For applying tissue engineering approaches to study collagen function in muscle loss, rare vascular diseases, and spinal cord injury.



**John DesJardins**

For pioneering contributions and mentorship in biomedical device design education, and for national advocacy in innovation and entrepreneurship in biomedical engineering.



**Donghui Zhu**

For pioneering bioresorbable medical implants, significantly advancing regenerative medicine, and improving patient outcomes.



**Parisa Rashidi**

For pioneering work in AI-driven acute care that has transformed patient monitoring, predictive analytics, and decision support, significantly advancing biomedical engineering applications in intensive care and clinical informatics.



**Ender Finol**

For developing algorithms for risk assessment of abdominal aortic aneurysms based on demographic, geometric, and biomechanical measures, and for creating performance assessment protocols for distal protection devices in carotid artery stenting.



**Pinar Zorlutuna**

For transformative contributions in understanding the impact of the aged tissue microenvironment on disease onset and progression, and for pioneering work leading to the realization of cell-based biocomputing architectures.



**Hossein Tavana**

For innovative research at the forefront of cancer tissue engineering and modeling, sustained leadership in BMES and service to the biomedical engineering field, and for advancing diversity in STEM education and research.



**Walter Lee Murfee**

For professional leadership and impact on biomedical engineering education, and for pioneering contributions to advancing microvascular research through the application of tissue engineering and biomechanics expertise.



**Zachary Dooley**

Recognized by peers in industry and government as a leading standards expert, serving as co-chair of ASTM F04.25 on spinal standards and as a registered expert with ANSI in spine standards and medical coatings.

# thank you

## outgoing board members



### Cynthia Reinhart-King

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Rice University



### Kent Leach

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Lawrence Ellison Professor of Orthopaedic  
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### Tamara Baynham

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### Elizabeth Cosgriff- Hernandez

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### Guohao Dai

**Board of Directors**  
Professor of Bioengineering  
Northeastern University



### Brendan Harley

**Board of Directors**  
Robert W. Schaefer Professor  
Assistant Professor in the Department of  
Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## That's a wrap!

It was great to see  
old friends and make  
so many new ones at BMES.



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See you next year.



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# congratulations to the new board members



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**President-Elect**  
Isabel Cameron Professor of Bioengineering and Senior Associate Dean of Engineering and Computing  
*Rice University*



**Ashley Brown**  
**Board of Directors**  
Lampe Distinguished Professor in the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering  
*NC State University, UNC Chapel Hill*



**Jennifer Amos**  
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Teaching Professor in Bioengineering  
*University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*



**Craig J. Goergen**  
**Board of Directors**  
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**Abigail Avila**  
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**Maribel Vazquez**  
**Board of Directors**  
Professor of Biomedical Engineering  
*Rutgers University*

# social events



## **Belonging in BME & Friends Dessert Social**

Attendees connected over an evening of conversation and community during the Belonging in BME & Friends Dessert Social, celebrating inclusion in biomedical engineering while enjoying a variety of sweet treats.



## **Building Accessibility Breakfast**



Members gathered over coffee and breakfast to exchange ideas and strategies for advancing accessibility in biomedical engineering spaces, fostering collaboration and shared learning.



## **Celebration of Culture Luncheon**

This vibrant luncheon brought together attendees to honor cultural diversity, personal identity, and the many perspectives that strengthen the BMES community.



## **Fair Access in BME Luncheon**



Attendees engaged in thoughtful discussion around equity, inclusion, and the responsibility of biomedical engineers to create fair access across research, education, and industry.



### Industry Mixer & Panel

Students and professionals came together for networking and insightful dialogue at the Industry Mixer & Panel, building connections and exploring pathways for future collaboration in biomedical engineering.



### Fellows Champagne Toast

BMES honored the 2025 Class of Fellows with a celebratory Champagne Toast, recognizing their distinguished achievements and lasting impact on biomedical engineering. Attendees raised their glasses in appreciation of their leadership, innovation, and dedication to advancing the profession.



## UC DAVIS BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

Explore our community at  
[bme.ucdavis.edu](http://bme.ucdavis.edu)

### COLLABORATIVE APPROACH

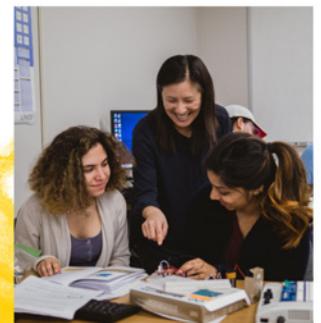
Unique connections with human and animal clinicians strengthen our interdisciplinary culture and translational opportunities.

### HANDS-ON RESEARCH

We apply engineering and life science principles and techniques to solve medical challenges and improve lives.

### STUDENT SUPPORT

Our faculty, instructors, and staff are committed to student success, equity, and wellness across our undergraduate, M.Eng., M.S., and Ph.D. programs.



# New Endowment Established to Support Childcare for Young Investigators

Thanks to the support of the benefactors, The Linda Griffith & Douglas Lauffenburger Endowment supporting childcare for young investigators attending the BMES Annual Meetings has been established and will soon begin accepting applications.

The endowment comes from a gracious gift to BMES from Linda Griffith and Doug Lauffenburger. Both are BMES members and professors at MIT. Griffith is the recipient of last year's prestigious BMES Robert A. Pritzker Distinguished Lectureship Award, and Lauffenburger is a past president of the Society.

"Young investigators are the lifeblood of our Society who bring new problems to the fore, and new ideas for existing problems," said Griffith. "We hope this gift will start conversations everywhere about how we can better support the lives of our students, postdocs, and junior colleagues who are faced with financial and time stress."

Since launching the MIT Department of Biological Engineering in 1998, Griffith and Lauffenburger have seen first-hand the challenges that come from starting a family while pursuing a degree and a career.

Griffith said that the experiences she's seen from postdocs who have delayed having children because they are unable to juggle against the pressures of parenthood and a career, at the same time, have been striking. "It is heartbreaking to think that any of our BMES community members delay children to the point that they cannot have them — we want to encourage having children while you are able to have them."

Encouraging a healthy family dynamic comes from a deep place for Griffith and Lauffenburger as they could not have children of their own due to severe infertility issues arising from endometriosis.

"The pain of infertility never goes away," noted Griffith. "It is lessened a lot by helping others have healthy children and family lives."

The concept of family has been a driving force for the BME couple. Instead of opting for a fancy student banquet when they initiated the Biological Engineering Department at MIT, Griffith and Lauffenburger opted instead to host a buffet dinner at their own home. They invited the students to bring their families, and the couple hired students with extensive childcare experience to host the children with activities and special food while the parents were encouraged to relax and enjoy the company of adults.

"Doug and I enjoy seeing the children grow up and blossom over the years," said Griffith. "We feel sympathetic to the broader community of investigators in bioengineering. We have watched with pride and admiration as two former undergraduate researchers from our labs, (Immediate Past President of BMES) Cindy Reinhart-King and (current President) Shelly Sakiyama, have built families in concert with assuming leadership positions in the profession and the Society."

Providing travel support through their new endowment is yet another way Griffith and Lauffenburger are signaling their continued support of young families.

The decision to establish the BMES endowment fund was not something that the couple decided on overnight. The two had informal conversations with young investigators, especially those with children, and found huge enthusiasm for a BMES childcare grant for parents in need.

"We note that our funding, while substantial, will not likely meet the full needs, and therefore have encouraged the society leadership, BMES Fellows and grassroots members to explore ways to augment our catalytic funding for families," said Griffith.

The generous funds for this gift come from the prize Griffith and Lauffenburger received from the National Academy of Engineering for the Gordon Prize, in recognition of the creation of the discipline of Biological Engineering.

“Working together to start the Biological Engineering Department at MIT, together with colleagues there, was akin to a family business,” said Griffith. “It therefore made sense to us to support other families with the award funds.”

The endowment will help young investigators offset some of the costs associated with childcare to attend the BMES Annual Meeting this year and in future years.

It is fitting that the endowment was launched in time for the 2026 Annual Meeting since BMES has recently launched a new special interest group (SIG) focused on Women’s Health, and one of the SIG’s focus areas is reproductive disorders. “BMES is stepping up as a Society to address some of the most challenging problems in modern professional life,” Griffith added.

Griffith and Lauffenburger’s commitment to helping address the challenges facing young investigators with children serves as a stable foundation enabling both BMES and the careers of students to evolve.

Applications for the endowment will become available soon, after registration for BMES 2026 opens.

For information on supporting this endowment with a donation, visit Linda Griffith & Douglas Lauffenburger Endowment fund donations.

Linda Griffith delivered her lecture, “Translating Science into Products – Journey of Bringing Vaccines and Biologics to Life,” at the 2025 BMES Annual Meeting in October 2025. Watch the lecture here.



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**BMES 2025**  
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# 2025 exhibitor list

Arizona State University  
Binghamton University - BME Department  
Biomedical Engineering Society  
BMEF, a Science Partner Journal  
Boston University Biomedical Eng  
Boston University Photonics Center  
Brown University  
Cambridge University Press  
Carle Illinois College of Medicine  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Center for Modular Manufacturing of Structural  
Tissues  
Clemson University, Department of Bioengineering  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth Engineering  
Drexel University  
Duke University  
Etaluma, Inc.  
Exponent  
FAMU-FSU College of Engineering  
Florida International University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
Gerstner Sloan Kettering Graduate School of  
Biomedical Sciences  
HiComp Microtech  
Houston Methodist Academic Institute  
International Foundation for Ethical Research (IFER)  
iWorx  
Izon Science  
Johns Hopkins University  
Joint UO/OSU Bioengineering PhD Program  
KeborMed  
Lampe Joint BME Department @ UNC-Ch/NCSU  
Lehigh BioE  
Marquette & Medical College of Wisconsin Joint  
Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Marshall University  
MathWorks  
Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences  
MDPI  
Medtronic  
Michigan Technological University  
MIT Health Sciences & Technology (HST)  
National Science Foundation  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
NIBIB/NIH  
Northeastern University, Department of  
Bioengineering  
NYU Tandon School of Engineering  
Optics 11 Life  
Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU)  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University- Omenn-Darling BioE Institute  
Purdue University  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Biomedical  
Engineering  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Icahn School of  
Medicine at Mount Sinai  
Rice University, Department of Bioengineering  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rowan University  
Rutgers University  
Saint Louis University, Biomedical Engineering  
School of Biomedical Engineering, The University of  
Hong Kong  
Springer Nature  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Stony Brook University  
Strex  
Syracuse University  
Texas A&M Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Texas A&M University - School of Engineering  
Medicine  
The City College of New York  
The Ohio State University BME  
The University of Kansas - Madison & Lila Self  
Graduate Fellowship  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
UAB Biomedical Engineering Department  
UC Berkeley / UCSF  
UC Davis Biomedical Engineering  
UC San Diego Shu Chien-Gen Lay Department of  
Bioengineering  
UC Santa Barbara Department of Bioengineering  
UCLA Bioengineering

UMass Amherst Biomedical Engineering  
United Imaging Healthcare North America  
University at Buffalo - Biomedical Engineering  
University of Arizona  
University of Arkansas  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Merced  
University of California, Riverside  
University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering  
University of Colorado Boulder - Biomedical Engineering  
University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Center  
University of Connecticut  
University of Delaware  
University of Florida Biomedical Engineering  
University of Houston  
University of Illinois Chicago  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
University of Iowa, Roy J. Carver Department of Biomedical Engineering  
University of Kansas Bioengineering Program  
University of Louisville Department of Bioengineering  
University of Maine, GSBSE  
University of Maryland  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Minnesota  
University of Nebraska  
University of Notre Dame Bioengineering Program  
University of Oklahoma Stephenson School of Biomedical Engineering  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Rochester - Department of Biomedical Engineering  
University of South Dakota  
University of South Florida  
University of Southern California (USC)  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
University of Texas at Arlington  
University of Texas at Austin  
University of Texas at Dallas  
University of Utah, Department of Biomedical Engineering

University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington Bioengineering  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
UT Southwestern Medical Center Department of Biomedical Engineering  
Vanderbilt University  
VectorBuilder Inc  
Villanova University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Tech - Wake Forest University School of Biomedical Engineering & Sciences  
Wallace H Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Wayne State University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
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# 2025 photo gallery



Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert presented the 2025 Athanasiou Medal, alongside Dr. Kyriacos Athanasiou and Kiley Athanasiou, to Dr. Buddy Ratner, University of Washington, who then delivered his lecture, "Translating 'Translation' into the Language of Bioengineering," highlighting the pathway from discovery to real-world medical innovation.



This year's program was led by Co-chairs Karen May-Newman, San Diego State University; Chiara Bellini, Northeastern University; and Craig Goergen, Purdue University.



Dr. Eric Topol opened the conference with a keynote on the future of precision medicine and digital health, with signed copies of his new book *Super Agers* available on site.



Dr. Gargi Maheshwari, Merck, was awarded the 2025 Wallace H. Coulter Award for Healthcare Innovation before delivering her lecture on "Translating Science Into Products – Journey of Bringing Vaccines and Biologics to Life."



Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert presented the 2025 Herbert Voigt Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Cynthia Reinhart-King, Rice University, honoring her exceptional leadership and long-standing service to BMES.



Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert presented the 2025 Rita Schaffer Young Investigator Award to Dr. Meenal Datta, University of Notre Dame, who then delivered her lecture, "Mechano-Immunology: On Earth and in Space," highlighting her pioneering work at the intersection of biomechanics and immune regulation.



Dr. Walt Baxter congratulates one of the participants in the Medtronic Student Design Competition, celebrating student innovation and engineering solutions with real-world impact.



BMES members gathered for two unforgettable evenings at Bayfront Park, celebrating community, connection, and a well-deserved break under the San Diego skyline.



This year's track chairs gathered for a group photo, representing the diverse expertise and leadership that shaped the BMES 2025 scientific program.



Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert presented the 2025 Pritzker Award to Dr. Linda Griffith, MIT, who then delivered her lecture, "Mice, or Microfluidics? Humanizing Biomedical Research with 'NAMs.'"



Dr. W. Gregory Sawyer, delivered this year's NIH/NIBIB Lecture on cancer engineering, highlighting how emerging bioengineering approaches are reshaping cancer research and treatment.



A live show of Office Hours with Liz Wayne took place on the BMES show floor, where host Dr. Liz Wayne sat down with BMES President Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert to discuss the future of biomedical engineering, leadership in the field, and the innovations shaping our community.



Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert presented the 2025 Social Impact Lecture Award to Dr. Princess Imoukhuede, University of Washington, who then delivered her lecture on advancing equity, inclusion, and representation in biomedical engineering.



Attendees checked in and picked up badges at the bustling BMES 2025 registration area, the official kickoff point for a week of networking, research, and innovation.



Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert presented the 2025 BMES Mid-Career Award to Dr. Stacey Finley, University of Southern California, who then delivered her lecture, "Decoding the Tumor Ecosystem Through Systems Biology Modeling," showcasing her leading work in computational cancer research and biomedical engineering.



Eight outstanding BMES student chapters were honored for their achievements and later joined together for a panel discussion, sharing insights on leadership, outreach, and building strong campus communities.



Dr. Wendy Brown led Part 2 of the Regulatory Science for BME Certificate at BMES 2025, guiding participants through the fundamentals of medical product translation and FDA regulation, with insights from academic and industry panelists.



Yogi Ramesh Pandey, the "Laughing Yogi," brought joy and stress relief to BMES 2025 with an energizing session focused on laughter, breath, and wellness.

# Featured Events Highlight Legacy, Leadership, and the Future of Biomedical Engineering

Three cornerstone events at the 2025 BMES Annual Meeting offered attendees a mix of reflection, dialogue, and forward thinking. Each emphasized how biomedical engineers continue to bridge healthcare gaps through innovation and collaboration.

## Robert A. Pritzker Distinguished Lecture Roundtable & Meet-and-Greet with Dr. Shu Chien

Saturday, October 11, 2025



Moderated by BMES President Dr. Shelly Sakiyama-Elbert, this roundtable gathered Pritzker Award recipients for a conversation on the state of biomedical engineering.

Dr. Shu Chien, one of the field's most respected pioneers, opened the session with remarks that celebrated the growth of the field. Panelists Dr. Linda Griffith, MIT, 2025 Pritzker Awardee; Dr. Kyriacos Athanasiou, UC Irvine, 2024 Pritzker Awardee; Dr. Christopher Chen, Boston University, 2019 Pritzker Awardee; and Dr. Nicholas Peppas, UT Austin, 2016 Pritzker Awardee, shared personal insights on emerging research directions, the impact of the community, and more.

## Conference Keynote I – Rethinking the Grants Model: Embracing New Research Funding Opportunities

Saturday, October 11, 2025



The first keynote tackled the realities of sustaining research amid shifts in funding. Moderator Holly Smithson, president & CEO of Athena, led a discussion featuring Dr. Ishita Das, Milken Institute SPARC; Dr. Elizabeth Noblin, CIRM; and Taya Cassens, Medtronic, on diversifying support through philanthropy, industry, and strategic partnerships. Panelists encouraged attendees to think creatively about resource development and long-term sustainability.

## Conference Keynote II – The Impact of AI in Biomedical Engineering Innovation

Sunday, October 12, 2025



Moderated by Dr. Daniel Kraft, NextMed Health, this session explored how AI is transforming biomedical research and clinical practice. Panelists Dr. Brian Anderson, CHAI; Dr. Michael King, Rice University; Dr. Rui De Sa, NIH; and Pantea Khodami, AWS, discussed ethical integration, data-driven innovation, and the collaboration required to translate AI advances into improved patient outcomes.

Together, these sessions captured the spirit of the 2025 Annual Meeting, honoring the past, challenging the present, and shaping a future defined by impact and innovation.

# Join a BMES Special Interest Group (SIG)

Connect with peers, collaborate across disciplines, and shape the future of biomedical engineering by joining a BMES Special Interest Group.

## → Advanced Biomanufacturing (ABioM-SIG)

**Bridging Academia & Industry in Biomanufacturing**

ABioM-SIG accelerates advances in biomanufacturing by developing new technologies, fostering research collaborations, and training the next generation of leaders in this rapidly growing field.

## → Cellular & Molecular Bioengineering (CMBE-SIG)

**Exploring the Physical Regulation of Life**

The CMBE-SIG brings together scientists, clinicians, and engineers to study how physical forces and mechanisms influence biological systems.

## → Computational Biomedical Engineering (CBE-SIG)

**Modeling, Data, and AI for Healthcare Innovation**

The CBE-SIG promotes computational approaches in biomedical engineering, including modeling, simulation, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning in biology and healthcare.

## → Medical Devices SIG

**From Concept to Clinic**

This SIG connects industry, academia, and FDA professionals to advance medical device innovation. Members include researchers, engineers, clinicians, regulatory experts, and students collaborating on life-changing medical technologies.

## → BME & Women's Health SIG

**Advancing Technologies for Women's Health**

This SIG unites researchers, clinicians, and engineers developing innovations across women's health—from diagnostics and therapeutics to wearables and AI—addressing conditions unique to women, those that present differently in women, or disproportionately affect women.

**JOIN A SIG. EXPAND YOUR NETWORK.**

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