

Candidates for ASABE's 2025 Leadership Election

ASABE's Nominating committee has put together a platform of highly qualified individuals for the 2025 election. Use the candidates' statements and brief biographical information provided in this brochure to help you decide how to vote.

Balloting will be conducted online beginning January 9. Corporate members with a valid e-mail address will be sent instructions electronically through our balloting company, Intelliscan. If you need special accommodations, please contact Joann McQuone at 269-932-7022 or mcquone@asabe.org.



President-Elect

Travis Tsunemori
Manager, Product Compliance
Kubota North America
Grapevine, Texas

Tsunemori currently serves as the product compliance manager for Kubota North America. His team is responsible for all off-road products sold by Kubota companies within North America, as well as those products designed and produced in North America. He is a charter member of the Corporate Social Responsibility team at Kubota's U.S. headquarters, supporting local and regional charitable efforts. Prior to working at Kubota, he worked at ASABE headquarters for 15 years, supporting ASABE and ISO standards development. During his time at ASABE he served as the administrator of the US TAG to ISO TC 23/SC 18 Irrigation and drainage equipment and systems. He is chair of the ISO TC 23/SC 2 Common Tests committee, as well as the Safety and Product Leadership Council of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), and he is chairing or has chaired several other AEM committees.

Tsunemori is a 29-year member of ASABE, starting as a student member, and is currently finishing a term as trustee of the Society board. He has been an ASABE Foundation trustee, member of the Nominating committee, and either served or is currently serving as the chair of several technical committees. He is a founding member of the Young Professionals Community, has received a Presidential Citation, and serves on the M-160 Evelyn E. Rosentreter Standards Award and M-163 Gale A. Holloway Professional Development Award committees.

"As I look back on my involvement with ASABE, from student member, full professional, staff member, and return to industry membership, I think about the continued transformation of the Society due to efforts of so many individuals. Our members have tremendous impact on global food, feed, fiber, and fuel production, clean and available water, and future new products and processes. Along with that, we influence each other's careers and keep our Society vibrant and healthy. My goal would be to foster more involvement and interaction between full members and student members, leveraging that interaction to promote continued membership throughout professional careers. In order to do that, ASABE must continue to provide value to members and show that value to potential new and former members. Working with staff, committee and council leadership, and all members, we can grow our value for current and potential members."

CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Catherine (Catie) E. Brewer

**Associate Professor
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, New Mexico**

Catherine “Catie” Brewer is an associate professor in chemical and materials engineering at New Mexico State University, teaching first-year and senior-capstone chemical engineering courses, as well as electives in brewing, nuclear chemical engineering, and biorenewable resources. Her research interests include biomass utilization, renewable energy, waste-to-resource processes, and resilient systems. She worked for four years as an editor for Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews.

Joining ASABE in 2016, Brewer has served as vice chair and chair for ASE-12 Forest Engineering, ES community representative for the Nominating committee, and member of ES-220 Bio-based Energy, Fuels and Products and PRS-280 Bioconversion and Bioprocesses. She is program chair for the ASE community, vice chair of the Publications Council, and chair of the New Mexico section.

“I was drawn to ASABE because of the wide range of disciplines working together to support sustainable agriculture. The welcome and enthusiasm in the ASE-12 Forest Engineering committee and the New Mexico local section jump-started my interest in contributing to the mission of ASABE. My goals as a trustee would be to strengthen connections between academic disciplines and geographical regions, and to maximize the impact of Society resources to engage the next generation. I want to use my experiences in interdisciplinary research projects, student mentoring, and journal editing to involve more people and to continue ASABE’s role of ensuring quality within the profession.”



Jeremiah D. Davis, P.E.

**Professor, Department of Biosystems Engineering
Director, National Poultry Technology Center
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama**

As director of the National Poultry Technology Center at Auburn University, Jeremiah Davis leads an engineering team of faculty, staff, and students with the mission to improve the sustainability of commercial poultry producers in Alabama and beyond through practical and innovative research and extension education. With this fast-paced industry, he has worked to develop new methods to calibrate and improve data quality towards improved housing systems and equipment design. His team provides hands-on training for industry professionals across the U.S. and globally each year.

A 26-year member of ASABE, Davis has served as a member and chair of many committees and councils as a student, graduate student, and academic professional. He has served at all levels of the Plant, Animal, and Facility Systems technical community. More recently he has participated in activities around exam development for the professional engineering exam.

“ASABE has been a catalyst and foundation throughout my professional career. Many of my best friends, and many of my career opportunities, were developed through ASABE colleagues and activities. We need to continue promoting ASABE as the society that leads the development of agricultural, biological, and ecological engineering solutions. We must continue to engage new talent, helping them to communicate confidently what the profession is and how to achieve success. In an era of open journals, we must enhance ASABE’s relevancy in the delivery of scientific information. I want to serve to actively promote ASABE in these efforts and efforts to solve the challenges in feeding the world.”



Frederick “Anthony” Doss, P.E.

**SVP, Engineering
Smithfield Foods
Carrollton, Virginia**

Anthony Doss, senior vice president at Smithfield Foods, served 29 years at Tyson Foods. He collaborates with business segment leaders on strategy and objectives, then prepares and delivers manufacturing designs and industry best practices across 42 facilities via oversight and management of a \$400M annual capital plan. A recipient of the University of Arkansas College of Agriculture Distinguished Young Alumni and College of Engineering Outstanding Young Alumni awards, Doss was inducted into the Arkansas Academy of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. He serves on the university’s BAEG advisory board.

Doss is a 30-year member of ASABE, starting with student branch service in various officer roles. He has been involved in PS and PAFS technical communities, the Professional Engineering Institute, and as chair of EOPD-414 Engineering Licensure. A recent member of the Nominating committee, he represented the PRS technical community.

“A strong advocate for ASABE, I have come to appreciate how crucial ASABE is to its members, global commerce, and society. My experiences, from growing up on a cattle and poultry farm to holding multiple leadership roles, have prepared me to serve on the Board of Trustees, representing current and future members where people are our greatest asset.

As a trustee, I aim to position ASABE to thrive in the decade ahead. We must build a strong organizational structure and establish programs that harness our diversity, preparing us for challenges we have yet to foresee. I am committed to molding our vision to keep it relevant to attract and engage the next generation of professionals.”

CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Johnny M. Grace, III
General Engineer and Program
Manager/Coordination Lead
USDA Forest Service – Southern Research
Station, Center for Forest Watershed Research
Tallahassee, Florida

Over his more than 30-year career with the USDA Forest Service, Johnny Grace has had several roles in research, management, and administration. Currently, he has strategic planning and management responsibilities for Forest Service research initiatives, at multiple Historically Black Colleges and Universities, focused on biological and agricultural engineering, natural resources, and watershed sciences. His work involves helping teams of scientists organize around and conduct research to describe watersheds and natural resources.

As a 30-year ASABE member, Grace has maintained long-term (more than 10 years) continuous membership in multiple technical committees, holding numerous leadership posts, including Forest Engineering chair, SW Division chair, NRES Forward Planning chair, ADS/Hancor Award committee chair, and liaison between multiple committees. Grace served on the Nominating committee, as program chair for the decennial ASABE Soil Erosion Research Symposium (ISSERCC 2023 Aguadilla, Puerto Rico), and as an associate editor.

“Agriculture and engineering have defined how human civilization has developed and will be essential to our future survival as we will surely be challenged by changing population, demands, and climates. ASABE has been at the core of the research, technological, and educational breakthroughs in natural resource science over the past century and will be critical in charting a path to a sustainable future for generations to come. It is this realization that fuels my desire to serve ASABE as a trustee board member which will provide the opportunity to serve the Society as we address challenges facing our rapidly changing world.”



Deepak Keshwani
Associate Professor of Biological Systems
Engineering
University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Lincoln, Nebraska

Deepak Keshwani is an associate professor and director of undergraduate programs in the department biological systems engineering at the University of Nebraska. He leads a col-

lege-wide initiative to engage diverse learners through online degree completion pathways and certificate programs. As a faculty member, he teaches and advises engineering and technology students and conducts research on integrated systems modeling and student-success-focused educational strategies.

Keshwani has been an ASABE member since 1999, when he joined the Society as an undergraduate student. He has served and led in various EOPD and PRS committees, and has served as chair of Meetings Council and as EOPD community editor. He is serving as chair of the E-03 IDEA Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access committee, and is a member of the E-06 Foundation Liaison committee.

“It is truly an honor to be nominated as a candidate for ASABE’s Board of Trustees. Since my time as an undergraduate student member, ASABE has been my primary source of professional development through programs, committees, and mentoring relationships that have nurtured me. The Board of Trustees has the responsibility to provide strategic leadership to ASABE that helps us adapt in a rapidly changing world. If elected, my priorities will be fostering an inclusive Society at all levels, supporting the development of engineering and technology students, and enhancing connections with industry partners and foundations whose goals are aligned with those of the Society.”



Paula N. Steiner, P.E.
Civil Engineer
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Lansing, Michigan

Paula Steiner works for USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, providing engineering assistance for conservation practices on private agricultural land across southeastern Michigan. Commonly implemented conservation practices include waste management systems, chemical and fuel storage, erosion control and stormwater runoff management, and wetland restoration. Prior to USDA-NRCS, Steiner was a staff engineer for a consulting engineering firm. Steiner is the recipient of the Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering Outstanding Alumni Award, Michigan State University.

As a 22-year ASABE member, Steiner has served with distinction, supporting numerous ASABE initiatives at the national, regional, and section levels. She earned a Presidential Leadership Citation for her role in reactivating the Michigan Section. She has consistently and passionately supported members and students as an elected representative and an appointed member of the Membership Development Council. She was appointed to the Presidential Ad-hoc committee for Diversity and Inclusion. Steiner is active on several of NRES technical committees and devotes much of her spare time to supporting the Michigan section and students.

“I strongly and passionately believe in the value of ASABE membership, the importance of local sections, and member engagement after graduation. This belief led me to partner with other enthusiastic ASABE members and lead the reactivation of the Michigan Section in 2008. My involvement in local section leadership and participation with the Membership Development Council has fueled my passion in member engagement and student outreach and retention. I believe my experience will bring valuable insight and perspective to the Board of Trustees.”

CANDIDATES FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Applied Science and Engineering



Cale N. Boriack, P.E.

**Project Engineer – Harvesting systems
CNH Industrial
New Holland, Pennsylvania**

As a project engineer, Cale Boriack works on harvesting systems, including Case IH Next Generation combines (Case IH AF10 and AF11 and New Holland CR10 and CR11) in the feeder house area. Boriack

holds over 20 U.S. patents in the areas of harvesting and planting.

Boriack has participated in various roles on many committees within the ASE, EOPD, ITSC, MS, and PRS communities during his 25 years as an ASABE member. He currently serves as chair-elect on the Standards and Technical Council, chair of the AETC Planning committee, vice chair of ASE-16, and secretary of MS-54. Boriack serves as a U.S. expert in ISO TC-23/7 WG12 and ISO TC347 AHG2.

“ASABE plays a unique role in bringing agriculture into the next century. Whether dealing with circularity, feeding the world’s population, autonomous agriculture, or modernizing African agrifood systems, ASABE is certainly up for the challenges. To guide us to the next level, we need excellent leadership. I have been a member of ASABE for 25 years and am a part of many communities within ASABE. We have a treasure trove of excellent leaders in our Society and continue to evolve our Society’s focus towards emerging issues while maintaining focus on the existing topics. As a member of the Nominating committee, I will strive to select the best candidates for guiding our organization.”



Lori A. Duncan

**Assistant Professor and Crop Sustainability Specialist
University of Tennessee
Knoxville, Tennessee**

In her role at the University of Tennessee, Lori Duncan has established an integrated, multi-disciplinary research, education, and outreach program to develop, document, and

disseminate information about sustainable production management strategies that reduce environmental impacts and that maintain or even improve crop profitability. An author or coauthor of refereed journal articles and extension publications, she has given multiple presentations to county agents, producers, consultants, youth, college students, academia, and other professionals. She has mentored undergraduate and graduate students.

A 16-year member of ASABE, Duncan is chair of ASE-16, and past chair of MS-23/7/3. She serves as the representative of the MS and ES communities for the Membership Development Council.

Duncan is an associate editor for Journal of the ASABE and Applied Engineering in Agriculture. She received the Larry W. Turner Young Extension Professional Award and serves on the selection committees of two awards. Duncan is the faculty advisor for the university’s ASABE student chapter.

“I am humbled and excited to be nominated to the Nominating committee as a representative of the ASE community. With a deep passion for ASABE and years of experience in the Society, I am eager to leverage my knowledge and skills to identify and select exceptional leaders who will drive the Society’s future. I am passionate about the impact and growth of the Society and believe that by serving on the committee, I can help to foster a strong and diverse leadership team.”

Energy Systems



Sushil Adhikari, P.E.

**Professor and Director
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama**

Sushil Adhikari is a professor in the biosystems engineering department and director for the Center for Bioenergy and Bioproducts. Adhikari teaches biosystems engineering classes and conducts research related to bio-

fuels and bioproducts, especially in the field of thermochemical conversion with research efforts focused on biomass gasification, pyrolysis, algae liquefaction and upgrading, anaerobic digestion, and hydrogen production. Adhikari has published over 160 peer-reviewed journal articles and eight book chapters, and has been cited more than 13,000 times. He was named “World’s Most Influential Mind” by Thomas Reuters in 2014.

Adhikari, a 20-year ASABE member, has served as the chair for ES-220, PRS-04, and the ASABE Alabama section. He served as the associate editor for Transactions of the ASABE and Applied Engineering journals for the ES and PRS technical communities. Adhikari received the New Holland Young Researcher Award in 2013 and was named Alabama Distinguished Young Agricultural Engineer in 2010.

“ASABE is in a position to provide sustainable solutions to address issues related to energy, water, food, and the environment in developed and developing countries. I look forward to serving our Society by helping to select dynamic and committed candidates in this endeavor.”

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Brendan T. Higgins
Associate Professor
Auburn University
Auburn, Alabama

Brendan Higgins is an associate professor of biosystems engineering at Auburn University, where he has held a research and teaching appointment since 2016. His research focuses on valorizing waste streams to improve sustainability. He has published 49 peer-reviewed articles and served as primary advisor to 17 graduate students.

Brendan Higgins has been an active ASABE member since 2016 and has served as an associate editor for ASABE journals since 2018. He is the secretary of the ES community's executive and steering committees (ES-01 and ES-02). He served as the ES community coordinator of the Student Oral and Poster Presentation Competition from 2018-2021.

"As a dedicated member of ASABE for the past eight years, I wish to serve the community as a member of the Nominating committee. This position entails nominating the candidates who will serve as the future leaders of our organization. I believe that I possess the necessary organizational skills, judgment, and responsibility to fulfill this important duty. I look forward to seeing ASABE continue to grow as a diverse and welcoming community and one that demonstrates clear value to all of its members."

Information Technology, Sensors, and Control Systems



Ziyne Boz
Assistant Professor
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Ziyne Boz is an assistant professor at the University of Florida, where she leads innovative research projects in food systems sustainability, packaging, circular economy, and digitalization. She has been awarded multiple prestigious grants, including several

USDA, NSF, and FFAR funding, and holds editorial board positions for top journals. With mentoring, community engagement, and impactful research, Boz continues to contribute to advancing sustainability engineering in food systems.

Boz, an ASABE member since she joined as a student in 2016, has played a key role in the ASABE Circular Bioeconomy Institute since its inception. She organizes CBSI workshops, judges the Bioprocessing Startup competition, chairs working teams on standards, tools, and metrics, and presents at the annual meeting, showcasing her leadership in agricultural and biological engineering.

"I am driven by a passion for advancing agricultural and biological engineering through sustainable food systems innovation and collaboration. My involvement in ASABE reflects a commitment to tackling challenges in the circular bioeconomy, packaging, and food waste through systems thinking. Serving in leadership roles has prepared me to foster inclusivity, encourage innovation, and mentor future professionals. As a candidate, I aim to strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration, advocate for standards development, and elevate ASABE's presence in these vital areas. I encourage members to embrace leadership opportunities and believe ASABE must tackle future challenges in sustainability, packaging, and emerging circular technologies for lasting impact."

Machinery Systems



Andrew (Andy) C. Lenkaitis, P.E.
Senior Manager Herd Management
GEA Farm Technologies
St. Charles, Illinois

Andy Lenkaitis has spent 17 years at GEA in various roles focusing on manure and milking equipment. He is now responsible for leading the Herd Management group within the technical support, service, and training team. In addition to serving on the Holstein

Association, USA board, Andy and his wife operate Lenkaitis Holsteins, a 100-cow, robotic, registered-Holstein dairy farm.

Lenkaitis joined ASABE 20 years ago in college and has had active roles in the Chicago Section as well as technical committees within the PAFS and NRES groups. He is currently a trustee on the Foundation Board. Previously, Lenkaitis was chair of the Young Professionals Community as well as chair of the Ag Equipment Technology Conference planning committee.

"I owe a tremendous amount to ASABE for professional development and building a wonderful network of contacts across the Society. I want to help shape the future of the organization to bring more exposure and recognition to the breadth and depth of our membership. Being involved with Society governance and leadership is a wonderful way to bring talented individuals together for the betterment of the group. I believe the Society needs to be well-represented across disciplines and technical interest to build a strong foundation for the future of our organization."



CANDIDATES FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE



Ajay Sharda

**Professor and Director – Institute for Digital Ag and Advanced Analytics
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas**

Ajay Sharda is a professor in biological and agricultural engineering at K-State and director of research at the Institute for Digital Ag and Advanced Analytics. He is University

Outstanding Scholar, and Terry Beemer Foundation Chair for Engineering Innovation. He has secured over \$17.6M as Principal Investigator/Co-Principal Investigator, filed 12 patents, and published 58 refereed journal articles, 88 conference proceeding/abstracts, and 96 invited research presentations.

Sharda, member of ASABE for 22 years, has served in leadership positions for MS-54, MS-60, and MS-49. He is associate editor for the Journal of the ASABE, won the Rain Bird Engineering Concept of the Year (2021) and the Blue Ribbon Award (2017 and 2020), and mentored students who won Boyd-Scott Graduate student research paper awards (2015 and 2016).

“As a professor in biological and agricultural engineering at K-State and director of research at the Institute for Digital Ag and Advanced Analytics, I am deeply committed to ASABE’s mission. With 22 years as a member, I’ve had the privilege of serving in various leadership roles, including chair-elect and program chair, and mentoring students to notable achievements. I’m passionate about strengthening ASABE’s impact by fostering stakeholder engagement, driving innovation, and advancing our role in solving food, energy, and water challenges globally. I am eager to contribute my experience and insights to ensure ASABE remains a world leader in these areas.”

Natural Resources and Environmental Systems



Bethany Anne Bertsch, P.E.

**Water Resources Engineer
Maurer-Stutz, Inc.
Oregon, Illinois**

As a consulting engineer for Maurer-Stutz, Bethany Bertsch focuses on water resources projects that include drainage, water quality, and flood control. She is licensed in four states and works frequently on federally

funded projects requiring hydrologic and hydraulic modeling. In 2022, she became part of the inaugural class of “New Voices in Water Quality” by Iowa Learning Farms.

Bertsch’s membership began in 2013 as a student participating in the Fountain Wars competition. She has worked on NRES-23 Drainage Group committee, served as the Iowa section chair, chaired P-120 Student Organizations committee, and co-chaired program development for the International Drainage Symposium. She serves on the Board of Trustees and as vice chair of the newly formed Student Rally Leadership Networking Program.

“My primary goal as a member of the Nominating committee is to enhance student and industry membership within the Society. I want students and industry members to see ASABE as their ‘home’ professional society with stronger involvement in committees and leadership roles. Greater and more diverse membership leads to stronger standards development and more value to networking opportunities already provided by the Society. I personally have benefited from my ASABE membership including employment and leadership opportunities as well as mentorship. I hope to enhance those opportunities for others.”



Heather Preisendanz

**Professor, The Pennsylvania State University
Director, Sustainable Agricultural, Food, and
Environmental Science Institute
University Park, Pennsylvania**

Heather Preisendanz is a professor of agricultural and biological engineering and director of the Sustainable, Agricultural, Food and Environmental Science Institute at Penn

State. She leads interdisciplinary teams to address water quality issues, has attracted more than \$10M to her programs, and has 55 peer-reviewed publications. She has held more than 30 service roles at Penn State.

Preisendanz became a member of ASABE upon starting her career at Penn State in 2013. Immediately joining the NRES-21 Hydrology Group, she was voted to be secretary in 2018, and she just completed her term as NRES-21 chair. She has served on the K.K. Barnes Student Paper committee (5 years) and the Publications Council (3 years).

“As a member of the Nominating committee, I would advocate for values of inclusivity in our ASABE leaders. My approach to my own roles in ASABE has been to engage our membership, particularly our younger members, to ensure they feel “at home” in our professional Society. I work to ensure that diverse voices are welcomed and empowered, and I believe my efforts have made NRES-21 a “safer space” for our members. If selected, I will nominate people who have demonstrated these commitments through their actions. These are the leaders who would empower the rest of us and help to move our Society forward.”

Processing Systems



Ekramul Haque Ehite

**Principal Scientist, Drug Product Development
GlaxoSmithKline (GSK)
Collegeville, Pennsylvania**

Ekramul Ehite is a principal scientist in the drug product development department at GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in Collegeville, Pennsylvania. Ehite is involved in the research and development of delivery systems for next-generation biopharmaceutical drug products for HIV,

cancer, and autoimmune diseases. He completed a Ph.D. in biosys-

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tems engineering from the University of Tennessee, where he was a 2020-2023 Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research Fellow.

Ehite joined ASABE in 2020 and has held multiple leadership positions. He served as the 2022-2024 Meetings Council representative for the Young Professionals Community before returning to a member-at-large position. Ehite is past chair of the P-120 Student Organizations committee and an active member of PRS-280 Bioconversion and Bioprocesses, ES-220 Bio-based Energy, Fuels and Products, and BIPOC committees. Ehite has received the Pharos of Alexandria Global Learning Award, the John C. Nye Graduate Fellowship, and the ASABE New Faces Award.

“Being nominated to serve on the Nominating committee is an honor and privilege. I envision this role as an opportunity to ensure our Society’s efforts are coordinated and provide appropriate support to the broader membership through strategic planning, shared knowledge, and staff support. My extensive leadership experiences as a graduate student and young professional make me uniquely qualified to interpret current and future challenges for ASABE. If elected, I look forward to advocating for leaders who will balance the needs of new and existing members, identify revenue streams from innovative sources, and support industrial-academic collaborations on national and global stages.”



Johnselvakumar (John) Lawrence, P.E.

**Lead Grain Researcher
Ag Growth International (AGI)
Lenexa, Kansas**

John Lawrence, lead grain researcher at the division of Digital Business of Ag Growth International (AGI), specializes in grain storage management, grain drying and storage, finite element modeling, equilibrium moisture content, and natural air drying. He was research director at the Bulk Solids Innovation Center, Kansas State University. He has authored more than two dozen publications and was awarded three U.S. and one India patents.

A 19-year member of ASABE, Lawrence has served in multiple leadership roles in the Processing Systems technical community. He served as PRS community program chair and chair-elect (2022-2024) and chair for PRS-702 Crop and Feed Processing and Storage (2019-2020). He served as a member for various communities such as PAFS-20/4, ITSC-217, and IET-254, and was a member of the PRS-03 Processing Systems Executive Oversight. He served as associate editor for six years.

“As an active member of ASABE, I am honored to be nominated to serve on the Nominating committee. I am very passionate about and love the agricultural and biological engineering field. Participating in various committee and council meetings has equipped me with the experience and insight needed for this role. With many leadership positions available within ASABE, don’t hesitate to serve in these positions. It brings satisfaction, and you will learn a lot. Artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged

as a transformative technology across various fields. I will advocate for ASABE taking the lead and disseminating AI knowledge for problem solving among groups.”

District 2



Srinivasulu (Srini) Ale

**Professor
Texas A&M AgriLife Research
(Texas A&M University System)
Vernon, Texas**

Srini Ale, a professor at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research, is affiliated with the department of biological and agricultural engineering at Texas A&M University. His research focuses on the development and evaluation of climate-resilient, regenerative agricultural strategies for conserving soil and water, enhancing crop water productivity, and protecting soil and water quality in agroecosystems. He has published 105 journal articles and given over 200 scientific presentations.

A 19-year member of ASABE, Ale is vice chair of Meetings Council. He has served as technical program chair of the Annual International Meeting and chair of seven committees, including the NRES community and Texas section. He has served as an associate editor for ASABE journals since 2013, receiving Outstanding Associate Editor and Outstanding Reviewer Awards. One publication each received a Superior Paper Award and an Educational Aids Blue Ribbon Award.

“Service on the Nominating committee offers an exciting and important opportunity to identify visionary future leaders for our great Society. My previous service on various committees provided me with a deep understanding of our mission, goals, and governance, and it would be a great honor to serve where I would have the opportunity to assist with slating candidates who bring unique value to ASABE. I will support candidates who have actively served in different committees and demonstrated their commitment. I will ensure that a diverse and inclusive set of candidates is selected for the leadership ballot.”



Alicia Modenbach, P.E.

**Senior Lecturer
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky**

Alicia Modenbach is a senior lecturer and student services coordinator in biosystems and agricultural engineering at the University of Kentucky. Focused on student engagement and retention, she teaches a sophomore biosystems engineering course, co-teaches the capstone sequence, and advises undergraduates. Modenbach is passionate about creating innovative curricula and transformative experiences that keep students actively engaged.

A 20-year member of ASASBE, Modenbach has held leadership roles within the Young Professionals Community, the

CANDIDATES FOR THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Membership Development Council, and the Circular Bioeconomy Systems Institute. She received the Gale A. Holloway Professional Development and the A.W. Farrall Young Educator Awards. Modenbach serves as a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees, demonstrating her longstanding commitment to advancing the profession and supporting ASABE's mission.

"I am honored to be considered for the Nominating committee. ASABE has been my professional home for many years, and I am excited to contribute by identifying passionate leaders with diverse perspectives to guide our Society's future. My volunteer experiences have shown me the value of leadership that promotes our profession and engages on national and global issues. If elected, I aim to foster a more inclusive community that welcomes and retains younger members by empowering the next generation to lead and make meaningful contributions to the profession. I encourage all members to explore leadership opportunities to help guide ASABE forward."

District 4



Md Shamim Ahamed
Assistant Professor
University of California, Davis
Davis, California

As assistant professor in the department of biological and agricultural engineering, Shamim Ahamed teaches undergraduate and graduate courses while conducting research in controlled environment engineering, with

an emphasis on sustainability and energy systems in agriculture. Ahamed has published more than 25 peer-reviewed articles and has been honored with 17 awards and recognitions. His work continues to advance innovative solutions for sustainable agricultural practices.

Ahamed has contributed to the Society through roles on several committees, including ES-03 Energy Systems Standards Oversight, PAFS-30 Plant Systems Group, PAFS-50 Environmental Air Quality, and ITSC-217 Computational Methods, reflecting his commitment to advancing agricultural and biological engineering. He has served as associate editor for the *Journal of the ASABE*. Ahamed is a 10-year member.

"I am honored to be considered for the role of Nominating committee member. My journey with ASABE, beginning as a student member, has been a rewarding experience shaped by my deep commitment to advancing agricultural and biological engineering. I am driven by a vision to foster innovation and collaboration within ASABE, empowering members to address complex, emerging sustainability and energy-efficiency issues. My professional background and extensive volunteer service within the university and professional communities have equipped me with a strong foundation in leadership, strategic planning, and teamwork. I encourage all members to engage actively and explore leadership opportunities, as together, we can steer ASABE toward a net-zero target for agriculture."



Isaya Kisekka
Professor
University of California, Davis
Davis, California

Kisekka is a professor of agricultural water management in the department of land, air, and water resources and the department of biological and agricultural engineering at UC Davis. He has significantly contributed to

optimizing water use in agriculture and won numerous awards, including the ASABE Netafim Award for Advancements in Microirrigation and the Irrigation Association Excellence in Education Award.

Kisekka has been an active member of ASABE for more than 17 years. Over the years, he has diligently served the Society in different capacities. For example, he is the past chair of the NRES community (NRES-01) and served as the chair of the Irrigation Group (NRES-24). He serves on the Membership Development Council and various award committees.

"I am seeking to serve as a Nominating committee member of ASABE, a society I've been a part of since 2008. ASABE has greatly influenced my career trajectory, offering opportunities for networking and growth. I've served in various leadership roles, including chair of committees, NRES community, and as an associate editor for ASABE journals. Active participation is vital for the Society's success, especially in addressing global challenges like climate change, food security, and water sustainability. As vice chair of the CBSI Technical Working 2, I'm committed to advancing circular bioeconomic systems and expanding membership by demonstrating ASABE's value."

