



# 2018 Holiday Social and Awards Program

Presented by



## Saint Louis Section



December 15, 2018

5:30pm – Networking and Activities

7:00pm – Dinner

7:45pm –Speakers and Awards



# 1<sup>st</sup> Keynote Address

## Gwen Mizell

Gwendolyn Goosby Mizell is the Senior Director for Corporate Social Responsibility for Ameren Corporation in St Louis MO. Previously, Ms Mizell served as Director of Diversity and Inclusion also for Ameren.



Prior to joining Ameren, Ms Mizell served as President and CEO of GSM Development, a St Louis-based energy consulting firm which provides energy efficiency and conservation services as well as sells MRO materials to utilities. GSM Development was engaged with diversity programs at Memphis Light Gas and Water, Laclede Gas and Georgia Power. Under Ms. Mizell's leadership, GSM developed an Internship Development program, hiring, influencing and graduating nine (9) interns. Some of these graduates have gone on to pursue careers at Bain Consulting, Alcoa, Monsanto, UMKC Medical School, and University of Texas Law School.

Ms Mizell began her career in 1986 on a Sales and Marketing Leadership Development program at Westinghouse Electric, spending 13 years building competencies in sales and marketing strategies, proposal preparation, and environmental engineering. She later worked for both ABB and Calpine Corporations during the deregulation of the California energy markets and developed new power plants to support grid stability. In 2007, Ms Mizell joined KEMA Consulting as VP Power Generation Services and helped build out a new segment of the consulting business in the Americas.

Ms. Mizell holds a MS in Management and Public Policy Analysis from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA and a BS in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Alabama Birmingham. Ms. Mizell completed a Public Policy and Management summer institute at the JFK School of Government at Harvard University. Recently, she completed a six-month certificate program at Georgetown University in Strategic Diversity and Inclusion.

Ms Mizell currently serves on the St Louis County Workforce Investment Board and the Board of Mathews Dickey Boys and Girls Club. She serves as Vice President of the American Association of Blacks in Energy (AABE). She is married to Steve Mizell, EVP and CHRO Merck Corporation and has two daughters, Alyssa and Morgan.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Keynote Address

## Dr. Benjamin Ola Akande



Dr. Benjamin Ola Akande is Senior Adviser to the Chancellor and Director of the Africa Initiative at Washington University in St. Louis. He was appointed by Chancellor Mark S. Wrighton in March 2018 to strengthen and expand the University's efforts in Africa.

Dr. Akande is a respected economist, scholar and global consultant to Fortune 500 companies and institutions in the higher education space in the areas of strategy, leadership development, corporate responsibility and market positioning. He served as a director of Ralcorp Holdings, Inc., a \$5 billion publicly traded manufacturer of high-

quality private food labels, including Post, and has consulted for corporations such as Anheuser-Busch, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, SeaWorld, U.S. Bank and many others.

Dr. Akande served as the 21st President of Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri from 2015-2017. As tenured Professor of Economics and Dean of the George Herbert Walker School of Business and Technology at Webster University in St. Louis from 2000-2015, Dr. Akande is credited with building the school's reputation, and positioning it as a globally relevant business school.

Dr. Akande holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Oklahoma and completed post-doctoral studies at JFK School of Government, Harvard University and Saïd Business School at Oxford University. Dr. Akande currently serves as Vice Chair of the Board of Argent Capital, a \$4 billion asset management company. He is a member of the Board of Enterprise Bank

& Trust (\$5 billion assets), serving on the Regulatory and Compliance Committee.

With the experience to recognize when to take calculated risks and the confidence to make tough business decisions, Dr. Akande believes that the future belongs to those who can see it. He and his wife, Bola, a pharmacist, have three adult daughters.

# Awards

## Outstanding Leader

### Dr Prasenjit Shil



Prasenjit Shil, PhD works at Ameren, a utility company based in St Louis, MO as a Senior Load Research and Forecasting Specialist. Prasenjit leads Ameren Missouri's sales forecast and variance analysis for electric and gas business, load research and analytics (including smart meter data analytics), and supporting rate case and integrated resource plan development. Prasenjit has also been involved in customer analytics (for energy efficiency marketing), call

center analytics, and helping process improvements (lean practices) through business analytics. Prasenjit has sponsored and advised research projects on smart grid and big data analytics with universities and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). He received "Outstanding Young Engineer Award" from IEEE St Louis section in 2014 and is a senior member of IEEE. Prasenjit is also champion of diversity and inclusion initiatives at his company and leads Employee Resource Group for a better, collaborative and effective workplace.

## Outstanding Educator

### Dr Amardeep Kaur

Dr. Amardeep Kaur joined the Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty at Missouri University of Science and Technology (Missouri S&T), Rolla, MO as an Assistant Teaching Professor in August 2014. She received her Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology in 2014. Her dissertation emphasis was on developing and investigating optical fiber sensors for applications in structural health monitoring. Her current research interests are Engineering Education, Investigation of Learning



Pedagogies, Optical Fiber Sensors and Smart structures. She enjoys teaching introductory computer and electrical engineering courses. Her other teaching interests include electronics, circuits and optics. She is looking forward to bring in more hands-on learning into her teaching by bringing in examples of technological advancements into the classroom. She is currently working on redesigning the Circuits for non-EE majors course offered at Missouri S&T to better suit the content, its delivery and application to better suit the needs of non-major

students. She is also developing a sophomore level Introductory Circuits laboratory to make it available for off-campus or distance students. Investigating the new teaching and learning methods are one of her key interests that originates from her motivation to make her teaching student-learning centered. She is a member of ASEE, Sigma Xi, IEEE, HKN-IEEE, SPIE and SWE. She serves as a reviewer for IEEE Sensors, Optics Express, Journal of Sensors, and ASEE. She is the chair of Midwest section of the ASEE for 2017-2018.

## **Outstanding Section Member**

### **Abhijit Choudhury**

Industrial Engineering professional with over four years of progressive engineering, logistics, supply chain and process improvement experience across key functional areas in assembly, manufacturing and facilities. Successful application of lean and six sigma approach with project management skills on core processes in manufacturing, procurement, warehousing, supply chain and logistics operation.

# Outstanding Student Branch

## Missouri Science & Technology

EEE Student Branch located on the campus of Missouri University of Science and Technology. The goal of the Missouri S&T IEEE Student Branch is to provide resources for Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Computer Science students all over campus. As a professional organization, it aims to bring opportunities to students that will help them develop themselves personally, professionally, and technically.

Throughout the year the student branch host company speakers, Emphasis Area Workshops, Electronics Workshops, Black Box Competitions, study sessions, and socials. They also support a robotics team that works to develop a robot to compete in the IEEE Region 5 Conference.





## Outstanding Company

### Burns & McDonnell

Burns & McDonnell company got its start in



1898. Two new Stanford University engineering graduates — Clinton S. Burns and Robert E. McDonnell — sought a professional home base teeming with opportunity, a place to continue the partnership they forged while working for the city of Palo Alto, California. They chose Missouri because it provided the most potential — cities and towns in need of water and power systems to support growth. In 1985, a small band of Burns & McDonnell employees risked their personal finances to secure a loan to buy the firm from Armco Steel. Today, Burns & McDonnell's employee-owners draw strength from this sense of perseverance, dedication and ownership. Many of their original clients remain, a testament to their work ethic and commitment. They evolve with the world around them, knowing that seemingly ordinary projects lead to extraordinary opportunities to Create Amazing.

## Outstanding Undergraduate Student Member

### Amy Guo



Amy Guo is an undergraduate student at St Louis University and a Student Member of IEEE. She volunteers in many outreach activities including Tutoring at Six Mile Regional Library District in 2014/2015 where she helped elementary students with homework assignments. She also co-organizes and mentors students for Billiken Bots with the St. Louis Junior Science Academy. Amy is a student mentor for Scoutbotics since 2016 where

she helps assemble robots and assists with coding for a line tracking robot with Boy Scouts of America.

## Outstanding Graduate Student Member

### Katelyn Brinker



Graduate student in Electrical Engineering at Missouri University of Science and Technology conducting research in the field of embedded chipless RFID for materials characterization with the support of a NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship. Involved with IEEE, the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society, and Eta Kappa Nu, and has a passion for advancing space technology. Research involves antenna

miniaturization, inkjet printing electronics, microwave materials characterization, developing data encoding techniques, and structural health monitoring.

## Outstanding Woman in Engineering

### Dr Prachee Chaturvedi



Dr Prachee Chaturvedi is Data Scientist & Digital Strategy Lead in Regulatory, R&D in Bayer and was a member of Monsanto's Leadership Development Program. She received her PhD in Biological Engineering from University of Florida, Gainesville, FL and Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from HBTI, Kanpur, India. Post-undergraduate, she worked for Suzuki India Ltd in supply chain for 3 yrs. Her graduate research

was focused on nano-sensors, nano-material engineering and automation. She has worked on various cutting edge technologies during her tenure at Bayer such as Smart Sensing, Digital Automation and Gene Editing. She has authored 15 publications, 2 book chapters and lead various cross functional scientific projects. She is also Vice chair for Women in Engineering affinity group for

IEEE St Louis section. She received Outstanding Student of year award at University of Florida, Gainesville, Planetary Biology Fellowship at NASA Kennedy Space Center and was inducted in Alpha Epsilon Honor Society.

## **Outstanding Graduate Student Member**

### **Jack White**

Electrical Engineering graduate student at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville researching elimination techniques of common-mode voltages and bearing currents in AC motors. Jack is heavily involved with the SIUE IEEE Student Branch and is a member of the IEEE Power Electronics Society and IEEE Power & Energy Society. He was a previous president of the local SIUE Chapter and volunteers frequently for the Section. Besides academics, he interns for Leidos on Scott AFB, IL, as a network engineer, while also serving as a teaching assistant in the digital design and advance analog circuit design courses. His research interests include VFD topologies, motor protection, bearing design, lean equipment analysis, AC motor control systems, engineering education, electronics design, and computer networking.

## **Outstanding Young Engineer**

### **Tamer Rousan**



Tamer Rousan is the Supervising Engineer of Distribution Automation Technology at Ameren Illinois. Tamer is responsible for managing Ameren Illinois' state-wide Voltage Optimization program, and he is also responsible for managing Ameren Illinois' DER control and integration. Prior to his role in DA Technology, Tamer led Ameren Illinois' Microgrid project, the most advanced Microgrid in North America to date.

Throughout his career at Ameren, Tamer has lead Ameren DA technology

projects that included self-healing networks, ADMS (Advanced Distribution Management Systems) implementation and CVR/VVO pilots. Tamer received his BSEE from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 2010, and his MSEE at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, in 2017.

## **Kids Build and Code Outreach Program**

**Abhijit Choudhury**

**Amy Guo**

**Bikram Kishore Mahajan**

**Luke Taylor**

**Bryan Orabutt**

**Ryan Owens**

**Jacob Novosad**

# Saint Louis Section 2018 Leadership

Officers:

Chair - Maciej Zawodniok, PhD

Past Chair - Prasenjit Shil, PhD

Treasurer - George Engel, D.Sc.

Secretary - Prachee Chaturvedi, PhD<sup>1</sup>

The Saint Louis Section wishes to thank the 2018 Officers, Committee Chairs and Chapter Officers for their hard work and dedication in making 2018 an exciting and successful year.

- Executive Committee,

[sec.stlouis@ieee.org](mailto:sec.stlouis@ieee.org)

<http://sites.ieee.org/stlouis/>

Facebook: IEEE St. Louis Section

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<sup>1</sup> joined section officers in October 2018