



The Combustion Institute

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William Roberts

2020 Candidate Profile: The Combustion Institute Board of Directors

Reasons for Nomination

I have been a continuous member of the Combustion Institute for 30 years, serving the US Eastern States Section and the Saudi Arabian Section. For the ESS-CI, I held four different roles, from hosting a fall technical meeting to being the Chairperson. Having served two sections on two continents, I believe I bring a truly global view. I am currently working with the Minister of Energy in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on G20 activities related to Energy and Environment and specifically the Circular Carbon Economy. My technical areas span experimental laminar and turbulent flames, soot, propulsion, and diagnostics.



As Director of the Clean Combustion Research Center at KAUST, I have expanded the size and scope of our research portfolio. We are contributing very significantly to both the Symposium and Combustion and Flame. I believe my experience, global perspective, technical competence, and motivation will allow me to serve the Combustion Institute at the board level while we as a community navigate the difficult environment where combustion is viewed as the problem in a carbon constrained world. I want to work with the Institute to show the world that we are a critical part of the solution.

See the next page for the candidate's curriculum vitae.

William L. Roberts

Director, Clean Combustion Research Center
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal, KSA

Education:

The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
Ph.D. (Aerospace Engineering), May 1992

Fields of specialization: Gas Dynamics, Combustion, Non-Intrusive Laser Diagnostics

Positions and Employment

- 2014-pres Director, Clean Combustion Research Center, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal, KSA
- 2012-pres Professor, Mechanical Engineering program, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal, KSA
- 1994-2013 Assistant, Associate, and Professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA
- 2001-2012 Director, Applied Energy Research Laboratory, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA
- 1992-1994 Research Engineer, Lockheed Engineering and Sciences Co, NASA Langley Program Office, Hampton, VA, USA
- 1987-1989 Aerospace Engineer, Analytical Services (ANSER), Co, Arlington, VA, USA

Honors, Awards and Professional Memberships:

- 2020 Fellow-Combustion Institute
- 2019 Associate Fellow - American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
- 2017 Robert Bilger Distinguished Lecturer, 10th ASPACC Meeting, Sydney Australia.
- 2017 Distinguished Paper Award, 36th International Symposium on Combustion, 'Soot, organics, and ultrafine ash from air- and oxy-fired coal.'
- 2016 The Springer Professorship, Dept. of ME, University of California-Berkeley
- 2013 - 2017 Vice-Chair for the Saudi Arabian Section of the Combustion Institute, 2013-2017
- 2011 - 2013 Chairman for the Eastern States Section of the Combustion Institute (previously held Vice-Chair, Program Chair, Papers Chair, Local Arrangements Chair positions, member of the ESS board continuously from 1996-2013)
- 2002 Inaugural Progress Energy Faculty Fellow, Dept. of Mech. & Aero. Eng.
NSF CAREERS and ARO Young Investigator Award

Peer-Reviewed Publications:

160 journal articles (28 in CNF and 20 Proceedings), 250+ conference papers and presentations.

Student and Postdoc Advising:

21 PhD students defended, 12 current students and 14 Postdocs with four current