Guest Biographies

ANN W. DROBNIS, Ph.D., is the director of the Computing Community Consortium at the Computing Research Association where she works on future visioning for computing research. Previously, she was as Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow at the National Science Foundation working on education and workforce development issues for the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering. Drobnis spent most of her time working on the CS10K Project, whose goal is to get academically rigorous computer science courses into 10,000 high schools by 2016. This is a much-needed effort to create the research and workforce pipeline that the computer science field so desperately needs. Prior to her time at NSF, she taught high school computer science and math at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. She has a passion for broadening participation in computing, as her doctoral research was focused on ways to bring more women into the field.

ELIZABETH MYNATT is the executive director of Georgia Tech’s Institute for People and Technology (IPaT), a College of Computing Professor, and the director of the Everyday Computing Lab where she investigates the design and evaluation of health information technologies. Mynatt is also the Chair of the Computing Community Consortium and serves as member of the National Academies Computer Science and Telecommunications Board (CSTB). She has been recognized as an ACM Fellow, a member of the SIGCHI Academy, and a Sloan and Kavli research fellow. Her research is supported by multiple grants from NSF and NIH including Smart and Connected Health, CHS, HCC and CAREER awards. Other honorary awards include being recognized with a 2016 Georgia Tech Distinguished Leadership Award, and being named a Mobility Star in 2014 by the Atlanta Metro Chamber of Commerce and the Top Woman Innovator in Technology by Atlanta Woman magazine in 2005. Mynatt earned her Master of Science and Ph.D. in computer science from Georgia Tech.

MAXINE SAVITZ is a member and current vice president of the National Academy of Engineering. She is the retired general manager for Technology Partnerships at Honeywell, Inc., formerly AlliedSignal. Previously, she was the general manager of AlliedSignal Ceramics Components. Savitz was employed at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and its predecessor agencies (1974-1983) and served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Conservation.

Savitz has served on numerous National Academies committees. She serves on the board of the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, and on advisory bodies for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, and Jet Propulsion Laboratory. She also serves on the Massachusetts Institute of Technology visiting committee for sponsored research activities. In 2009, Savitz was appointed to the President's Council of Advisors for Science and Technology. She is a fellow of
the California Council on Science and Technology. Past board memberships include the National Science Board, Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, Defense Science Board, Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), Draper Laboratories, and the Energy Foundation.

Savitz’s awards and honors include: the Orton Memorial Lecturer Award (American Ceramic Society) in 1998; the DOE Outstanding Service Medal in 1981; the President’s Meritorious Rank Award in 1980; recognition by the Engineering News Record for Contribution to Construction Industry in 1979 and 1975; and the MERDC Commander Award for Scientific Excellence in 1967. She is the author of about 20 publications.

A. GALIP ULSOY is the C. D. Mote, Jr. Distinguished University Professor Emeritus and the William Clay Ford Professor Emeritus of Manufacturing at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He has been on the faculty of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan (UM) since 1980. He has served as the founding Director of the Program in Manufacturing, Chair and Associate Chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering as well as the Chair of the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Program. He served as founding Director of the Ground Robotics Reliability Center (GRRC) and founding Deputy Director of the Engineering Research Center for Reconfigurable Manufacturing Systems.

During 2003-2005 he served as the Director of the Civil and Mechanical Systems Division at the National Science Foundation (NSF). Ulsoy has served as the Director and Associate Director of the NSF Industry-University Cooperative Research Center for Dimensional Measurement and Control in Manufacturing.

Ulsoy is interested in the dynamic modeling, analysis, and control of mechanical systems; particularly manufacturing and automotive systems. He has made basic research contributions to the mechanics of axially moving elastic systems and to control system design. He has also made significant research contributions to manufacturing systems, automotive systems, and other engineering application areas.

Ulsoy received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of California at Berkeley in 1979. He also has an M.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Cornell University (1975), and a B.S. degree in engineering from Swarthmore College (1973). He is the founding editor of the ASME Dynamic Systems and Control Magazine and was technical editor of the ASME Journal of Dynamic Systems Measurement and Control. Ulsoy is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and is Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC), the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, and of the Institution of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Among his many professional honors and awards are the 1979 Wood Award from the Forest Products Research Society, an SME 1986 Outstanding Young Manufacturing Engineer Award, and the ASME Dynamic Systems and Control Division Michael Rabins Leadership (2000) and Henry Paynter Outstanding Investigator (2004) Awards. He received the ASME Rufus T. Oldenburger Medal for 2008, and the 2013 Charles Russ Richards Award from ASME and Pi Tau Sigma. In 2012 he received the Special Award from The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), which is equivalent to the Turkish Science award and presented by the President of the Turkish Republic, and in 2014 he received the Hideo Hanafusa Outstanding Investigator Award in Flexible Automation.