

Arkansas State University  
College of Engineering and Computer Science (CoECS)  
**Arkansas State CoECS Alumni Academy Bylaws**

## **I. Purpose**

The Arkansas State COECS Alumni Academy will have as its members who are alumni of the college or have been affiliated with the college for an extended period of time and have made significant contributions in their professional community. The academy will provide a platform for CoECS to celebrate the accomplishments of the members. The members of the academy will assist CoECS in enhancing its visibility in support of its mission and act as role models for current students and junior alumni.

The Academy will have a Board of Directors with voting members and non-voting ex-officio members. The Directors with voting rights will be elected by members of the academy. The officers of the academy will be designated as the Executive Committee. The group leading the creation of the academy will be referred to as the inaugural steering committee. In order to support and sustain the operations of the Academy, the dean's office will provide partial administrative support.

## **II. Membership**

All graduates from the programs in the College of Engineering and Computer Science are eligible from ten years after graduation. Non A-State graduates can be added as members while not exceeding 20% of the total membership of the academy. Future members will be nominated by existing members. Except in the year that the academy is launched, the population of elected members in each subsequent year shall not exceed twenty every calendar year.

Any member of the academy can nominate an individual for membership. Membership is approved by the Board of Directors. New members will be inducted into the academy at its annual meeting. The members inducted into the academy in its inaugural year of operation will be referred to as Charter members. They are:

**Brandon Avant**, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Class of 2011

*Principal Consultant, Rural Sourcing Inc.*

**Clint Bell**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering, Class of 2001

*President and sole owner, CWB Engineers Inc.*

**Charles Brinkley**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1992

*Sic Power Module Customer Quality Engineer, Cree-Wolfspeed*

**Keith Britton**, Friend of college

*President and Founder, Iconic Consulting Group Inc.*

**Andrew Butler**, Bachelor of Science in Technology with a concentration in Manufacturing Industrial Technology, Class of 1999  
*Senior Business Analyst, Autozone Inc.*

**Todd Castleberry**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1992  
*Sales Engineer, Harrison Energy Partners*

**Jim Chidester**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1993  
*Senior Mechanical Engineer, Batson Inc.*

**Eric Farmer**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1992  
*Aviation Electrical Director and Senior Project Manager, Garver*

**Ted Freeman**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1997  
*Owner and Lead Business Coach, Velucidate Consulting*

**David Handwork**, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering, Class of 1993  
*Assistant Vice Chancellor of Facilities Management, Arkansas State University*

**Dr. David Humble**, Bachelor of Science in Technology with a concentration in Technology Management, Class of 1997  
*System Director, Tower Health*

**Rickey Jackson**, Bachelor of Science in Technology with a concentration in Technology Management, Class of 1998  
*Owner, R. L. Jackson's Construction LLC*

**Jessie Jones**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, with a concentration in Civil Engineering, Class of 2001  
*Head, Program Management Division, Arkansas Department of Transportation*

**Dr. Brandon Kemp**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Electrical Engineering, Class of 1997  
*Professor of Electrical Engineering and Director of Engineering Graduate Programs, Arkansas State University*

**Leon King**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Electrical Engineering, Class of 1998  
*Electrical Engineering Department Manager, AECOM*

**Garland Martin**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1990  
*Account Manager, Hytrol Conveyor Co.*

**Edith Martinez-Guerra**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Class of 2012  
*Research Environmental Engineer, US Army Engineer Research and Development Center*

**Bryan Melton**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1995  
*Project Manager, Garver*

**Rebecca O'Dell**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1986  
*Director (retired) of Facilities Management Division, Region 7, US General Services Administration*

**Herbert J. (Bert) Parker**, Friend of College  
*Senior Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer, Garver (retired)*

**Adam Roberson**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering, Class of 2005  
*Senior Project Manager, Aviation Team, Garver*

**Aaron Robinson**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering, Class of 1996  
*Senior Civil Engineer, Bond Consulting Engineers*

**Natalie Rogers**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Class of 2010  
*Water Resources Engineer, FTN Associates Inc.*

**Brad Smithee**, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering, Class of 1988  
*District Engineer, Arkansas Department of Transportation*

**Jason Stewart**, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering, Class of 1996  
*Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering and Director of the Civil Engineering Program, Arkansas State University*

**Evan Teague**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1995  
*Vice President, Commodity and Regulatory Affairs, Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation*

**Rex Vines**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1993  
*Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, Arkansas Department of Transportation*

**Adam White**, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with a minor in Mathematics, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a Civil Engineering Concentration, Class of 2012  
*Senior Associate, Terracon Consultants Inc.*

**Leigh Wineland**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering, Class of 1993  
*Project delivery engineer, Unilever*

**Deric Wyatt**, Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering, Class of 2003  
*District Engineer, Arkansas Department of Transportation*

### III. Organizational structure

#### Board of Directors:

##### *Voting members*

The Board of Directors will consist of a minimum of nine voting members and each member will serve a three-year term. A member can also be re-elected to the Board at the end of their current term. If the voting membership exceeds nine, then the total number of members will always be an odd number. In constituting the voting membership, every effort will be made to have at least

- (a) one representative each of disciplines in the college which has had graduates for at least ten years. Currently, these disciplines are
  - (i) Civil Engineering
  - (ii) Computer Science
  - (iii) Electrical Engineering
  - (iv) Engineering Management
  - (v) Engineering Technology
  - (vi) Mechanical Engineering
  
- (b) One representative of members of the academy who is not a graduate of A-State. He/she will be designated as Board member at-large.
- (c) Immediate past President of the Academy (effective from January 1, 2023)

##### *Non-voting members*

The following officials of the College of Engineering and Computer Science will serve as non-voting, ex-officio members:

1. Dean
2. Associate Dean
3. A representative of each discipline listed in III(a). This representative will either be the director of the program in that discipline or a department chair.
4. A representative of all full-time faculty in the college who is not any of (1) through (3) above.

#### Executive Committee:

The executive committee will consist of the following officials who will be members of the Board except where designated otherwise:

1. President
2. Past President
3. Vice-President

4. Treasurer
5. Secretary
6. Two members-at-large who are not part of the Board of Directors but are members of the Academy.

Each member of the executive committee will serve a one-year term (exception as outlined in Section V) and the President will be succeeded by the Vice-President, and the Vice-President will be succeeded by the Treasurer.

#### **IV. Elections**

Elections (except for the position of Secretary) will be managed by the Executive Committee. Any member of the executive committee contesting an election will recuse himself/herself from any activities of the committee related to management of the elections.

- (i) Nominations for new membership of the Academy will be approved by the Board of Directors for presentation to the entire Academy for election as members in the annual meeting of the academy.
- (ii) Any vacancies in the voting membership of the Board including the positions of Board members-at-large will be filled by elections following nominations. Self-nominations are allowed. All current academy members are allowed to vote in those elections.
- (iii) The Board will vote on the position of Treasurer and any other vacancies that may open up in the executive committee except the positions of members-at-large which will be voted on by the entire academy.

The process outlined herein will be followed except during the creation and launch of the Academy. This is addressed in Section V.

The position of Secretary will be filled by the non-voting members of the Board of Directors by election.

#### **V. Creation and Launch of the Academy**

The planning and preparation to create and launch the academy were carried out by a steering committee involving the following individuals:

1. Jim Chidester, BS 1993 Engineering, Master of Engineering Management, 2019
2. Jessie Jones, BS 2001, Engineering
3. Bert Parker, Friend of the college
4. Dr. Christos Grecos, Chair, Department of Computer Science
5. Dr. Yeonsang Hwang, Associate dean of CoECS
6. Dr. Abhijit Bhattacharyya, Inaugural dean of CoECS

In the first annual meeting of the academy,

- (i) The steering committee will present the list of individuals who will have the status of charter members of the academy.

- (ii) The dean will present a slate of officers who will serve as the officers of the executive committee. The term of this executive committee will end December 31, 2022. The charter members will vote on the election of the slate as the members of the executive committee.
- (iii) The President will call for nominations from the floor to fill the remaining vacancies in the voting membership of the Board.

The steering committee will stand dissolved after the conclusion of the first annual business meeting of the academy.

## **VI. Meetings**

The meetings of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors will be convened by the President of the Academy.

1. The Board will meet at least three times a year of which two meetings will be face-to-face and one of those meetings will be co-located with the annual meeting.
2. It is expected that the Executive Committee will meet as needed.
3. The entire academy will convene annually.

Quorum for meetings of executive committee, the Board and the entire academy will be considered to be 60% of the membership of the respective body.

## **VII. Membership dues**

Annual membership dues are \$200/year. Other financial contributions such as donations and scholarships are separate from this annual contribution. A banquet will be hosted as part of the annual meeting of the academy with participation from academy members and their guests. New inductees and their guests may attend the banquet free of charge. There will be a cost of attendance at the banquet for current members and guests.

The academy was established in its first annual meeting held on July 17, 2021. Subsequent annual meetings of the academy will typically be held during the Fall semester and preferably during a home game weekend at the campus of Arkansas State University, Jonesboro.