



VTS Leadership Team and Its Focuses to Better Serve Our Members

I am greatly honored and committed to serve as the president of the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS). The VTS serves as the association of reference for mobility professionals' needs in the areas of lifelong learning, standards creation, dissemination of new technologies, and networking. I will work closely with VTS volunteers to enhance services and benefits to our members and to grow the Society via technical and educational activities, exploring the VTS platforms in conferences, publications, standards, and technical committees.

Thanks to the leadership and dedication of many volunteers and staff members as well as the strong support of our members, the VTS has been successful in engaging the global technical community and in contributing to advances in vehicular technologies in the areas of mobile radio, motor vehicles, and land transportation. In recent years, it has been promoting research and development activities in 5G and beyond communication systems; in autonomous, connected, and electric vehicles; and in intelligent ground transport infrastructures. Building on the momentum, we will strive to listen to our members for your needs, be creative, and work diligently on various existing programs

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MVT.2023.3237339
Date of current version: 2 March 2023

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and new initiatives toward a stronger Society. Our focuses include

- developing new approaches to better engage our members in technical activities of interest
- enhancing equity, diversity, and inclusion in our volunteer positions
- growing technical committees in emerging technology areas
- engaging our industrial members in standards development
- providing mentorships to young professionals and promoting education activities, such as the VTS Resource Center
- recognizing the achievements of our members and contributions of our volunteers via various avenues, including awards and fellowships
- developing cost-effective strategies for more benefits to our members while maintaining the financial health of the Society.

I am excited to work with a strong leadership team in the VTS, including Gerhard Bauch, executive vice president; J.R. Cruz, vice president of conferences; James Irvine, vice president of publications; Neeli Prasad, vice president of membership development; Nick Kirsch, vice president

of finance; Lin Cai, vice president of mobile radio; David Thurston, vice president of land transportation; Loïc Boulon, vice president of motor vehicles; Oliver Holland, vice president of standards; Abbas Jamalipour, treasurer; and Fabrice Labeau, secretary.

Please visit the VTS website to find out how the VTS can meet your needs in different ways, such as through conferences, publications, standards, education, and technical activities.

With the end of the pandemic in sight, I hope that both you and the VTS will benefit from more in-person activities via our conferences, Distinguished Lecturer Program, student competition challenges, and so on. I would like to encourage you to actively participate in various VTS activities and to contribute to the Society. Furthermore, I would like to know how the VTS can better serve you. Please do not hesitate to contact me for your ideas, suggestions, comments, questions, or concerns. Working hard together, we will make the VTS better and stronger.

I wish you a happy, healthy, and productive new year!

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