

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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### ASME IMECE 2016 Wrap Up and 2017 Meeting

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to everyone who came out to Phoenix for the Mechanics of Soft Materials Symposium at the ASME IMECE 2016. We had 35 abstracts presented in 9 topics many with multiple sessions, making us one of the largest symposia with the Applied Mechanics Division and across the ASME. Even though the next meeting in Tampa, Florida will be held from November 3-9<sup>th</sup>, the **deadline for abstracts to have a paper included in the proceedings is March 6<sup>th</sup>, or July 17<sup>th</sup> for a presentation only**. In other words, if you plan on publishing in the conference proceedings, you must submit an abstract by March 6<sup>th</sup>; otherwise, if you plan on giving a presentation only, you have until July 17<sup>th</sup>. These deadlines will not be extended. Below is a list of the areas that we will be focusing on for the 2017 meeting as well as other meeting and committee information.

Abstracts can be submitted [here](#). *Important: please include which session topic you intend for your abstract as your last sentence. For example, your last sentence might read, "This abstract is intended for the 3D-Printed Soft Materials session."* Lastly, please remember to use the same email address during abstract submission and conference registration.

Looking forward to seeing you in Tampa!

~ Kevin Long

## NEWS

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### IMECE 2017

The 12-23 Mechanics of Soft Materials topics for the 2017 IMECE meeting are as follows:

This topic covers the characterization, prediction, modeling, and application of mechanics in soft materials. This topic seeks abstracts for individual sessions in: • Active Materials • Mechano-Chemistry • Mechano-Biology • Gels • Mechanical Characterization • Degradation and Failure • Adhesion • Computational Methods • Instabilities (specific instructions are below) • 3D Printing (specific instructions are below).

The symposium brings researchers from a variety of backgrounds together in order to exchange and discuss ideas related to theory and experimentation of the mechanics of soft materials. When submitting your abstract please include a sentence indicating which session you would like to take part in.

Abstracts focusing on Instabilities of Soft Materials should be submitted to 12-11: Instabilities in Soft Matter Solids and Structures (co-sponsored with the Instabilities TC).

Abstracts focusing on 3D Printing of Soft Materials will be routed within 12-23 to the sessions on the "Congress Wide Symposium on Additive Manufacturing: 3D Printed Soft Materials"

## Applied Mechanics Division: Soft Materials

Please consider sending in an abstract to one of our outstanding topics this year.

### Opportunities for Student Travel

Students can self-nominate and are required to send a brief one-page CV, a recommendation letter from the students advisor, the abstract of a paper accepted for presentation at IMECE in Track 12 or a symposium sponsored by the AMD, and a draft presentation. Please note that, at the time of the award presentation, the applicant must be enrolled full-time in a degree program at a US institution. A faculty member may not endorse more than one student. The nominations will be reviewed by the AMD-EC. Between 10 and 15 students will be selected for travel grants of \$1000 each! The pool of students receiving travel awards will also become eligible to participate in the best paper contest. The top three will be selected for awards of \$500, \$300 and \$200. The deadline is typically near the end of April, please keep an eye open for further information as it becomes available.

### Looking for an Award?

You must be nominated to win an award. Many times this consists of several letters of recommendation, a nomination form, and a current CV. As part of this newsletter, we will list open solicitations for upcoming awards to be presented at ASME IMECE. One of the goals of this newsletter is to have our *Mechanics of Soft Materials* colleagues be more active in applying for and receiving awards.

*Society Level Awards:* Timoshenko Medal, Drucker Medal, and Koiter Medal

*Division Level Awards:* Ted Belytschko Applied Mechanics Division Award, Thomas Hughes Young Investigator Award, Thomas Caughey Dynamics Award

### Have Any Open Positions?

Are you looking for a PhD student or a postdoc? Does your departments have any open faculty positions? If so, please contact Shengqiang Cai (Editor) so we may advertise your open position via the newsletter.

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

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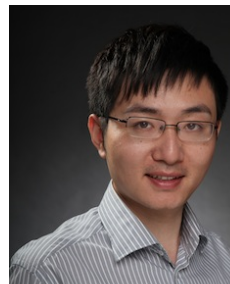
### Meet the 2017 Technical Committee Leadership



Kevin Long,  
Chair  
Sandia National Laboratories



Shawn Chester,  
Vice Chair  
New Jersey Institute of  
Technology



Shengqiang Cai,  
Secretary  
University of California,  
San Diego



Sung Hoon Kang  
Editor  
Johns Hopkins University

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## Applied Mechanics Division: Soft Materials

### **HAVE SOME NEWS OR ISSUES?**

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If you have some issues, concerns or news that you would like to share, however cannot make the next technical committee meeting at IMECE, please send an email to Sung Hoon Kang (Editor, shkang@jhu.edu) and your comments will be distributed at the meeting in November. We are especially interested in expanding collaborations with other TCs and increasing the visibility and importance of this conference with regards to soft materials mechanics.