

# NOTABLE

**Mark Abkowitz**, professor of civil and environmental engineering and director of the Vanderbilt Center for Environmental Management Studies, was appointed chair of the National Academy of Sciences committee on Extreme Weather and Climate Change Adaptation.

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**Bobby Bodenheimer** was named Editor-in-Chief of *Transactions on Applied Perception*. His term as editor is Aug. 1, 2021, to July 31, 2024. He is professor of computer science, electrical engineering, and computer engineering.

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**Michael Goldfarb**, H. Fort Flowers Professor of Mechanical Engineering, was elected as a fellow of the National Academy of Inventors, the highest professional distinction accorded solely to academic inventors.

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University Professor **John C. Gore**, founding director of the Vanderbilt Institute of Imaging Science, was selected to give the Paul C. Lauterbur Lecture at the 2021 annual meeting of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine.

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**Anita Mahadevan-Jansen**, Orrin H. Ingram Professor of Engineering and professor of biomedical engineering, is president-elect of SPIE. She assumes the presidency in 2022.

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**Lloyd W. Massengill**, professor of electrical and computer engineering, received the IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Science Society Radiation Effects Award at the 2021 international Nuclear and Space Radiation Effects Conference.

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**Michael Miga**, Harvie Branscomb Professor and professor of biomedical engineering, was named a Fellow of SPIE for achievements in technology-guided surgery and computational modeling for therapeutic and imaging applications.

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**Cynthia Paschal**, senior associate dean for undergraduate education and associate professor of biomedical engineering and radiology and radiological sciences, was named a fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. She also was appointed chair of the ABET Academic Advisory Committee.

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**Craig Philip**, research professor of civil and environmental engineering, was appointed to the Transportation Research Board Executive Committee. He is director of the Vanderbilt Center for Transportation and Operational Resiliency.

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**Marjan Rafat**, assistant professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering, received an award for young and innovative cancer researchers from the Concern Foundation, a cancer research nonprofit based in Los Angeles, CA.

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**Cynthia Reinhart-King**, Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Engineering and professor of biomedical engineering, is the new president-elect of the Biomedical Engineering Society. She assumes the presidency in 2022.

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**Ronald Schrimpf**, Orrin H. Ingram Professor of Engineering and Director, Institute for Space and Defense Electronics, received the 2021 IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Merit Award. He is a professor of electrical engineering.

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**Lori Troxel**, professor of the practice of civil and environmental engineering, was one of two recipients nationwide of the 2021 American Society of Civil Engineers' Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award.

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**Christopher J. Wiernicki**, BE '80, was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Engineering for innovative leadership in the design, engineering,

and operation of ships and offshore structures. He is president and CEO of ABS and a member of the School of Engineering Board of Visitors.

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**Chuchuan Hong, Lauren Buck, and Riqiang Gao** received the inaugural C.F. Chen Best Paper Awards, in electrical engineering, computer science, and translational research, respectively. The \$5,000 awards recognize top journal articles for which a graduate student is first author. A gift from May Juan Chen, BA '68, and Chun Fu "CF" Chen, PhD '68, created the awards program.

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**Mayna Nguyen**, a biomedical engineering graduate student, and computer science graduate student **Preston Robinette** received 2021 National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowships. The DOD-funded fellowships are supported by the Air Force Research Laboratory.

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**Hoang-Dung Tran**, PhD '20, received the 2021 IEEE Technical Committee on Cyber-Physical Systems Outstanding Dissertation Award.

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**New endowments** will provide additional support for rising faculty talent. The faculty fellowships were created with gifts from Sally Baker Hopkins, BE '78, and David L. Hopkins, Caroline and Jack P. Williams Jr., BE '86, and Laura J. and William W. Hoy Jr., BA '64. The university matched the donations.

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A **Vanderbilt Computer Science** team won an IBM-sponsored challenge at the 2020 Neural Information Processing Systems Conference. The team's natural language processing model that took a description in English and converted it to its corresponding Bash syntax, a Unix command language, took top honors.

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