

Beginning Monday, 15 August, you will have the opportunity to shape the future of IEEE. All eligible voting members will receive electronic access to the 2016 IEEE annual election ballot via email. A paper ballot will also be sent by mail. This is your opportunity to elect the officers that will serve on the top-tier IEEE governing bodies as well as vote on an amendment to the IEEE Constitution. As a member-driven organization, your voice matters - I want to personally encourage you to vote in this election.

In light of its importance to IEEE, I urge you to be informed about this Constitutional amendment. Accurate information about the proposed changes and rationale can be found on the [amendment public page](#) on the IEEE website.

Over the past 18 months, the IEEE Board of Directors has engaged in a thorough and deliberative process to develop recommendations that will best position IEEE for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century. These recommendations, in the form of a single amendment to the IEEE Constitution, will be presented for approval as part of the 15 August balloting process.

The main considerations that guided the Board's development of the Constitutional amendment were to provide for a more flexible and adaptive governance structure and to increase the member's voice in selecting our most senior-level leaders. In addition, the amendment strengthens our commitment to diversity including such factors as technical, geographic, gender, experience, and educational backgrounds in the composition of a richly varied and active Board of Directors.

IEEE members are responsible for guiding our professional society to meet the opportunities and challenges resulting from changes in our external environment. Please contribute your well-informed voice to the future of IEEE by voting for the next generation of IEEE leaders and on the Constitutional amendment.

If you have any questions not covered here or in the link, please send them to president@ieee.org. Thank you for your time and consideration on this important topic. I look forward to your decisions on future IEEE leadership and the Constitutional amendment.

Sincerely,

Barry L. Shoop, Ph.D., P.E.
2016 IEEE President and CEO