CANCOM 2024

DRIVING THE FUTURE OF COMPOSITES

Panel: Perspectives

CANCOM 2024 (August 8th 2024)

Moderator: Julieta Barroeta Robles

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

YORK U

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Panel on DEI - Perspectives

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- **Goal:** To share perspectives from panelists and the audience on various topics related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI).
  - Topics include work-life balance, flexible work environments, barriers, working with a disability, etc.
- **Objectives:**
  - Foster learning and understanding among attendees.
  - Encourage open discussions and sharing of personal experiences.
  - Identify potential action items that we can take together as a community

Event Agenda

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When: Thursday August 8th from 2:30 pm to 4 pm

Where: E7 Building

Agenda

1. **Panelist and Event Introductions (20 min):** Brief introductions of each panelist will take place along with an explanation of the event
2. **Moderator-Led Q&A Session (30 min):** Moderator will ask questions to the panelists on topics include work-life balance, flexible work environments, barriers, working with a disability, etc.
3. **Audience Q&A (30 min):** The audience can ask their questions to the panelists and get involved with the discussion!
4. **Conclusion (10 min):** Summarize key takeaways and closing remarks.

Panel on perspectives

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- Introduction of the panel and the event on D&I on perspectives (max. 5 minutes)
  - Goal: to share the perspectives of different members of the audience with respect to different topics (e.g., work-life balance/flexible work environment, barriers, working with a disability, etc)
  - **Learning** and **Understanding** of each other
- Introduction of the panelists, brief 3-5 minutes per person (x15-25 minutes if there are five panelists) – maximum 30 minutes to introduce
  - Moderator would ask the questions we have prepared for one 45 min session
  - In the end, ask the questions that were submitted by the attendees in menti.com and discuss for 40 minutes
  - 10 minutes to conclude

Panelists-Moderator

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Julieta Barroeta Robles

Julieta Barroeta Robles works at the National Research Council Canada in Montréal, Québec, where she has been serving as a Research Officer since 2018 in the Composite Products team. Her professional experience and research interests with polymer composites include thermosets, thermoplastics, manufacturing processes, welding and repair of thermoplastics. She has also been active in organizing events related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, including the virtual coffee breaks since 2021 with the CKN, CACSMA and CREPEC.

Panelists

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Frédérick Gosselin

Frédérick P. Gosselin is a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Polytechnique Montréal since 2012. He obtained his Doctoral degree from École Polytechnique in Paris, France in 2009, and before that, he obtained both B.Eng and M.Eng. from McGill University in Montréal, Canada in 2004 and 2006, respectively.

Professor Gosselin's research interests revolve around slender structure mechanics and digital twin technology. On polymer and composites, he has developed an instability-assisted 3D printing technique to manufacture tough fibers and composites, and he develops simulation and optimization methods for 3D-printed sandwich panels. He develops digital twin technologies to monitor the vibrations in hydroelectric turbines, and he also displays a keen interest in the natural world through studies on the bending of trees in the wind and the swaying of soft corals in the sea.

Panelists

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Duncan Cree

Dr. Duncan Cree was born and raised in Kanesatake Mohawk Territory in Quebec. He obtained his PhD in mechanical engineering from Concordia University. During his university time, he worked on internships as a junior engineer at various aerospace companies such as Bombardier Aerospace, Pratt and Whitney Canada, and the National Research Council's Flight Research Laboratory. Following his Ph.D., Dr. Cree went on to pursue an NSERC Postdoctoral Fellowship at Queen's University in the Civil Engineering department. For the past 10 years he has been a faculty member in the department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan and was promoted to Associate Professor. To be closer to family, Dr. Cree has recently accepted an Associate Professor position at McMaster University. His research interest is in materials science, specifically understanding the mechanical behavior of engineering materials. A major area of his research work focuses on novel, green composite materials which addresses the challenges of sustainability using waste as resources. One of his key interests, both personally and professionally is to mentor upcoming Indigenous students in the field of engineering. In his free time, he enjoys the great outdoors, camping, ice fishing and family hikes with his wife, two children and family dog.

Panelists

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Dr. Habiba Bougherara

Dr. Habiba Bougherara is a full professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Mechanical, Industrial, and Mechatronics Engineering at Toronto Metropolitan University. She has led cutting-edge research in high-performance biocomposites for various engineering applications, including biomedical and Aerospace applications. Dr. Bougherara’s research focuses on enhancing the performance of advanced composites through bioinspired design, optimization, and multiscale modeling.

Dr. Bougherara's contributions have advanced the fundamental understanding of the interaction of microstructure, processing, and performance, resulting in over 130 peer-reviewed papers, 100 conference presentations, 5 patents, 10 book chapters, and the training of over 100 HQPs.

In recognition of her exceptional contributions, Dr. Bougherara has received numerous awards, including the prestigious Early Researcher Award from the Ontario Ministry of Research and Innovation, the Collaborative Research Award, and the Yeates School for Outstanding Contribution to Graduate Education Award. Additionally, she has been honored thrice with the TMU Research Excellence Award, underscoring her commitment to excellence in both research and education.

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Panelists

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Ayatullah Elsayed

Aya Saleh is a PhD candidate in the Mechanical Engineering Department at York University (YU), Canada. Her research area is additive manufacturing of polymeric smart materials for energy harvesting and sensing applications.

Aya obtained her bachelor's degree in Materials Engineering from Ain Shams University (ASU) and her Master's degree from the American University in Cairo (AUC) where she worked on the fabrication and characterization of smart nanomaterials for energy harvesting at Energy Materials Laboratory (EML). She worked as a research assistant at AUC on a project for biodegradable polymer composites and their dynamic characterization. Aya also served as Teaching Assistant at both ASU and AUC.

You can reach Aya through ayasaleh@yorku.ca or aya_adel@aucegypt.edu

Panelists

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Atefeh Nabavi

Atefeh Nabavi is a Mechanical Engineer with over 15 years of experience in both academia and industry, with a focus on the aerospace sector.

She is currently working in the role of Director of Engineering and Quality at RAMPF Composite Solutions, leading a multidisciplinary team and overseeing complex projects from conception to execution.

Atefeh specializes in advanced materials and processes and completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Iran before pursuing a PhD at McGill University.

She is passionate about innovation, continuous improvement, and implementing cutting-edge solutions within her industry.

Panelists

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Anoush Poursartip

Anoush Poursartip is Professor of Materials Engineering at UBC, where he has been a faculty member for 38 years, always working on composite materials. His interests include both fundamental research and knowledge mobilization. Additionally, since 1998 he has been part-time Director of Research at Convergent Manufacturing Technologies.