



# INTERNATIONAL MICROWAVE POWER INSTITUTE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Slate of Nominees for IMPI Voting Board of Governors Election Announced, Candidate Statements and Voting Instructions Released**

**April 15, 2024** - The International Microwave Power Institute (IMPI), the leading global scientific organization dedicated to non-communication microwave and RF energy applications, is pleased to announce the Slate of Nominees for the 2024 Board of Governors election. In accordance with the Institute's Bylaws, the term for the elected Voting Board Members shall be three years.

The five nominees for terms commencing on June 1, 2024, are: Mr. Brian Blackwell of Odyssey Technical Solutions; Dr. Graham Brodie of James Cook University, Dr. Candice Ellison of USDA-ARS, Mr. John Mastela a Microwave Consultant; and Dr. Vadim Yakovlev of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. IMPI's Secretary, Dr. Sean McKeown, chaired the Nominating Committee.

"The IMPI Board of Governors election candidates embody the Institute's mission by bringing diverse expertise in science, engineering, technology, and practical development to the table. Their background aligns seamlessly with IMPI's goal of connecting the global microwave/RF community and driving innovation in the laboratory, industrial processing, and the marketplace. The participation of IMPI membership in the upcoming election is crucial as it ensures that the voices of the global microwave/RF community are represented in selecting leaders who will steer the Institute toward continued growth and advancement in the field," McKeown stated.

The election will take place during the Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 5:15pm ET, at the Hyatt Regency Reston in suburban, Washington, D.C., USA. The Annual Business Meeting is being held in conjunction with the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Microwave Power Symposium (IMPI 58) taking place May 29-31, 2024 at the same venue.

IMPI Members who are unable to join the Annual Business Meeting in Reston, or prefer to cast their ballot electronically in advance of the meeting, [are encouraged to vote electronically](#), through 3:00pm ET on May 30, 2024. All IMPI members in good standing may cast one ballot.

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The Candidate Statements are as follows:

*“When I first snuck into IMPI back in 2015 to now, I have been truly honored to be part of IMPI and have been grateful for the opportunity to serve as a board member and as an executive board member. I can think of no better way to continue my microwave education than to continue to be part of IMPI. Therefore, please take this note as my interest in continuing my role as a board member. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.”*

- Brian Blackwell, Odyssey Technical Solutions

*“I am writing to express my gratitude to IMPI for the opportunity to have been a voting member of the IMPI Board of Governors and to express my willingness to continue in this role. I have been a member of the Board of Governors for several years and was the Technical Program Committee Chair for five IMPI Symposia. I have had the privilege of representing IMPI at other conferences, organised by our sister association in China. I believe that IMPI is important for furthering the research, development, and promotion of microwave applications across the globe. It also provides a valuable network of experienced practitioners for young researchers, engineers, and industrialists who need to better understand the background, potential, and practicality of implementing various microwave technologies in their work. I personally have benefited from this network. I would continue to help strengthen the institute and hopefully provide guidance to young people as they start their own careers. I am willing to serve and look forward to your considered response.”*

- Graham Brodie, Honorary Professor, James Cook University, Australia

*“I first joined IMPI as a graduate student and have stayed active in IMPI ever since. I’ve supported the organization by serving in various roles including board member, student paper competition chair, and TPC chair. As a researcher in applied microwave chemistry, I’ve found great value in the diverse network of both academic and industry professionals that IMPI attracts. The yearly symposium and other events have been particularly valuable to me for networking, keeping well-informed of the current state-of-the-art, and learning about the ever-evolving scope of microwave applications. I hope to continue supporting IMPI going forward and its important role in bringing microwave experts together to exchange knowledge and ideas to develop microwave technologies for diverse applications and industries.”*

- Candice Ellison, USDA-ARS

*“I have been an active member of IMPI for almost 10 years. Since joining IMPI, I have served on several committees in addition to having been a corresponding board member, Secretary, and current Vice President of the executive committee. I also serve as the Director – Americas for the SSRFE section. I have over 35 years of experience in RF and microwave technology spanning a wide array of semiconductor technology, systems, and applications. My passion for the technology has only increased over the years. I could not be any more excited about the direction and future of IMPI. We have an incredibly distinguished membership, outstanding board, and*

*leadership team. We will continue to expand IMPI's reach into technology, applications, academia, and industry. I firmly believe the future is bright and with the collective contributions of the membership, fellow board members, and the executive team, there is no limit to what we can accomplish. I humbly ask for another term as board member of this outstanding organization."*

- John Mastela, Microwave Consultant

*"It would not be an exaggeration to say that I have been related to IMPI all my professional life, regardless of all its turns and maneuvers. I was reading about IMPI, its activities, and the community around it, when I was a graduate student. I became a member of the Institute in 1992 after attending the Symposium for the first time and have served on the IMPI Board of Governors since 2012. The long history behind the Institute attests to the fact that there has always been a demand, from the non-communication microwave/RF applications community, for a professional society, which at its core, reflects its development, coordinates its activities, and promotes its technologies. IMPI excels in this service as a truly unique blend of experts from industry, academia, and business. I'm eager to continue my role as a Board member, to assist IMPI's future growth and success, by supporting related educational activities, helping with outreach operations, and looking for options in maintaining diversity of IMPI interdisciplinary profile."*

- Vadim Yakovlev, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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