



INTERNATIONAL MICROWAVE POWER INSTITUTE

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CONTACT:

Molly Poisant, Executive Director, IMPI

(E): molly.poisant@impi.org; (M) +1 804 836 7125

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

May 19, 2025 - 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 2025 Voting Board of Governors election. In accordance with the Institute's Bylaws, the term for the elected Voting Board Members shall be three years.

The three nominees for terms commencing on July 1, 2025, are: Dr. Ulrich Erle of Nestle R&D, Dr. Klaus Werner of pinkRF and Dr. Jiajia Chen of the University of Tennessee - Knoxville. IMPI's Treasurer, Dr. Sean McKeown, chaired the Nominating Committee, and Mr. John F. Gerling, Immediate Past President, and John F. Mastela, President, served as Nominating Committee Members.

"The candidates for the IMPI Board of Governors reflect the Institute's mission by offering a range of expertise in science, engineering, technology, and practical development. Their qualifications align with IMPI's vision of connecting the global microwave/RF community and fostering innovation across laboratories, industrial processing, and commercial sectors. Participation from the IMPI membership in the upcoming election is vital, as it guarantees that the perspectives of the global microwave/RF community are included in the selection of leaders who will guide the Institute towards further growth and progress in the field," McKeown said.

The election will take place during the Annual Business Meeting on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 5:15pm MT, at the Westin Hotel in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The Annual Business Meeting is being held in conjunction with the 59th Annual Microwave Power Symposium (IMPI 59) taking place June 24 - 26 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 2:00pm ET on June 25th. All IMPI members in good standing may cast one ballot.

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The Candidate Statements are as follows:

"IMPI has been an important part of my professional life ever since I joined my first Symposium in 1995. From the start, I felt that the mission of IMPI really comes alive through personal interactions between practitioners from all walks of life and all over the world. As a beginner, I was grateful for the good advice and feedback I received, and now I sometimes find myself in a position to give advice to the next generation. Over the years, I served the organization in various roles, such as Voting Board Member (since 2013), organizer of the student paper competition, member and chairman of the TPC, and session chair at the Symposium. In 2023, I was honored to be named Fellow of IMPI.

I can see a bright future for IMPI, driven by new technologies, the need to electrify thermal processes, and a general renaissance of interest in microwaves and RF. Needless to say that I would love to serve another term as a Voting Board Member to help steer IMPI for three more years towards that bright future."

- Ulrich Erle, Nestle R&D

"When the IMPI organization offered the opportunity to save the ideas that led to the foundation of the RF Energy Alliance within a new Solid State RF Energy Section at IMPI in 2018, I did not have to think twice and directly went for the chance to further the technology within a long standing, very reputable organization. I had the honor to chair this section ever since and was also able to contribute to the organization as a voting board member of IMPI starting in 2019. It has been a pleasure to serve in either role and see the IMPI organization grow and thrive, creating critical mass in an environment that blends industry, academia and businesses around a common technology that is beneficial for a host of existing and developing applications."

- Klaus Werner, pinkRF

"I am currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Food Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. I have been an active member of the International Microwave Power Institute (IMPI) for 12 years, initially as a student member and later as a professional member. My research program specializes in using modeling approaches to develop innovative microwave and radiofrequency processes for food manufacturing.

IMPI has been instrumental in providing me with significant opportunities to collaborate with diverse researchers and industry professionals, which have been invaluable to my professional growth. I have been pleased in serving as a Corresponding Board Member and Vice Chair of the Technical Program Committee. Given my longstanding association with IMPI and my commitment to its vision, I am excited to express my interest in expanding my involvement with the IMPI family. I would be honored to serve as a Voting Board Member and support IMPI's continued efforts to advance the field of microwave technologies."

- Jiajia Chen, University of Tennessee - Knoxville