



## ASEM eNews

July 2019

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### *A Note from the 2019 IAC Team*

Come and join us at this year's ASEM IAC which will be in Philadelphia, PA, October 23rd through October 26th. The event will take place at the University City Sheraton within the vicinity of Drexel, Temple University and University of Penn. The event will feature educational symposiums, working group sessions, and tours to local industries. It will also feature an industry panel of engineering managers from local industries to discuss the transition of engineer to engineering manager.



This year's social event will be held Thursday Oct 24, 2019 at the Independence Seaport Museum. This interactive, maritime museum will enlighten you on the history and development of the area's waterways and is located right on the beautiful Delaware River. To further your Philadelphia experience, you will have the opportunity to experience a taste of Philadelphia foods while browsing the museum or sitting on one of the outdoor chairs overlooking their two National Historic Landmark ships: the Cruiser Olympia and Submarine Becuna. Get a jump and register now to take advantage of early registration rates.

<https://asem.org/Conference-Information-2019>

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***~ 1 May through 19 August 2019 ~***

### ***Secure the Best Rates! Register Now to Attend the 2019 International Annual Conference (IAC)***

Register early to take advantage of early-bird rates for the 2019 IAC in Philadelphia, 23-26 Oct 2019! ASEM already offers the best value in conference attendance by including hors d'oeuvres for the Wednesday evening welcome event, breakfast, lunch and dinner, along with breaks for Thursday and Friday, and breakfast on Saturday morning. By registering early, you can save even more!

This year, ASEM will also be celebrating the 40th meeting anniversary, looking back at years past and looking forward to a bright future. To register, please visit <https://www.asem.org/event-3132089/Registration>. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact [asem-hq@asem.org](mailto:asem-hq@asem.org). We look forward to seeing you at this terrific event!

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~ 21 September 2019 ~

## Reserve Your Room at the Sheraton Philadelphia University City Hotel

3549 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104



ASEM has negotiated a special room rate of \$185 (+fees & taxes) to stay at the conference venue in Philadelphia! **This special rate is valid through September 21, 2019.**

ASEM has negotiated a special room rate of \$185 (+fees & taxes) to stay at the conference venue in Philadelphia! Please make your reservations through this link [Sheraton Philadelphia University City Hotel](https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1553870199200&key=GRP) (<https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1553870199200&key=GRP>) or call +1-888-627-7071 and ask for a room in the ASEM block.

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### Meet ASEM's 2019 Engineering Manager of the Year!

Michael O'Connor is the Director of Strategy and Project Management with Medtronic, Plc. He has over 33 years of professional work experience and 28 years of professional experience in the medical device industry. O'Connor received his B.A. and minor in project management from Metropolitan State University. He holds graduate degrees in project management, technology management and business administration. O'Connor earned his Ph.D. in civil engineering, majoring in project management, from the University of Maryland, College Park, A. James School of Engineering. He is certified as an American Society for Engineering Management (ASEM) Certified Professional in Engineering Management (CPEM). He has many other certifications with other professional societies.



In 2012, he was selected as an American Society for Quality (ASQ) Fellow, and in 2014 selected as a Medtronic technical fellow (TF). He is currently a Director at Large and board member for the Minnesota Project Management Institute (PMI) chapter. He is a former Director at Large and board member for the Product Development and Management Association (PDMA). He currently is on the Metropolitan State University Board of Trustees, and he is a past board member and secretary for the Metropolitan State University alumni association Board of Directors. He is on the Board of Directors for the University of Wisconsin, Platteville, the external Board of Directors, University of Maryland, College Park, Fischell Department of Bioengineering, external advisory council on the Sanneh Foundation, and has volunteered his time with many organizations, professional societies and universities/colleges over the past 28 years. He is also an active community volunteer with various groups throughout Minnesota.

He is a community faculty member at Metropolitan State University teaching a project capstone course and an adjunct faculty member teaching graduate level project management, project capstone, procurement, and culture / organizational course(s). O'Connor has been recognized in the past by various Universities and Colleges for his volunteer community and education work. In addition to Medtronic, his corporate experience also includes 3M and Pfizer. He has continued to find time to mentor and coach people in his organization and outside his organization through the non-profits, universities and networks he has created.

Dr. O'Connor will accept this prestigious award at the [ASEM International Annual Conference](#) on Friday, October 25th in Philadelphia.

## me ASEM Associate Executive Director



We are pleased to announce Gene Dixon was confirmed at the last board meeting as our new associate executive director. Gene is a former president of ASEM and brings a wealth of academic and industrial experience to the society leadership. Gene transitioned from the Savannah River National Lab to an academic career at East Carolina University in 2005 and was a key faculty member in starting the engineering program there. The next eNews will feature more details on where Gene will focus his efforts to move the society forward. Thanks to Gene for his willingness to join the WHQ team.

## From ASEM's Membership Director

I am excited to be a part of ASEM as the Director for Professional Membership. Your response to this 4 question survey will help us understand your needs and enable us to to continue to add value for your professional growth. Please complete the linked survey by August 31. Thank you in advance! We hope to share the results and any proposed changes emanating from your feedback during the month of September.



<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07eghys7x2jyopcu0z/start>

Atul Kalia  
ASEM Professional Membership Director

## Notable Accomplishments for ASEM Members

Congratulations to ASEM Fellow Donald Kennedy for recently publishing "Improving Your Life At Work". This ebook is closely related to his hardcopy book "Flogging the Innocent", but adapted for ebook readers, with approximately 50% new material.



The book recognizes that technical managers may be less prepared for the future and the widespread adoption of automated systems. The foundations of management theory were primarily developed when no one could foresee artificial intelligence and machine learning where software programs dictate solutions for human workers to follow. Since the Hawthorne Experiments of the 1920s, researchers based recommendations on rational expected outcomes from management changes, neglecting to recognize that humans frequently behave in non-rational ways.

The intent of the book was for use as a text for classes on financial management, ethics, or production management. It can be reviewed to consider as a text, and has various cost points depending on the need. Please follow [this link](#) if you would like more information.

Have you had a recent accomplishment that you would like to have celebrated here, or do you know of a fellow ASEM member who has? If so, please contact Angie at [asem-hq@asem.org](mailto:asem-hq@asem.org).

## Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to potentially find your next career adventure, or to find out how you can advertise your employment opportunities to the EM community.

*Many thanks to the following organizations for promoting engineering management so well.*



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