

2021

ACADEMY OF  
DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNI



Maseeh College of Engineering  
and Computer Science

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

## PROGRAM

Our virtual celebration will be available to stream starting on May 25th, 2021. More information will be shared via email and on our website, [www.pdx.edu/engineering](http://www.pdx.edu/engineering).

### WELCOME

Dr. Richard Corsi  
Dean, Maseeh College

### RECOGNITION

Introduction of Scholarship Recipients

Induction of New Members, Class of 2021

Induction of Honorary Member, Dr. H. Chik M. Erzurumlu

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

Dr. Richard Corsi

## ACADEMY MISSION

The Maseeh College Academy of Distinguished Alumni was founded in 1997 with the mission to recognize and honor alumni who have attained excellence in the field of engineering or computer science. Members are community leaders and role models for future engineers and computer scientists. These individuals have given service to their profession and the community, and elevated the stature of the Maseeh College and PSU through their achievements.

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Thank you for joining us as we come together to celebrate the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science Academy of Distinguished Alumni. Unfortunately, this year we are unable to gather and celebrate in person, however, we invite you to join us for a special virtual celebration as we welcome our newest members. We are honored to have the opportunity to induct seven new members and our first honorary member into the Academy Class of 2021. These individuals have succeeded in the field of engineering or computer science and given service to their profession and the community. Their achievements shine a bright light on the Maseeh College and Portland State University.



We are extremely grateful to our community of students, faculty, and alumni who have joined together to overcome the challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic. As a community of engineers and computer scientists, we thrive in challenging situations. We rise up in times of adversity and develop creative solutions to the world's most complex challenges. Thank you to our community for your strength and resilience throughout these unprecedented times.

The Maseeh College is deeply committed to the belief that engineering and computer science can enact powerful and positive change in our world. Thank you for contributing to our success, and making this inspirational teaching and research environment possible. I hope that you will continue to join Portland State in our bold journey to make exceptional and positive impacts on society and the world.

Richard L. Corsi, Ph.D., P.E.  
H. Chik M. Erzurumlu Dean  
Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science



## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

The **Academy of Distinguished Alumni Scholarship** was created in 2019 to invest in the success of Maseeh College students. This scholarship is sustained through the generosity of faculty, alumni, and Academy members. As our Academy membership grows we also hope to grow this scholarship year after year. We are proud to celebrate the power of scholarship and introduce our Academy Scholarship student recipients.



### KARLA BARRAZA COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENT

Karla is currently a senior working to complete her Bachelor's in Computer Science. An immigrant from Mexico, Karla moved to North Carolina to live with family and began pursuing higher education. She transferred to Portland State three years ago where she values not only the education she is able to receive, but also the opportunity to practice her skills in industry. Aside from her studies, the most rewarding part of her time at PSU has been working with the Oregon MESA program to help underrepresented students in STEM like herself gain access and opportunity in the STEM industry. Through this experience she has grown and developed leadership skills that she will take with her as she enters the workforce.



### JUAN PABLO PEREZ-GARFIAS CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDENT

Juan was a senior in Civil Engineering and graduated this year with his Bachelor's of Science in Civil Engineering. Juan is the son of Mexican immigrants and a first-generation college student. He first became interested in civil engineering when he was working as a construction laborer. Juan attended Portland Community College to first pursue carpentry and soon became passionate about expanding his education and personal development. Civil engineering allowed Juan to pursue his passions while providing a challenge that pushed him to succeed. His plan post graduation is to gain some experience in the workforce as a structural engineer before returning to Portland State to pursue his Master's degree.

## OUR INDUCTEES:



### ESINA ALIC B.S. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING '97

Esina Alic recently served as the President and CEO of Insitu, LLC. In 2020 she founded the Res Novae Group and serves as the President and CEO. Throughout her career, Esina has held executive and management positions in business, finance, and engineering at various organizations ranging from start-ups to Fortune

50 companies. She has extensive knowledge of the aerospace and high-tech markets, as well as experience working in oil and gas, media, consumer goods, and other industries. Esina enjoys travel and sailing adventures with her husband and two daughters.



### AL BARKOULI B.S. CIVIL ENGINEERING '83 M.S. CIVIL ENGINEERING '87

Al Barkouli is the Chairman and CEO of David Evans Enterprises, Inc. and its three subsidiaries: DEA, Flux Resources, LLC, and Disaster and Emergency Management Services International, LLC. Al has served as a trustee on the Portland State University Foundation Board

of Trustees since 2014. Al is a registered professional engineer and he has more than 33 years of experience in civil engineering, serving as principal-in-charge of projects ranging from highways and light rail to roads and bridges. Al lives in Portland with his wife and their six children.



### HERMANN COLAS, JR. B.S. COMPUTER SCIENCE '77

Hermann Colas is the founder of Colas Construction. Over 50 years ago, Hermann came to the U.S. from Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. Hermann has occupied many positions during his career that helped strengthen his ability to lead and the entrepreneur in him was always looking for that perfect opportunity to start

his own company. Colas Construction's success is directly linked to his perseverance in the face of adversity as a Black-owned general contractor in Portland. Hermann has now successfully transferred ownership to the next generation of leadership and his three children are executive members of the firm.

## OUR INDUCTEES CONTINUED:



**SUBHA DHESIKAN**  
M.S. COMPUTER SCIENCE '96

Subha Dhesikan is a Principal Cloud Architect with Amazon Web Services where she is guiding major broadcast networks in their migration to the cloud. Throughout her career, she has created transformative technologies in multiple domains including broadcast media networks, connected vehicles, and Voice/

Video over IP. She worked at Cisco Systems for over 20 years, where she spearheaded the incubation of multiple new business initiatives. She holds 29 patents in various technology fields. Subha is a passionate gardener and resides in Texas with her family.



**ANDREAS EBERHART**  
M.S. COMPUTER SCIENCE '96

Andreas Eberhart is the CEO of Dashjoin GmbH i.G. in Germany. With 25 years of professional experience, Andreas is an expert in enterprise cloud, linked and big data, as well as systems architecture and development. He co-founded two startups and drove their growth resulting in two acquisitions by Silicon Valley giants HP and

Veritas. He has an extensive background in cutting edge research, excels in leading teams, and also spends time helping customers with complex IT challenges. Andreas serves as an assistant professor at the University of Karlsruhe and resides in Germany with his wife and three children.



**LOREN CHRISTIEN HOTCHKISS**  
B.S. ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING '94  
M.B.A. '00

Loren (Chris) Hotchkiss is a Vice President in the Data Platform Group, and currently serves as general manager of the Quality, Security, and Sustaining group at Intel Corporation. Chris started his journey at Intel as a quality and reliability engineer in 1991. In the last 29 years,

he has held a variety of technical and management roles in technology manufacturing development, semiconductor quality and reliability, phone and tablet client products, and smart glasses. Chris is one of six family members to earn a degree from PSU. Born and raised in Portland, he lives locally with his wife and four sons.



**GERALD H. WILLIAMS, JR.**  
PH.D. ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT '03

Gerald (Gerry) Williams is a Managing Partner at Construction Research, LLC. Gerry received his Bachelor's in Civil Engineering from Oregon State University and his Master's in Engineering Management from Washington State University before attending PSU for his Ph.D. Since that time, he has built a national practice in

construction dispute resolution. He has been involved in more than 300 complex construction disputes and has been the author of several papers on construction labor efficiency and productivity impacts. He taught at PSU's department of Civil Engineering from 1996 to 2008. Gerry is a Portland native who resides locally with his wife and two adult daughters.

## OUR HONORARY INDUCTEE:



**DR. H. CHIK M. ERZURUMLU**  
FOUNDING DEAN  
1934 - 2020

Dr. H. Chik M. Erzurumlu was the Emeritus Dean and Professor of Civil Engineering at Portland State University. He first joined Portland State College in 1962 as a faculty member in civil engineering and by 1980 he was leading the Division of Engineering and

Applied Science. In 1982, he became the founding Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science. Dr. Erzurumlu oversaw years of innovation and new initiatives as he worked to build a solid foundation for the new school, now known as the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Dr. Erzurumlu's induction as an Honorary Member of the Maseeh College Academy of Distinguished Alumni is a tribute to his accomplishments and contributions to education, teaching, research, and the engineering profession. We are so honored we had the opportunity to welcome Dr. Erzurumlu into this group of fellow leaders and professionals in the Academy.





# THANK YOU!

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## HOW TO GIVE:

- 1** **ONLINE**  
<https://giving.psuf.org/MCECS>
- 2** **CONTACT**  
**Kristen Norquist**  
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