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Vision

Rooted at the intersection of science and engineering, engineering mechanics is a foundational discipline with a long and distinguished history. Its influence permeates nearly every aspect of modern life—from energy-efficient buildings and sustainable transportation infrastructure to resilient lifeline systems, advanced materials, microelectronic technologies, and innovative medical devices. The ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI) serves as a flagship professional community advancing this vital field.

I feel both fortunate and proud to be part of this dynamic community. My involvement began in 2008, when I attended my first EMI conference as a graduate student. Since then, I have remained actively engaged through regular participation in both domestic and international conferences, and I have come to regard EMI as my professional home. Over the years, I have contributed in multiple capacities, currently serving as an Associate Editor for ASCE's *Journal of Engineering Mechanics* and participating in technical committees on probabilistic methods and computational mechanics. In addition, since 2013, I have co-organized the annual mini-symposium on quasibrittle fracture mechanics at the EMI conference.

It is an honor to be considered for the EMI Board of Governors. Looking ahead, I am committed to advancing our community in several key areas. First, I aim to strengthen connections between EMI and related professional societies—such as the Society of Engineering Science and the American Concrete Institute—by promoting collaborative initiatives and joint activities. Second, I will foster outreach and professional development at EMI conferences by organizing undergraduate research forums, career panels for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers, and discussions that strengthen ties between academia and industry. Third, I will work to amplify the impact and visibility of our community by encouraging and facilitating ASCE special publications and special issues in the *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*.

Bio

Dr. Jia-Liang Le is the James L. Record Professor and Associate Head of the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geo- Engineering at the University of Minnesota. He received his Bachelor of Engineering (First Class Honors) and Master of Engineering in Civil Engineering from the National University of Singapore, and a Ph.D. in Structural Engineering and Mechanics from Northwestern University. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Minnesota. He is a fellow of ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute, member of the Board of Directors of the Society of Engineering Science, and the President of the International Association of Fracture Mechanics of Concrete and Concrete Structures. He also chairs the American Concrete Institute technical committee on fracture mechanics. His research interests include fracture mechanics, probabilistic mechanics, scaling, computational mechanics, structural stability, and structural reliability. He serves on the editorial boards of the ASCE Journal of Engineering Mechanics, Engineering Failure Analysis, and Engineering Fracture Mechanics. He has received several research awards including the EMI Leonardo da Vinci Award from ASCE, the Society of Engineering Science Young Investigator Medal, and the Early Achievement Research Award from the International Association of Structural Safety and Reliability.