What do you believe are the major issues facing the IEEE?
IEEE must strengthen attractiveness, value, and relevance for members, volunteers, the scientific and professional community, and the entire humanity. IEEE groups must reinforce cooperation towards One IEEE.

Critical aspects are products, services, membership value, diversity, globalization, visibility, innovation investments, and financial sustainability. We should focus more on:

- empowering and engaging individuals through personalized services, specialized networking, affordable membership fees, tangible benefits, and participation;
- providing high-quality knowledge through modern channels, emerging technologies, standards, materials for scientists and professionals, and continuing education;
- promoting inclusivity, especially for local communities, underserved groups and areas, young generations, public services, and humanitarian activities.

What do you believe are the major issues facing the IEEE?
As the technology in today's information age quickly advances, the IEEE must become an even more agile organization. IEEE needs to be setting the trends in advancing and promoting technology. We will also need to re-orient The Institute toward a more knowledge-based organization. Further, as IEEE is a global organization and driven by our members' energy and talent, our activities need to be spread across all regions. IEEE will address these challenges through building flexible and diverse communities that share, collaborate and engage with one another. We will continue be successful as long as we are served by extraordinary technical professionals.

What do you believe are the major issues facing the IEEE?
Declining and aging membership and financial woes. Setting as goal doubling or tripling our membership, I force IEEE to think strategically about its future – what different products and services should IEEE offer to serve the different segments of our technical communities so they find value in their IEEE membership. We need to deeply understand and address the needs of young professionals, women, professionals from different industries and from different regions and countries.

Over the last few years, IEEE has had consistent multimillion dollar operational budget deficits. IEEE finances lack transparency. These need to be addressed head-on for a successful IEEE.
What do you think is the number one goal for the IEEE leadership?

IEEE leadership should continuously grow IEEE as the premiere organization for our scientific and professional community and as the reference for academy, industry, government, and the general public, for the benefit of humanity.

IEEE leadership should do so by understanding and serving our community, globally and locally, with strategic vision and guidance, encouraging participation, galvanizing enthusiasm, and catalyzing the rich and diverse competences and aspirations of members and volunteers. I envision a holistic view for One IEEE, recognizing diversity as a fundamental richness for synergic cooperation, and in which everybody feels proud to be. An IEEE by people for people.

What do you think is the number one goal for the IEEE leadership?

Our overarching goal should be to better empower IEEE members to contribute their talent and effort toward the highest societal impact of the technologies that we champion. This demands that we provide strong leadership in technology and be its public voice. We also need to inspire others to join us either as members or supporters. As a global, all-inclusive community without borders, we should embrace in this effort not only academics, but also professionals, industry practitioners, students, young professionals and entrepreneurs. We must also include those who are under-privileged and under-represented and aspire for professional growth in emerging economies.

What do you think is the number one goal for the IEEE leadership?

Increase IEEE and Societies/Councils membership by a factor of three, or reach the one million mark, by making IEEE the indispensable technical professional society of choice. IEEE needs to be engaged in this strategic discussion to understand what is the value it offers to attract new members: make intensive use of technology to create new opportunities for networking, mentorship, and professional development; deliver new products and services addressing the needs, education and training of our professionals; and develop new type events that best serve our global communities-at-large. Replace IEEE membership fee by new sources of revenue. Think globally, act locally.

Balloting starts on 15 August 2017
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2017 IEEE Annual Election Candidates for IEEE President-Elect, 2018

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Philip and Marsha Dowd
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Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, and
BioMedical Engineering Department
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What motivates you and what qualifies you for the position you are seeking?

I am motivated by the passion for serving and giving back to IEEE members and our scientific and professional community.

I feel that I am well qualified to lead our efforts. I have technical background, academic and industrial experience, management and leadership skills, vision and strategic thinking, understanding of members’ aspirations, and genuine global perspective. I have deep and broad understanding of IEEE activities and operations, with proven successful problem-solving experience. I promote and support diversity, underserved groups and areas, transparency, trust, participation, and team building. I always aim to work collegially through consensus for One IEEE.

What motivates you and what qualifies you for the position you are seeking?

Through my experience as an IEEE leader, I have come to understand how this organization supports research, disseminates intellectual property, and connects researchers and practitioners around the globe. Through my professional work in the US, in Europe and Asia as well through global service for the IEEE, I have demonstrated that I know how to improve the organization to meet the needs of our members. As President, I will use these lessons and unique leadership, technical and people skills to improve the entire IEEE and ensure that it brings the benefits of technology to all the regions of the world.

What motivates you and what qualifies you for the position you are seeking?

Fixing the two IEEE challenges: dramatically increase IEEE membership and right the IEEE fiscal ship. I have broad experience with IEEE – cofounded a Section (Portugal), been involved in technical activities through a Society and Council, contributed to IEEE level committees and Boards, been an officer and Board member. I am strategic and a team builder: I identify few main challenges and then engage interested parties (members, volunteers, and staff) to address them. I don’t micromanage. Once action is defined, I facilitate, encourage, and find the resources that others need to enjoy their roles and deliver on what is agreed to.

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