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Symposium Chair,
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Andre Michel, an automation professional with more than 35 years of global experience in automation project delivery and system application, serves as Symposium Co-Chair of ISA@Montreal 2018. As President of Efficient Plant, Inc., a Montreal-based consulting company specializing in automation project management, Michel has assisted many large international pharmaceutical companies (such as Merck, Pfizer, Eli Lilly, and Amgen) meet their process automation optimization and management goals. As a long-time ISA volunteer leader, he has been particularly active within ISA's Food and Pharmaceutical Industries Division (FPID). Michel currently serves as Director of ISA's Management Division.



Sandeep Raju
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Sandeep Raju is a Controls and Instrumentation Engineer at Searles Valley Minerals, a global provider of soda ash, sodium sulfate, and boron products from a saline mineral deposit in California's Mojave Desert. In his position, Raju supports and develops instrument and control systems, control strategy planning, and design services for three continuous process mineral manufacturing plants, a power generation plant, and mining operations. Within ISA, Raju serves as Director-Elect of ISA's Automatic Controls and Robotics Division (ACARD) and as webmaster of ISA's Process Measurement and Control Division (PMCD).



Khashayar "Kash" Behdinan
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Kash Behdinan, Ph.D., is an Adjunct Professor at California State University at Northridge and President of Pointfar Automation LLC., a supplier of control system and automation solutions. Dr. Behdinan serves as Symposium Co-Chair of ISA@Montreal 2018 and Director of ISA's Process Measurement and Control Division (PMCD). He has in-depth experience across all key areas of automation, and is particularly focused on designing and developing an automation standard for operating and upgrading control systems. Dr. Behdinan has helped lead several ISA technical symposia on instrumentation and process control over the years.



Naidu Singampalli
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Naidu Singampalli is a graduate engineer with more than 26 years of design construction experience in the fields of oil & gas and cryogenics. Singampalli is an expert in managing the complete project life cycle—from concept to commissioning and including multi-discipline engineering management. He currently works at TechnipFMC in Doha, Qatar, a UK-based company that provides project life cycle services for the energy industry. Project Management Professional (PMP)-certified and a member of the Project Management Institute (PMI), Singampalli is highly engaged with ISA's Qatar Section and actively volunteers within ISA's Construction and Design Division (CONDES).



Bill Dugary
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Bill Dugary is a Senior Business Development Manager and automation consultant at Applied Control Engineering, Inc., a company specializing in process control, manufacturing automation, and system integration. Dugary possesses many years of leadership experience within ISA. He currently serves as Director of ISA's Food and Pharmaceutical Industries Division (FPID), ISA District 2 Vice President, and Executive Committee member of ISA's Philadelphia Section. An ISA Senior Life Member, Dugary is also a board member of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE).



Maxym Lachance
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Maxym Lachance serves as Project Manager at Tetra Tech in Québec, Canada, a leading provider of consulting, engineering, program management, construction management and technical services worldwide. Lachance possesses more than 17 years of experience in automation and instrumentation and control within the water and wastewater treatment industry. He specializes in the application of real-time control and in overseeing all project stages, including design, plans and specifications, construction support, start up, commissioning, and performance monitoring. An ISA member since 2008, Lachance serves as President of ISA's Montreal Section.



Trung Nguyen
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Trung Nguyen is a Facility Engineer at the Montreal-East Terminal of Shell Canada. Nguyen possesses extensive experience in control systems, information systems, and industrial networking design and implementation. He is a representative within ISA District 13 and a former President of ISA's Montreal Section.



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J. Parsons is an Instrumentation and Controls Engineer with Jacobs Engineering, provider of technical, professional and construction services, including all aspects of architecture, engineering and construction, operations and maintenance, as well as scientific and specialty consulting.



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Yogesh Balajee is a senior-level Controls and Automation Engineer at Puratos USA, an international company that develops and markets bakery, patisserie, and chocolate products. Balajee applies his expertise in the areas of programmable logic controllers (PLC), manufacturing execution systems (MES), and enterprise resource planning (ERP), and in mastering the project management skills needed for a digital factory. He was recently named Director of ISA's Automatic Controls and Robotics Division (ACARD). Balajee speaks frequently at automation and manufacturing conferences around the world and has received several engineering awards.



Pamela Docherty
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Pamela Docherty is Life Sciences Industry Manager at Siemens Industry USA, a leading supplier of automation, digitalization, and electrification solutions and services for industry and manufacturing. Docherty has nearly 20 years of experience in batch automation, with more than fifteen of them focusing on pharmaceutical production. Before joining Siemens Industry USA, she worked at Merck & Co. and at Siemens Energy and Automation. Docherty is highly involved at both the International Forum on Process Analytical Chemistry (IFPAC) and the International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE).



Antonio Alves
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Antonio Alves is a Project Manager at Esterline CMC Electronics, a leading designer and developer of technology electronics products for the aviation and global positioning markets. Alves possesses more than 30 years of global experience in automation project management and electrical, instrumentation, and controls engineering. He has in-depth expertise in coordinating new product/equipment design, cost management, scheduling, integration, on-site installation and start-up, and customer relations. A current ISA Executive Board Member, Alves is a former ISA Geographic Assembly Chairman, ISA District 13 Vice President, and President of ISA's Montreal Section.



Kim Belinsky
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Kim Belinsky serves as Manager of Divisions and Events at ISA, the global association of automation and control professionals. In her position, Belinsky plans, manages, and executes ISA division member governance activities and ISA technical division symposia and conferences—providing the automation community with high-value technical content and professional development opportunities.