Biographies and Photos of all Speakers

Photos	Biography
	**Dr Ruxandra Botez** is Full Professor at ÉTS - Quebec University in Canada since 1998. She has obtained her Master in Engineering from the Faculty of Aircraft Design in Bucharest, Romania, Master in Applied Science from Ecole Polytechnique and PhD from McGill universities in Montreal, Canada. Ruxandra was also Postdoctoral Fellow at Auburn University in the USA and she has a 5 years industrial experience obtained from the Factory of Helicopters in Brasov, Romania and Bombardier in Dorval, Canada. Ruxandra is the Canada Research Chair Tier 1 Holder in Aircraft Modeling and Simulation Technologies since 2011, and she is the Head of the Laboratory of Applied Research in Active Controls, Avionics and AeroServoElasticity LARCASE since 2003. Ruxandra is Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), Canadian Academy of Engineering (CAE), Canadian Aeronautical Society Institute (CASI) and Royal Aeronautical Society (RAeS), Honorary Foreign Member of the Romanian Academy and many other organizations. Ruxandra is member of two technical committees of AIAA: Adaptive Structures and Modeling and Simulation technical committees and she is also the Technical Chair of the AIAA SciTech 2024 Adaptive Structures Technical Committee. Ruxandra is Editor-in-Chief of the INCAS Bulletin and Associate Editor of different other journals including the Aeronautical Journal. Ruxandra graduated more than 400 students in her academic career, who worked on her research projects: 30 PhD students, 140 master's students (projects and theses) and 300 Internship students. Ruxandra published more than 200 archival original journal articles, 340 conference papers and 7 invited book chapters. Ruxandra and her team have obtained more than 70 awards; she also gave more than 50 invited speaker presentations. Ruxandra's projects were and are realized in collaboration with various universities, aerospace companies and research institutes in Canada, such as Bombardier Aerospace, CAE, CMC Electronics, Bell Helicopter Textron, Thales Aerospace, GlobVision, FLIR Systems and IAR-NRC, in the USA with Presagis and NASA, in Italy with Alenia and CIRA, in Mexico with Hydra Technologies, in Germany with DLR, in Romania with the National Institute for Aerospace Research "Elie Carafoli".

	**Mr. Vincent Myrand-Lapierre** received a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering in 2009 and a Master's Degree in Aerospace Engineering in 2010, both from Université Laval in Quebec City, Canada. During his graduate studies, he developed innovative control strategies for UAVs for Defence Research and Development Canada. In 2010, Vincent joined CAE and has since become a Subject Matter Expert (2017) and mentor in the Aerodynamics group. He holds several patents, has authored and co-authored numerous papers in scientific conferences, and has been involved in many flight test programs. Vincent has led several innovative initiatives, including the creation of new development processes in flight test analysis and system identification for rotorcraft, fixed-wing, and eVTOL high-fidelity simulators. From 2018 to 2021, he was a member of the NATO AVT-296 research working group on "Rotorcraft Flight Simulation Model Fidelity Improvement and Assessment," led by Dr. Mark Tischler. Since 2024, Vincent has been a member of the AIAA Modeling & Simulation Technical Committee.
	**Mr. Pierre-Olivier Tardif** is an Aerodynamics Technical Expert at CAE. He has been involved in the design of several new-generation tools that are now fundamental to the development of high-fidelity fixed-wing and rotary-wing aerodynamic simulation models. Acting as a System Software Developer since 2015, he has taken part to the development of multiple simulation models requiring the analysis of large flight test datasets received from third parties or gathered via CAE-led flight test campaigns. Pierre-Olivier holds a Master of Engineering in Computational Aerodynamics at McGill University (2015), and a bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering at Polytechnique Montréal (2013).

	**Ms. Sandrine De Jesus Mota:** With 15 years of experience in aeronautics, Sandrine De Jesus Mota is an Engineering Manager known for her positive attitude and her people-oriented leadership. She leads the A220 Flight Characteristics Team at Airbus Canada since 2022. With a mindset of continuous improvement, the Team develops the future flight control laws to improve the aircraft performance and ease pilots workload. The Team relies on a high fidelity simulation environment and a suite of ground test rigs and flight test vehicles to achieve the highest levels of safety. As a Master's degree graduate from ETS, Sandrine is enthusiastic about meeting the next generation of aeronautical professionals and discussing the innovations that will shape the future of aviation!
	**Mr. Cyrille Leclere :** Cyrille Leclere, with extensive aeronautics program experience from fighter aircrafts, helicopters to commercial aircraft is now leading the environmental multi-functional team for Airbus Canada. This team brings together all the skills and business areas of the A220 program to frame and implement Airbus Environmental Commitments. The scope is the full Life Cycle of the A220, from the raw material usage, through a more environmentally friendly manufacturing footprint, the aircraft in operation and up to its end-of-life management. Convinced that the challenges the aerospace industry is facing can only be overcome by the collaboration across all actors and with passionate and creative professionals; he is excited to have the opportunity to exchange with the talents from ETS to pioneer sustainable aviation!

	**Dr. Fassi Kafyeke** has an Aerospace Engineering Master's degree from Université de Liège (Belgium), a Master's degree (Air Transport Engineering) from the Cranfield Institute of Technology (U.K.) and a Ph.D. (Mechanical Engineering, Aerodynamics) from École Polytechnique de Montréal (Canada). Fassi Kafyeke joined Bombardier in 1982 and has had a long professional career, including 25 years in aerodynamics. For 15 years he has been Chief of Advanced Aerodynamics, responsible for the aerodynamic design of Challenger 300 and Global 6000 business jets, CRJ 700, 900 and 1000 regional jets and the Cseries single-aisle aircraft CS100 and CS300, now Airbus A220. Since 2007, he became Director, then Senior Director, responsible for the development of the strategic technologies that can be found on Bombardier aircraft (fly-by-wire, composite wing, new generation aerodynamics, etc). In 2020, he became Fellow Research, Innovation and Collaborations for Bombardier Aviation. He is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering and has been active on many consortium boards, such as CRIAQ, GARDN, SA2GE and AERO 21. He is currently on assignment at Aero Montréal to lead efforts to set up the Montreal Aerospace Innovation Zone Espace Aéro.
	**Mr. Walter Gordon** worked as an engineer in Western New York from 1979 to 2020 at four different aerospace firms: Falcon Research and Development, Sierra Research, Calspan, and lastly the Moog Space and Defense Group. He is also retired from a parallel 30-year career in the Air Force Reserve, serving as commander of the 328th Airlift Squadron and 914th Airlift Wing in Niagara Falls, New York. Colonel Gordon is a veteran of Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom and has over 2,000 hours flying time in the C-130. Walter has a long-time interest in aerospace and aerospace history, joining AIAA at age 17 and currently serving as chairman of the Niagara Frontier Section and chair of the History Committee Historic Aerospace Sites subcommittee. He is also the chairman of the Niagara Frontier Aviation and Space Hall of Fame nominating committee and a past president of the Niagara Aerospace Museum and Aero Club of Buffalo. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Aerospace Engineering from the University at Buffalo and an M.S. in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Air Force Air War College.

	**Ms. Lindsay Mitchell** has worked at AIAA for 5 years and oversees the Institute's 7 Regions, 58 Sections and nearly 250 Student Branches around the world, ensuring these communities have the resources they need to engage members at the local level. Before AIAA, she worked at an educational nonprofit focused in geospatial intelligence, where she managed its young professional, scholarship, and K-12 programs. She lives in Northern Virginia, with her husband, 5-year-old daughter, and Maltese terrier.
	**Mr. Angelo M. Iasiello :** In his capacity as Executive Vice President, Strategy and International, Angelo works closely with the AIAA Board of Directors to ensure the organization has a constant growth mindset. Angelo develops the strategies and sub-strategies that posture the organization to take advantage of market opportunities that drive growth through its four business units. Angelo has worked at AIAA for 27 years and has served in multiple roles to include Chief Operating Officer to oversee the Institute's operations and providing executive oversight to its workforce; Director of Products where he grew the Institute's legacy technical publication and conference products; and Director of International Activities to disseminate AIAA's core technical products and programs to international markets. Angelo is also fluent in Spanish and Italian.

Ms. Kathy Baig has been the Chief Executive Officer of ÉTS since June 2024. A distinguished engineer and recognized leader, she is a member of the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec (OIQ), a Fellow of both the Canadian Academy of Engineering and Engineers Canada. She holds a degree from Polytechnique Montréal and an MBA from HEC Montréal. Baig served as President of the OIQ from 2016 to 2022, representing 65,000 members, and held various leadership roles at Engineers Canada from 2021 to 2024. Before joining ÉTS, she held key strategic positions, including Vice President of Development and Positioning and Senior Director of Transportation Operations – Montreal Metropolitan at engineering consulting firm Stantec. She also worked in engineering and management roles at IBM Bromont, PyroGenesis Canada Inc., Aéroports de Montréal, and Johnson & Johnson, where she was involved in research and development. Highly engaged in her professional community, Baig has received numerous awards and distinctions, including Canada's Top 40 Under 40 in 2019 and the Germaine-Gibara Leadership Award – SME at the 2017 Mercuriades. She has also served on several boards of directors, including VIA Rail Canada, Fondaction, Nav Canada, the Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations, and the National Optics Institute. Recognized as one of Canada's most influential engineers, she was awarded an honorary doctorate by ÉTS in 2021 for her outstanding leadership and commitment to advancing women's roles in engineering. In 2023, Concordia University also conferred this distinction, recognizing her positive impact on the profession. Her strategic approach, ability to mobilize, and extensive management experience are valuable assets that will contribute to strengthening the reputation, influence, and growth of ÉTS.

	**Dr. Seyed Mohammad Hosseini** holds a Ph.D. in Engineering and has conducted advanced research on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) methods, including various fuzzy logic-based methodologies, adaptive systems, and recurrent neural networks, for the design and development of aircraft flight control laws. His doctoral studies were completed under the supervision of Prof. Ruxandra Botez and Prof. Georges Ghazi at the Laboratory of Applied Research in Active Controls, Avionics, and AeroServoElasticity (LARCASE). Before pursuing his Ph.D., he earned both his Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Control and Electronics Engineering, further solidifying his expertise in control systems and avionics. In addition to his academic background, he has received extensive hands-on training in aircraft engine and body repair and maintenance and holds an Aircraft Basic Training Certificate (Category B2). His combined academic and technical expertise places him at the intersection of AI-based control systems and aerospace engineering. He has also been an AIAA member and the treasurer of the AIAA-ÉTS student chapter at École de Technologie Supérieure (ÉTS) since its foundation in 2020 and an active IEEE member since 2018.
	**Mr. Mouhamadou Wade** is a Ph.D. student in Aerospace Engineering, specializing in flight data analysis. His research, supervised by Prof. Georges Ghazi and Prof. Ruxandra Botez at the Laboratory of Applied Research in Active Controls, Avionics, and AeroServoElasticity (LARCASE), focuses on aircraft trim analysis and the use of artificial intelligence to optimize aeronautical data processing. In addition to his Ph.D. research, Wade has experience in aerodynamic coefficient modeling and EEG signal processing. His interests also include microcontroller programming, and aircraft systems. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from UQTR since 2020, where he developed a strong interest in AI through self-learning. Following his passion for aviation, he obtained a Master's degree in Aerospace Engineering from ÉTS in 2022.

Mr. Rojo Princy Andrianantara is a PhD candidate at ÉTS. In June 2019, he received his bachelor's degree from the Moscow Aviation Institute (MAI) in flight dynamics and aircraft control. He joined ÉTS in September 2019 to pursue a master's degree in aerospace engineering. He is currently working at LARCASE under the supervision of professors Ruxandra Botez and Georges Ghazi. His research focuses on identifying and validating the performance of the General Electric CF34-8C5B1 engine of the CRJ-700 aircraft using neural network methods to predict thrust and fuel consumption. Since September 2021, Rojo Princy has continued his PhD study program, on the adaptive control of the Cessna Citation X using intelligent methods such as neural networks, nonlinear dynamic inversion and adaptive filters. He has been member of AIAA-ÉTS Student branch since its foundation in 2020, and has been Co-chair since 2022.