



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES)

And

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

The percentage of African American graduates among engineering degree candidates remains well below the 13.2 percent that represents parity. To address this US engineering workforce development and innovation challenge, the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), as part of its 10-year Strategic Plan entitled NSBE 2025, has made its primary goal to annually graduate 10,000 black engineers by the year 2025. NSBE has also established Game Change 2025, the 2020–2025 Strategic Plan which reshapes the work of the Society's mission to enable greater success in the coming era of social and economic transformation (<https://gamechange2025.nsbe.org>).

NSBE and the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) believe that we are uniquely and strategically positioned to provide the leadership needed, within the bioengineering community to increase the number of BME engineering degrees awarded to Blacks by 2025 and to enhance their career success through a well-developed professional network.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines the collaborative and accountable actions we are committed to undertaking to help realize NSBE 2025, Game Change 2025, and the goals and objectives defined in the BMES Statement and Commitment to Social and Racial Justice, and the BMES Strategic Plan.

STRATEGIC PARTNER INTRODUCTIONS

The Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES): BMES is the professional society for biomedical engineering and bioengineering. Founded in 1968, the Society has over 6,000 student, early career and professional members, including those who have received the grade of Fellow. The mission of the BMES is to build and support the biomedical engineering community, locally, nationally and internationally, with activities designed to communicate recent advances, discoveries, and inventions; promote education and professional development; and integrate the perspectives of the academic, medical, governmental, and business sectors.

BMES serves as the lead society for BME education accreditation and is the professional home for biomedical engineering and bioengineering worldwide. The academic leadership of the field is represented via a formal affiliation with the Council of Chairs of Bioengineering and Biomedical Engineering with BMES. The BMES mission is carried out through activities including education accreditation, publications, scientific meetings, global programs, diversity initiatives, and the practice and teaching of ethics. In addition to the national Society, BMES maintains 150 high school and collegiate-level student chapters in the US, has three Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and an education journal, in addition to three other scholarly journals.

The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE): Founded in 1975, the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) is one of the largest student-governed organizations based in the United States. With nearly 16,000 members and 500 chapters in the U.S. and abroad, NSBE supports and promotes the



aspirations of collegiate and pre-collegiate students and technical professionals in engineering and technology. NSBE's mission is *to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community.*" NSBE is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

NSBE's objectives are to:

- Stimulate and develop student interest in the various engineering disciplines
- Strive to increase the number of minority students studying engineering at both the undergraduate and graduate levels
- Encourage members to seek advanced degrees in engineering or related fields and to obtain professional engineering registrations
- Promote public awareness of engineering and the opportunities for Blacks and other minorities in that profession Function as a representative body on issues and developments that affect the careers of Black Engineers.

RECOGNITION

This MOU establishes a formal relationship between BMES & NSBE as strategic partners and each organization will recognize the other in selected partnering activities and materials through appropriate acknowledgment in publications, advertisements, and related materials as described below.

PURPOSE

With this MOU, BMES & NSBE pledge to work together to advance the mutual goals of both organizations through collaborative efforts including, but not limited to those outlined below:

The Parties (BMES and NSBE) agree to the following over the next two years:

Education

- One webinar per calendar year hosted by each organization respectfully:
 - Topic areas TBD and vetted through each party
 - BMES will send to membership (6,000+) or segmented (specific member category, SIG/track topic); NSBE to send to BME cohort
 - Each organization will give the other 60 days advance notice
 - Guest organization will provide all collateral material (webinar description, speakers, logos) within 21 calendar days.
 - Host organization will marketing to host audience, provide platform and host a speaker training one week prior to the event.
- Two announcements in organization's monthly newsletter
 - Ability to advertise an event, another webinar, etc. – topic vetted through both parties.

Professional Development

- Speaker's Bureau
 - In order to provide world-class expertise, each organization will suggest speakers to the other twice a year from their own membership:



- Requests must be made 90 days in advance of the event, where applicable
- Host organization will provide an email introduction to guest organization's contact within 10 business days of request.

Annual Meeting

Each organization will reciprocate:

- i. A 10x10 exhibit table (pipe and drape/wastebasket/2 chairs) with space selection no later than 90 days prior to meeting
- ii. Logo placement on banner ad
- iii. Two complementary full meeting registrations

TERM

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be effective as of the date given below, and it shall continue for a term of two (2) years unless extended by mutual written agreement, or unless terminated earlier as provided herein.

MISCELLANEOUS

All activities of the parties hereunder shall be consistent with federal, state and local laws, including antitrust laws and Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Neither party is authorized by the other under this agreement to act on behalf of or in the name of the other party. Neither party shall have the authority to bind the other in contract, debt or otherwise. The parties are and shall remain separate entities, and no partnership, joint venture or agency relationship shall be created under this agreement.

Any and all uses of a party's confidential or proprietary information, materials, or property, including specifically intellectual property, shall be subject to advance review and approval by the party.

Employees of BMES are not to be considered employees, borrowed or otherwise, of NSBE, and vice versa. It may also be worthwhile to disclaim what the partnership is not intended to do, guarantee, or create.

Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other Party.

Executed this 12 day of August 2021

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Charity Quick
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Charity Quick
Executive Director, BMES

DocuSigned by:
Janeen Uzzell
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Janeen Uzzell
Chief Executive Officer, NSBE