



SNAME

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR MARITIME AND OCEAN PROFESSIONALS



Left to right: SNAME Member Juan Menendez Jr. (Intercon) and Liz Bouchard (Executive Director, SNAME) at the Marine Log Ship Repair Conference in Jacksonville, FL, in June.

SNAME NEWS

July 2026

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER



| PLAYING ON THE WORLD STAGE

Even those who do not consider themselves soccer fans have probably noticed that the World Cup has a way of drawing people in. Suddenly, those of us who rarely watch soccer are discussing stoppage time, goal differential, penalty kicks, and why the referee clearly needs an eye exam.

Flags appear in windows, office conversations become slightly more international, and for a few weeks, the world seems to gather around one field. That is part of what makes the World Cup so compelling; it is not simply a tournament. It is a reminder that pride in one's own country and participation in a global community can exist side by side. Teams arrive with different languages, cultures, styles of play, and histories, but they all step onto the same field, under the same rules, pursuing excellence with the whole world watching.

That image feels very relevant to SNAME. We are also playing on the world stage. SNAME's strength has never been limited to one country, one region, one market segment, or one generation. We are a community of maritime and ocean professionals whose work crosses borders every day. The vessels we design, build, operate, regulate, research, and support serve a global industry. The challenges we face are not confined by national boundaries, and our solutions must go beyond borders, too.

Over the past several months, I have been reminded repeatedly of SNAME's international reach and responsibility. SNAME has an important role to play in connecting people, ideas, and opportunities across the maritime community.

Like any great team, we need different strengths on the field. We need experienced professionals who have seen the industry change over decades. We need young professionals and students who bring energy, questions, and new ideas and expectations. We need academics, operators, designers, builders, regulators, suppliers, and researchers. We need our local Sections that understand their communities, and we need international connections to broaden our perspectives.

No World Cup team succeeds because of one player. The stars may get the headlines, but championships are won through teamwork, preparation, communication, trust, and shared purpose. The same is true for SNAME. Our future depends not simply on having talented individuals, but on helping those individuals work together across disciplines, organizations, and borders.

As we look ahead, I hope that we will all continue to see SNAME not just as the society we belong to, but as the team we help build. That means inviting new members in, strengthening our international relationships, and sharing our knowledge generously. It means showing up at Section meetings, technical committees, conferences, student events, and industry gatherings always ready to contribute.

The World Cup reminds us that the world is watching excellence, passion, and teamwork. SNAME's stage may be different, but our opportunity is just as real. We are an international society serving an international industry. Let's keep playing that way.

Fair winds and following seas,

Rich Mueller, President | president@sname.org



MY SECOND-YEAR ANNIVERSARY: AN UPDATE

1 July marked my second-year anniversary as SNAME's Executive Director, and "time flies when you're having fun" still applies. I love my job and SNAME. While there are always challenges in a job, the accomplishments always balance those out. Let me bring you up to date.

Headquarters

SNAME Headquarters (HQ) is stable with an open and inclusive culture that encourages diversity of thought, leadership, and engagement. We have 11 staff members: eight full-time employees and three part-time team members who fill essential roles. The staff is working together as a team.

Moreover, the cultural shift I began in 2024 to strengthen the relationship between HQ staff and volunteers continues to gain momentum. Communication is improving, and staff and volunteers are working together more effectively to achieve shared goals.

Membership

Membership remains steady at just over 4,000 members, meeting our 2025–2026 strategic goal of stabilizing membership. Our next priority is growth. Joining SNAME is now much easier due to critical IT investments and upgrades that also allow us to produce and analyze membership data more effectively.

Partnerships

In my second year, I began placing greater emphasis on partnerships. SNAME's paper files reflect the hundreds of strategic alliances built over the Society's 133-year history, and renewing that spirit of collaboration is essential to our future. My priorities are:

- Strengthening ties with industry, academia, government, and allied organizations.
- Building practical working relationships that support the Society's mission and long-term health.
- Expanding SNAME's visibility and engagement across the maritime community.

Over the past year, I attended more than 20 industry events and participated in numerous meetings as part of my commitment to active engagement.

Finances

Managing SNAME's day-to-day finances is a key part of my role to help ensure our operational excellence and long-term financial health. For FY 2025–2026, with support from the Net Zero Committee, we reduced expenditures by \$437k (15 percent below budget) for the first 11 months of FY26. This was done by analyzing costs and improving efficiencies without jeopardizing operations. For the first time ever, we also applied activity-based accounting to all the events in which we participate to provide clearer insights into their costs and a tool for decision-making. Notwithstanding, our long-term financial health is dependent upon growing revenue, and this will be my focus for the coming year.

HQ UPDATE

Conclusion

Looking back on the past two years, I am proud of how much we have accomplished together. Many of the [strategic goals](#) established by our President, Rich Mueller, for 2025–2026 are already within reach or have been achieved. Although there is still important work ahead, I am confident that we will continue building momentum and making meaningful progress. I look forward to my third year working with our members and partners.

Elizabeth Bouchard

Executive Director

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Marine Log Ship Repair Conference



Left to right: SNAME Member Nuh Elalaoui and SNAME President-Elect Richard McCreary (Gulf Marine Repair & Hendry Marine Industries).



SNAME Member Jan Flores (NETSCo).

THE GIVING CIRCLE

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MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER PROFILE

IGNAZIO MARIA VIOLA



Ignazio Maria Viola, alternate Functional Vice President, Knowledge Management Committee, and Chair of the Journal and Papers Publication Committee, developed a passion for sailing as a child when he lived on yachts for long periods of time with his mother, a professional sailor.

This early experience motivated him to pursue a degree in Naval Engineering from the University of Genova in Italy and later work in a yacht yard on Lake Como.

Viola continued his education by obtaining a Ph.D. and a postdoc from the University of Auckland in New Zealand. His research experience led him to an academic career. He first worked as a lecturer at Newcastle University in England and then became a professor at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland a few years later. Viola is now a professor at the University of Bologna in Italy and holds an honorary position at Tsinghua University in China.

Early beginnings in publications

Viola was editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Sailing Technology (JST)* from 2019 until 2024. The online peer-reviewed journal provides a medium for the publication of research achievements and engineering practices inherent to all aspects of sailing technology. He took on the volunteer role because he “felt tremendous responsibility,” Viola recalls. “I believed *JST* could become *the* reference journal in the field. I thought a high-quality rigorous journal could help level up all researchers in the field and become the pivoting institution of the community.”

While serving in the role, Viola built an editorial board and management team that he described as extraordinary. As the journal marks its 10-year anniversary, the team proudly continues *JST*'s mission to be an accessible and authoritative journal that publishes academic and professional achievements related to sailing technology.

“The aims of the journal are still the same, but the community is growing fast, thanks to wind-assisted shipping,” Viola says. “Ten years ago, sailing technology was mostly related to sailing yacht design, while today it is relevant to a wide range of applications, from windships to kite surfs, and it spans from fluid mechanics to routing to crew training.”

Improving access

In 2025, Viola was appointed as Functional Vice President (Alternate) – Knowledge Management. Since then, he has actively pursued securing open access to two other SNAME journals – the *Journal of Ship Research (JSR)* and the *Journal of Ship Production and Design (JSPD)*. Open access grants students, researchers, and professionals free online access to a publication's contents. “Open access represents an amazing paradigm shift in publication,” Viola says. “Journals used to be the exclusive depositories of knowledge, but knowledge is readily available in many forms now. The roles of journals are to make knowledge available and guarantee the quality of knowledge for the readers. The main challenge is to establish a business model that is sustainable.”

MEMBERSHIP

Looking ahead

By the end of his term as FVP (Alternate) – Knowledge Management, Viola says he hopes to establish SNAME's journals as “the open, trusted, and global home for the best knowledge in naval architecture and marine engineering.”

“By the end of my term, I would like *JSR*, *JSPD*, and *JST* to be the first choice for authors because they combine rigorous peer review with genuine accessibility,” he says. “I would like for them to be the first destination for readers because they provide rigorously reviewed research and engineering practice. If we succeed, SNAME publications will not only preserve the heritage of our profession — they will also accelerate discovery and innovation, contributing to building a maritime sector capable of responding with confidence to the technological, environmental, and societal challenges ahead.”

Viola recommends that students, researchers, and professionals who are considering publishing papers consider these respected publications. “The three SNAME journals have a distinguished reputation, thanks to highly respected and dedicated editors-in-chief and editorial boards,” he says. “The history and the tradition of *JSR* (since 1957) and *JSPD* (since 1985) are difficult to match, and the authority of *JST* in the sailing community is unique.”

SNAME is grateful to Viola for all he has done to establish *JST* and champion SNAME publications.

SECTION NEWS!



Congratulations to Dimitrios Tsevdos, Membership Chair of the Western Europe Section, on being acknowledged in the annual Spinnaker 30 Under 30 awards!

Spinnaker, a UK-based international maritime recruitment, executive search, and HR consulting firm, publishes this 30 under 30 list. Celebrating the next generation of maritime talent, the 30 Under 30 initiative spotlights young professionals driving meaningful change across the industry—including the technical, commercial, legal, and finance sectors.

Dimitrios serves as a senior engineer and is also a project manager on ABS' London Emission Verifications team. Dimitrios is pursuing a Ph.D. in nuclear energy utilization in the marine industry and holds leadership roles in SNAME and the Hellenic Engineers Society of Great Britain.



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MEMBERSHIP

MEET OUR LOCAL AMBASSADORS!

1 July marked the beginning of our new year as well as the new terms for the Section Officers, our frontline representatives. SNAME Sections are the heart of the organization, and Section Officers play a vital role in fostering engagement, organizing local events, sending targeted communications, and showcasing the value of membership.

We are delighted to announce the chairs of our 20 professional sections for 2026-2027:

Arctic Section	Frank Bercha
Canadian Atlantic Section	Laurie Balan
Canadian Pacific Section	Michael Elfstrom
Chesapeake Section	Nick Bradford
Eastern Canadian Section	Ron Ogoniek
Great Lakes/Great Rivers Section	Eric Helder
Greek Section	John Kokarakis
Gulf Section	Jourdan Puyau
Hampton Roads Section	TJ Brackin
Italian Section	Vittorio Bucci
New England Section	Sandra Wyman
New York Metropolitan Section	Alex Koziol
Northern California Section	Ernie Chang
Pacific Northwest Section	Juliette Lehman
Philadelphia Section	Matthew Eayre
Southeast Section	Drew Orvieto
Southwest Section	John Moatsos
Texas Section	Paulo Cesar Fructuoso de Brito Filho
United Arab Emirates Section	Ajith P J
Western Europe Section	Keith Lilley

To get involved and contribute to section activities, please contact us at memberservices@sname.org, and we will connect you to the chair of the Section that is closest to you. Sections are volunteer-driven and offer exciting opportunities to get involved, grow professionally, and develop new skills.

For the complete list of Section officers, please visit the dedicated [webpage](#).

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SNAME Membership Director and European Office Director
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Tosh Arimura

Membership Manager
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MEMBERSHIP

NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

JUNE 2026

Kaya Alper-Nocera, George Washington University

Jan Andersen, Det Norske Veritas

John Brigante, Oceaneering

Michael Brons, Prospero Advisory LLC

Juanita Butler, Boksa Marine Design, Inc.

Elena Calhoun, Boksa Marine Design, Inc.

Mark Cartret, ShipMaster Marine Surveying & Inspection

Jordan Castillo, TAI Engineers, LLC

Angel Castillo, University of Veracruz

Brian Cheater, Exmar Offshore Company

Changzhe Chen, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Ashley Everett, Everett Innovations, LLC

Jeffrey Falzarano, Texas A&M University

Robin Francis, SARONIC

Jonathan Gibbs, U.S. Naval Academy

Joe Gibson, ConocoPhillips

Jeffrey Glenn, Iridium Marine Group

Adrianna Glover, Elizabethtown College

Leonard Hale, Gulf Copper LLC

Christopher Hart, PacMar Technologies

Cristina Henriquez, RINA USA, Inc.

Eric Hinson, Bourbon Offshore Greenmar

Raymond Impastato, Eastern Shipbuilding

Isabella Jimenez-Melendrez, General Dynamics
NASSCO

Antonios Kritikos, Hamburg University of Technology

Steve Manz, TS Cyanergy Inc.

Joseph Matera, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Joe Phillips, Phillips Services

Jaime Romero

Abraham Rosales, ESPOL Polytechnic University

Pedro Salazar, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

Raymond Scott, Echandia

Thomas Smith, TWS Marine Surveying

Willard Sokol

Zahra Taban, University of Victoria

Jacob Thomas, Blue Water Autonomy

Nils Triplett, Stevens Institute of Technology

Alok Verma, Alok Verma

Joshua Ward, JW Marine Surveyors

Zhenhua Zhang, Newcastle University

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



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OCTOBER 28-30 | HOUSTON, TEXAS



HOUSTON, TX OCTOBER 28-30

THINKING ABOUT TAKING THE PE EXAM?

It's not too late to join SNAME's Professional Engineering (PE) Review Course.

The NCEES Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering PE exam covers a wide swath of engineering disciplines. This is why many engineers have opted to take the SNAME PE Review Course (PERC). This year, the PERC program has undergone some sweeping revisions.



As we mentioned in the June issue, using feedback gained from surveys and focus groups, PERC Instructors are making changes to reflect the current computer-based test (CBT) format and the latest test specification. These Instructors are top-notch, including industry subject matter experts and professors from Webb Institute and the United States Merchant Marine Academy. We revised the SNAME PERC Study Guide to reflect the latest guidance for Professional Engineers, some best practices for test preparation, and a sample exam. We also updated the PERC Reference Library page (see [here](#)) to list the latest books, with links to digital copies where available.

The course started on 27 July, but you can still register until 14 August. Live classes are on Wednesday evenings and are recorded so you won't miss a class if you start after 27 July. Sign up for PERC [here](#), and be sure to check out our study and test tips [here](#).

A SURVEY FOR MARINE ENGINEERS

The North American Marine Environment Protection Association (NAMEPA) and the Hellenic Marine Environment Protection Association (HELMEPA) are seeking marine engineers to participate in a quick, anonymous survey as part of an independent research project titled "Can We Trust the Machine?" The survey explores the extent to which maritime professionals, such as technical directors, naval architects, and ship owners, trust decisions made by artificial intelligence in real maritime operations.

The survey consists of just 10 questions and takes approximately four minutes to complete. Click the link below to access it. On behalf of NAMEPA-HELMEPA, SNAME thanks you for your participation.

[Take the survey now!](#)

HELP MOLD THE FUTURE OF MARINE EDUCATION: BECOME AN ABET PROGRAM EVALUATOR

The Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) is the recognized accreditation body for nearly 5,000 programs at colleges and universities in more than 40 countries. Each year, volunteer experts recertify these programs, assuring confidence in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.



Engineering
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Logo credit: ABET

These global experts are chosen from 34 ABET member societies and are entrusted with developing credentialing criteria and setting the standards for our accreditation process. As a member society, SNAME acts as the lead society for marine engineering technology, naval architecture, marine engineering, and ocean engineering undergraduate and graduate programs. SNAME currently provides oversight for 30 bachelor's and master's degree programs in the United States, Egypt, Ecuador, Turkey, and Peru.

SNAME Program Evaluators, or PEVs, are chosen from industry, academia and government, and are dedicated to contributing to their professions by evaluating program materials, visiting campuses, and participating in accreditation decisions.

Serving as a PEV is a unique professional development opportunity. PEVs help to ensure the quality of higher education by sharing their specialized knowledge to improve educational experience for thousands of students around the world. Training includes an online learning experience offered by ABET, followed by face-to-face facilitated instruction. After that, SNAME-specific training is done through our ABET Accreditation Committee

For more information, see the ABET Program Evaluators page on the SNAME website, found [here](#). The page provides links to a brochure and presentation that offer more information on becoming a PEV.

Rich Delpizzo

Education Director

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THANKS TO OUR ACADEMIC AFFILIATE



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PUBLICATIONS

TRANSACTIONS 2019, 2020, AND 2021 ARE AVAILABLE NOW!

We're happy to announce that *Transactions* 2019 (Volume 127), *Transactions* 2020 (Volume 128), and *Transactions* 2021 (Volume 129) are now available. All existing orders of *Transactions* 2019, 2020, and 2021 have been shipped.

Transactions, published annually as early as 1888, contains information on the various SNAME functions and activities that are of permanent value. This includes the Society's organization; its annual meeting, the SNAME Maritime Convention; and its papers (archival papers, award-winning papers, and significant papers).

Get your *Transactions* copies now!

Transactions 2019: [Hardcover](#) | [Digital](#)

Transactions 2020: [Hardcover](#) | [Digital](#)

Transactions 2021: [Hardcover](#) | [Digital](#)

Transactions 2024 (Volume 132) is also available for purchase in print and digital format. Be sure to order your copy of the latest volume today!

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EVENTS

UPCOMING GLOBAL INDUSTRY EVENTS:

1 – 4 September 2026 - [Shipbuilding, Machinery and Marine Technologies Trade Fair](#), Hamburg, Germany

15 – 16 September 2026 - [The 9th International Symposium on Ship Operations, Management and Economics \(SOME 2026\)](#), Athens, Greece

14 – 16 September 2026 - [International Conference on Computer Applications in Shipbuilding \(ICCAS\)](#), Singapore

15 – 16 September 2026 - [SNAME Propeller & Shafting Symposium](#), Norfolk, VA

22 – 23 September 2026 - [Imagine Marine Conference](#), Ottawa, ON

29 September – 1 October 2026 - [SSI World Shipbuilding Conference 2026](#), Biloxi, MS

11 – 15 October 2026 - [25th WPC Energy Congress](#) - Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

28 – 30 October 2026 - [SNAME Maritime Convention 2026](#), Houston, TX

10 – 11 November 2026 - [Marine Log's Ferries Conference & Expo](#), Seattle, WA

20 – 24 June 2027 - [International Marine Design Conference \(IMDC\) 2027](#), Cambridge, MA

13 – 15 October 2027 - [World Maritime Conference \(WMTc\) 2027](#), Lisbon, Portugal

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NAVAL ARCHITECT

Company: USCG Marine Safety Center

Location: Washington, DC, United States (On-Site)

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TENURE-TRACK FACULTY POSITION IN MARINE ENERGY

Member Company: University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Location: Honolulu, Hawaii, United States (On-site)

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Career Center



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Career Growth

Ask yourself if you're ready for change?

Resumes

Top notch resumes are the way to your career path.

Interviewing

Practice your skills with experts in your field.

Coaching

Elevate your career with personal guidance.

Job Search

Match with jobs and candidates in the maritime field.



SNAME
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Connect with industry leaders!

MARITIME MEMORIES



S.S. J. Howland Gardner, the first of 12 airplane cargo carriers to be built at the New England Shipbuilding Corporation in South Portland, Maine, is shown just prior to its christening on 2 July 1945.

CORPORATE AFFILIATES

Thank you to all of our Corporate Affiliates for their support. Together we are building the future of the maritime industry. [Learn more about the Corporate Affiliate Program.](#)

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To submit content for SNAME's monthly newsletter,
please email publications@sname.org by the 8th of the month.



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