

President, SoCal Chapter of ICEAA

## **Dr. Lisa Pelled Colabella**

Dr. Lisa Pelled Colabella is currently President of the SoCal Chapter of ICEAA (2025-2026); she previously served as Vice President of the Chapter (2023-2024) and as an At-Large Director (2021-2022). Lisa is also a Senior Operations Researcher at RAND, where she leads projects on cost estimating (e.g., estimating mission computer costs, hypersonic missile system costs, and ground equipment operating and support costs) and other topics.

Although Lisa began working at RAND in 2000 and has spent much of the past two decades there, for three years she served as an operations/cost researcher in the Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC), now the Space Systems Command (SSC), at Los Angeles Air Force Base. At SMC she worked in the Financial Management and Comptroller Directorate; earned a Level II APDP certification in Business-Cost Estimating; developed guidance documents to facilitate aspects of cost estimating; and contributed to cost estimates of space systems. Lisa holds a B.S. in Systems Engineering from the University of Virginia, an M.S. in Operations Research from Stanford University, and a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from Stanford University. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with family.

Lisa looks forward to working with the ICEAA SoCal Chapter Board of Directors to organize events for the Chapter, including social events, webinars, and workshops on topics related to cost estimating and analysis. Please get in touch if you would like to be a speaker!



Vice President

## **Cassidy Shevlin**

Cassidy is a servant leader with a demonstrated history of working in the realm of creating experiences for others. She is a graduate from California Polytechnic University – San Luis Obispo where she received her Bachelor of Sciences in Hospitality and Tourism with a Spanish minor and is currently an MBA Candidate at UCLA Anderson School of Business.

Cassidy's work experience consists of event organization, volunteer management, customer service, and B2B sales. Three years ago, she joined Galorath, where Cassidy was thrilled to bring her skills of creating memorable, positive, and valuable experiences to a new industry. Since serving in her client management position, Cassidy has been fortunate to meet many industry colleagues at events such as the annual ICEAA Workshops and other site visits. During these interactions she saw what an incredible community we are all a part of and was excited to become more involved.

Over the past two years, Cassidy has served as a Director At Large on the ICEAA Southern California Board of Directors. She is currently serving as Vice President and will continue to bring the Chapter together this role.



Secretary Nominee

## **Brittany Chairez**

Brittany Chairez is the Cost Engineering Sector Manager for Aeronautics Systems at Northrop Grumman and is coming up on her 13<sup>th</sup> year with the company. Her career began in the Air Force as an F-15 Crew Chief and kicked off her continued journey in the aerospace industry where cost engineering is repeatedly weaved throughout each of her roles. Her present work is focused on strengthening the Cost Engineering Technical Discipline by developing multiple levels of training material internal to Northrop, working externally with accredited universities to create a tailored cost engineering certificate program and collaborating with cost estimating tool providers; all actions are to support the vision, value and opportunities that cost engineering offers to this industry. Brittany's additional efforts are supporting various programs in different product life-cycle phases performing Design to Cost, Cost Reduction Initiatives and Life Cycle Cost modeling, using parametric cost modeling tools such as SEER.

Brittany holds an MS degree from University of California San Diego in Advanced Study Architecture-based Enterprise Systems Engineering and from University of Phoenix, an MS degree in Information Systems Technology and BS degree in Business Management.

In her role on the Board of Directors, Brittany is excited to support any upcoming events, workshops and other activities planned for 2025! Our skillset may be "niche" but it's also a necessity, we need more people to join our cost estimating community and Brittany hopes to encourage newcomers to be more involved in ICEAA and the SoCal Chapter!



At Large Director

## **Michael Finnegan**

Michael currently works for the Boeing Company in El Segundo, California. After earning his Masters in Mathematics at Missouri State University, he joined the Business Skills Rotation Program within the Boeing Company in his hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. His first rotation was in Labor Estimating & Pricing, where he also had the opportunity to attend the ICEAA Conference in San Diego. He began to seek out opportunities to further his career in Estimating & Pricing, which were limited in St. Louis at the time, so he moved to Philadelphia, PA, for his second rotation in Procurement Financial Analysis. After three years in the procurement side of the business, he rotated into Integrated Scheduling and then moved back into a Procurement Finance role. Roughly five years into his career, he had a midlife crisis due to not wanting to settle down at the old age of 28. His mentor found a role for him within Satellites Estimating & Pricing in El Segundo, CA, where he currently works as a parametric cost estimator, building cost models, satellite proposals, and independent cost analyses. In his spare time, he can be found with one of his run clubs (either running or at the brewery), at the bowling alley, or traveling for a marathon. He also enjoys helping to organize ICEAA SoCal Chapter events.



At Large Director

## **Svetlana Johnson**

I am a Software Engineer and Cost Analyst for Galorath Incorporated. I have been with the company for 19 years, as part of the development team. Main focus of the work is the development of SEER cost estimation and optimization platform. However, I have done a lot of data analysis work over the years. I hold a bachelor's degree from UCLA in Computer Science and Engineering, and a master's degree from USC in Applied Mathematics.

I have completed plenty of mathematics and statistics courses in academia, but I've learned the cost data analysis on the job. I've looked at numerous historical development data, sorted it, analyzed it, calibrated SEER suite based on the latest data findings. I also supported customers in their data analyses.

I have been following ICEAA presentations for a while and attended workshops when possible. My next step is to get Software Cost Estimation Certification from ICEAA, and I am glad to be serving as an At-Large Director and getting more involved with the association.



At Large Director

## **Curtis Graver**

My name is Curtis Graver, and I am happy to serve on the Board of Directors of the ICEAA Southern California Chapter for 2025 -2026. I have been an ICEAA member since 2017 and I became a ICEAA certified cost analyst in 2017, when I passed the test at the Portland, OR conference.

I have worked my entire career at Tecolote Research Inc., and I have been supporting SSC since 1998. I have extensive experience in all life cycle cost phases and have supporting USAF/USSF space, ground, and launch systems. I began my career as a junior cost analyst and have rose through the ranks where I am currently a Technical Expert.

My vision for ICEAA is to bring Southern California members together to learn about new technologies and how to estimate their costs. I believe that events should be a mixture of networking, learning, and having fun. I am willing to help plan events, facilitate speakers, and participate in growing the chapter with other club officers and members. I believe that cost estimating should be a fun job as well as providing a useful service to the customer.

At Large Director

## **Dan Kennedy**

Dan Kennedy is the Director of Engineering Services at Galorath Incorporated (SEER). Dan currently facilitates the creation, adoption and use of advanced estimation tools and methodology that quantify costs and cost drivers in manufacturing design and operations. Dan received his BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Utah and has spent more than 30 years in Engineering and Manufacturing having held Senior roles in Operations and Program Management.

