Service Statement

John T. Foster

**Service to the Hildebrand Department.** In rank at UT-PGE, I have served on the following department committees:

1. PGE Undergraduate Studies 2015–2017, Chair 2019–present
2. PGE Graduate Studies, 2017–2018
3. PGE Graduate Admissions, 2015-2017
4. PGE Department Award Committee 2014–2017
5. PGE Graduate Seminar Organizer, Fall 2017

During the transition to remote learning during the Spring 2020 semester brought on by the COVID19 pandemic, I was asked by our department chair to form an ad hoc committee on to provide “best practices for online/distance learning”. We quickly developed a [Wiki](https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/pgeonlineteaching/Online+lectures) based on my experiences using various technologies for teaching, and I even personally recorded some “How To” videos to assist other faculty with this transition.

Additionally, I have participated in the preparing and grading the math qualifying exam and have suggested and helped coordinate the visits of many seminar speakers. In general, I would say I am “engaged” in supplemental department activities at a level that only a few other PGE faculty are. I try in earnest to attend events like the distinguished alumni dinner and alumni tailgate, freshmen retreat, SPE student chapter activities, lunches with invited speakers, graduate recruiting events (in PGE, ASE/EM, and for the Oden Institute CSEM program), etc.

**Service to the School and University.** As an associate professor, I haven’t been called on very often to participate in committees above the department level, although I have served on the following committees:

1. Cockrell School Degrees & Courses 2021-2022
2. Cockrell School Engineering Honors 2015-2019

**Service to the Nation, State and Community.** I have reviewed 1-2 papers a month for my entire time in rank. I have reviewed papers for the following journals: *Computational Geosciences, Journal of Applied Mechanics, Computational Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, Journal of Computational Particle Mechanics, Journal of Microelectromechanical Systems, Computational Mechanics, Int. Journal of Fracture, Applied Mathematics & Computation, Int. Journal of Impact Engineering, Engineering Fracture Mechanics, Experimental Mechanics, Review of Scientific Instruments, Int. Journal of Multiscale Computational Engineering, Int. Journal of Solids and Structures, CMC: Computers, Materials, & Continua, Journal of Mechanics of Materials and Structures.*

I serve as an [associate editor](https://www.springer.com/journal/42102/editors) for the *Journal of Peridynamics and Nonlocal Modeling*.

I have served on NSF panels for the Mechanics of Materials program. I have reviewed proposals for the American Chemical Society’s Petroleum Research Fund and DOEs BES and ASCR programs.

I have been very active in service within the computational mechanics community, organizing numerous mini-symposia annually at conferences from ASME, EMI, WCCM, and USACM.

More notably, I have organized several Thematic Workshops for USACM, including the following:

1. Workshop on Nonlocal Methods in Fracture
   * Held at UT-Austin, Janruary 15–16, 2018
2. Workshop on Isogeometric Analysis and Meshfree Methods
   * Held at UCSD, October 10–12, 2016

Most importantly, I was the **conference chair** of the [US National Congress on Computational Mechanics 15 (USNCCM 15)](http://15.usnccm.org/) held in Austin, TX, July 28–August 1, 2019. This conference was attended by >1000 people, with a budget >$1M, that returned >$200k profit to the professional organization ([USACM](https://www.usacm.org/)). I worked for 4 years on this conference, wrote the proposal to USACM to host the conference in Austin, raised ~$60k in grants to support student travel for the conference (including $25k by way of an NSF proposal). Two of our four plenary speakers were UT faculty and women (Karen Wilcoxx and Mary Wheeler)! A third was a UT grad and the 4th is a Austin business owner. All were invited/selected by myself. My role in organizing contributed to considerable positive exposure for UT, UT PGE and the City of Austin.