



Dr. Othmane Benafan - *NASA*

Othmane Benafan is a materials research engineer in the High Temperature and Smart Alloys Branch at NASA Glenn Research Center. He received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Central Florida. His research is focused on developing fit-for-purpose shape memory alloys for aeronautics and space applications. He is currently leading multiple teams to design lightweight actuators and morphing structures for NASA applications. Othmane has published over 72 peer-reviewed journal articles, and currently holds 5 issued patents. Othmane is active in the technical community serving numerous roles including graduate faculty doctoral advisory committees, Journal advisory board member, and local ASM Cleveland chapter executive committee member. He is currently the immediate past president of the International Organization on Shape Memory and Superelastic Technologies (SMST), and a past-chairman of

the joint industry-government-academia Consortium for the Advancement of Shape Memory Alloy Research and Technology (CASMAART). Othmane has received numerous awards during his career including the NASA Abe Silverstein Medal, the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), and the R&D100 Award. In his free time, Othmane enjoys spending time with his family, playing soccer and fishing.