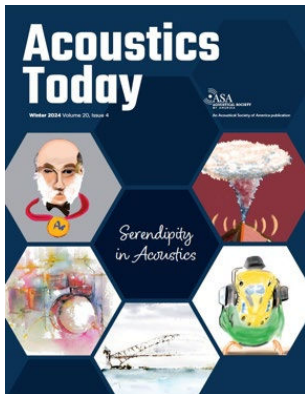


Serendipity in Acoustics



“Cultivating serendipity is first and foremost about looking at the world with open eyes and seeing opportunities others don’t. It’s not just about being in the right place at the right time and having something happen to us (blind luck), but rather a process in which we can be actively involved.” (Busch, C.. 2020, *The serendipity mindset: The art and science of creating good luck*. Penguin, New York City).

[The winter 2024 issue](#) of *Acoustics Today* featured essays about how serendipity has impacted the scholarly careers of over 20 members of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA). (The response by readers to that issue

has been great, and many other members have their own stories of how serendipity has shaped their careers and lives and would like to share those stories.

This response sparked the idea of inviting *all* ASA members to share their serendipity stories. These will be posted on the *Acoustics Today* (AT) website and, perhaps, at some later point, compiled into a special issue of AT (we make no promises!).

Virtually all of us have experienced serendipity during our careers—events that shaped our careers and, very likely, turned us in new, productive, and exciting directions. Indeed, many of us have had multiple serendipitous events, and these events may have included both scholarly and personal lives (but for this essay, we focus on scholarly).

We invite ASA members to think about their careers and submit an essay for posting on the AT page.

Essays may be a maximum of 750 words, and you may include one photo to illustrate your points (you must own copyright or permission to use it; include credit lines where necessary). This means that your essay should perhaps give a bit of background, focus on the serendipitous event, and then discuss how the event altered your work. Please also include a photo (headshot) of yourself, your affiliation, and your email address.

Essays should be submitted in Word format *to both of us*. We will do limited editing for clarity, and you will have final approval of any suggested changes before the essay is posted online. We do suggest only a few (or even no) citations, which must be in AT format (see bit.ly/AT-authors).

Please send your questions by email to *both of us*. We will reply to you within about 14 days with any comments.

We look forward to receiving your essay.

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