edionsnew

http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/

http://www.ieee.org/regional/r8/

Dear Colleagues in Region 8 -

e are glad to be able to print the following official statement from IEEE President, Ray Findlay, which explains why IEEE took the actions it did with regard to members and activities in some countries, including three here in Region 8.

We very much regret the impact to our Region 8 colleagues who are affected by these actions. While we recognize that, for the time being, they are unable to take part in IEEE activities, we hope that IEEE will find an alternative solution that will enable them to rejoin us in the future.

> Roland Saam, R8 News Editor and IEEE R8 OpCom

2001 IEEE Technical Field Awards -

IEEE AWARD IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION -KARL HEINZ ROSENBROCK

(Non-Member) – Director-General, European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), Sophia Antiopolis, France, (R8) "For leadership in Pan-European and International standardization that has created innovative modes of cooperation that has resulted in technical agreements that serve the global community."

IEEE EMANUEL R. PIORE AWARD - Sponsored by the IBM Corporation – BRIAN RANDELL

(Non-Member) - Professor, Computing Science Department, University of Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom, (R8) "For seminal contributions to and leadership in computer system dependability research." continued on page 3

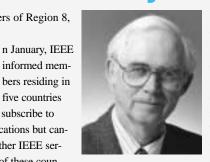
Letter from Ray Findlay

Dear Members of Region 8,

informed members residing in five countries that they can subscribe to printed publications but cannot receive other IEEE services. Three of these coun-

tries - Iran, Libya and Sudan - are located in Region 8. The other two countries are Burma and Cuba. The IEEE acted solely to fulfill a legal requirement of the Federal government of the United States, specifically the trade regulations administered by the Office of Assets Control (OFAC) in the U.S. Treasury Department.

On the advice of legal counsel, an IEEE investigation of this issue was underway prior to the events of 11 September. As a non-profit organization incorporated in New York State, USA, failure to comply with these U.S. laws could subject IEEE to



substantial monetary penalties that could drastically affect its ability to service members everywhere. In addition, the officers of the corporation could be subject to jail for non-compliance with the law. Thus, this action is not a matter of IEEE Bylaws or policy; it is a legal necessity.

I regret the impact on those Region 8 colleagues affected by our actions. The IEEE is committed to doing everything possible to find an alternate solution. Our IEEE legal team continues to review this matter with the appropriate officials for this purpose. We are prepared to fully reinstate those affected in the sanctioned countries and restore all services at the earliest possible opportunity as allowed by law.

Respectfully,

Ray Findlay, 2002 IEEE President

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Editor's Ramblings...

Dear Readers of Region8 NEWS,

There is plenty to read in this issue.

I would like to thank all Contributors for sending in their News. My sincere appreciation to our Guest writers: Ray Findlay, Tony Davies, and Mike Giselowitz, for their welcome observations.

An interesting article illustrating how today's air traffic control system relies upon paper, which explains the human elements appears in "The New Yorker" magazine 25 March, 2002, available on the web — http://www.newyorker.com/printable/?critics/020325crbo_books. Here, the critic Malcolm Gladwell talks about The Social Life of Paper — "Looking for method in the mess"

Please tell me your views about this Edition of *Region8 News*, in particular whether you like to receive it in print. (I learned some weeks ago that Region 9 News will in future be distributed only with email, which will replace printed edition. A web version can be seen at http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/9/noticieeero.)

A reminder to any IEEE volunteer that IEEE Sections Congress 2002 with the theme "Creating a Global Community" takes place 18-21 October 2002., in Washington D.C. Congress participants undergo training, network with colleagues both during the program sessions and at social events, and, through subject and Region caucuses, develop recommendations for the future of the Institute.

I was lucky to be United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland Section representative in 1990 and 1999. I learned a lot. It was well organized, frantic, social, and fun. Ask in your Section, chapter, or society for details of how you could attend- you need to Plan Now.

And finally "Editor's Appeal for Sanity": Please send in your announcements, reports, etc in simple, plain text with photos separate (jpeg format). Please do not send "objects-in-documents", "formatted tables", "Photos-in-Word", Adobe PDF files etc etc., — I do not have time, energy or skills to un-scramble them. Please take the trouble to write a full description of "What-Is-It-About", and this will speed up the editing process.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Roland Saam

REGION 8 CONTACTS

HELP DESK MEMBERS

Members, students, applicants may have all their questions answered by contacting the Help Desk volunteers/staff. Please use this service freely. Information on what, where, when, how regarding membership, payments, procedures.

Jacques Kevers
"IEEE Brussels Office"
IEEE European Operations Centre
j.kevers@ieee.org
Or memservice@ieee.org
Fax +32 2 770 8505

Dr. Ayhan Altintas Bilkent University Ankara, Turkey a.altintas@ieee.org Fax +90 312 266 4126 Dr. Andrej Zemva Univ. of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia a.zemva@ieee.org Fax +38 661 126 4630

Dr. liro Hartimo HUT, Finland iiro.hartimo@ieee.org Fax + 35 89 460 224

Jorge-Luis Sanchez-Ponz Madrid, Spain j.s.ponz@ieee.org

REGION 8 OPERATING COMMITTEE

See http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/committee/index.html for descriptions, by-laws. E-mail addresses of Region 8 Committee Officers - 2002:

Officers and Vice Chairs

Director Prof Levent Onural I.onural@ieee.org

Director-Elect (V/C Technical Activities) Prof. Anthony C. Davies tonydavies@ieee.org

Past-Director
Dr Rolf A Remshardt
r.remshardt@ieee.org

Secretary
Prof. Charles Turner
c.turner@ieee.org

Treasurer
Prof. Dr Hans J Schmitt
h.schmitt@ieee.org

V/C Membership Activities Prof. Gerhard P Hancke g.hancke@ieee.org V/C Student Activities Christian Borgert c.borgert@ieee.org

Appointed Members

Awards & Recognitions Duncan Baker duncan.baker@ieee.org

Membership Development Prof. liro Hartimo hartimo@ieee.org

Conference Coordinator Prof Tariq Durrani durrani@strath.ac.uk

Chapter Coordinator Prof. Jozef Modelski j.modelski@ire.pw.edu.pl

Editor R8 News Roland Saam r.saam@ieee.org Educational & Accreditation Activities Simon Jones s.r.jones@lboro.ac.uk

Voluntary Contributions Fund Coordinator Dr Zbynek Skvor z.skvor@ieee.org

Section 99 Coordinator Jaafar Al-Ibrahim jaafaribrahim@ieee.org

Student Representative Giorgia German g.german@ieee.org

"GOLD" Jorge-Luis Sanchez-Ponz j.s.ponz@ieee.org

Electronic Communications Coordinator Jeremy Newberry j.newberry@ieee.org



Editor:

Roland J. Saam Micros For Managers Ltd 149 Gloucester Road London SW7 4TH ENGLAND Tel +44 20 7565 2111 Fax +44 20 7565 2114 E-mail r.saam@ieee.org

R8 DEADLINES (NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE 2002)

Region 8 News is printed four times a year and distributed with IEEE Spectrum.

Please submit by e-mail to r8news@ieee.org in a file attachment in Text Format, Generic WordProcessor, Word, or Wordperfect, AND include with your submission a short description of what, where, when together with the name of the text file and any photo files.

The deadlines for the *Region8 News* for 2002 are as follows:

August 2002 Issue: 04 June 2002

November 2002 Issue: 05 September 2002

February 2003 Issue: 6 Dec. 2002

Web Bulletins containing *Region 8 News* are published every month and then consolidated into the print each quarter year. Contributions received ten days before the month will be considered for publication on *Region 8 Newsletter* Website.

REFLECTIONS From Tony Davies, Region 8 Director-Elect

I would first like to thank all those of you who voted for me, and hope that I will be able to fulfil your expectations.



It is important to appreciate

that IEEE Directors have a primary responsibility towards IEEE as a whole – for example it is not the role of a Director to seek preferential conditions for the Region or Division from which he/she was elected. Moreover, the objectives of IEEE are quite precisely defined in its legal status under the laws of New York State and of the United States of America. Contrary to what many IEEE members suppose, it is not the purpose of IEEE to serve the interests of its members, it is to serve the good of the 'public'.

In answer to a question at a meeting of the IEEE Board of Directors in February 2002 which I attended as an observer, a legal counsellor to IEEE assured those present that 'public' is defined 'globally' – e.g. it is not restricted to the public in New York State or the public in the United States of America, or even to the public in those parts of the world where IEEE has members.

Of course, the means by which IEEE serves the public good is typically (but not exclusively) through the activities of IEEE members, and so IEEE has a clear duty to take proper care of its membership.

IEEE has the ambition to be 'transnational' and since its formation in 1963 from the IRE and AIEE its achievements in this respect have been truly remarkable. This includes the spread of the authorship and readership of its publications, the international composition of editorial boards and reviewers, the many members from outside the United States who have held elected office in IEEE, the locations of IEEE conferences and, above all, its membership in so many countries of the world.

Yet it remains an organisation legally rooted in the United States of America, and to many outside the USA it retains the characteristics of an American organisation.

Continuing the development of the transnational goals required modification of these characteristics whilst preserving the essentials of 'the IEEE way of doing things'.

Prediction of the future is a risky activity, but even conservative estimates indicate clearly that within a few years, IEEE is likely to have more members outside USA than within. If that situation is reached, then I believe that it will represent a fundamental change, for which careful preparations need to be made.

IEEE has certain characteristics which I believe have contributed in an essential way to its success and to the high regard in which it is generally held. Particularly, it has a volunteer-led, distributed organisational structure with substantial freedom of action and decision delegated to the volunteers who lead the various IEEE organisational units (Societies, Sections, Chapters, Student Branches, etc.)

The IEEE staff, mainly in Piscataway, are there to assist and provide services, support and expert advice, but they do not 'run the IEEE', and, in my opinion, nor does the IEEE Board of Directors. Thus IEEE is not a centrally controlled entity in which all the components have to obey the commands of a sin-

gle central management.

I believe that this distributed nature is the key to the robustness of IEEE, giving it the capability to adapt and survive despite its complexity and the unpredictability of the future. Trends towards giving more powers to the staff and centralising the control are evident from time to time (usually within a framework that IEEE is said to be too complex and too wealthy an organisation to leave to the inadequately-informed volunteers). In my opinion, such trends need to be vigorously resisted, and the distributed management needs to be preserved. Dictatorship always appears a preferable form of governance to the dictators themselves, but history suggests that dictatorships are prone to sudden collapse.

Of course, these are all very serious-sounding matters, and perhaps I should instead have written something about Maxwell's Equations or about Public Key Cryptography for R8 News. Maybe in the next issue ...?

Finally let us not forget that most IEEE members who volunteer to serve the organisation find many benefits from it, including career-development, opportunities to meet colleagues and make new friends, and generally to enjoy themselves, while hopefully 'serving the public good' at the same time. There are many opportunities to become involved in IEEE through volunteering to serve on Chapter Committees, helping with Conference Organisation, etc. Whether or not you choose to take such opportunities, I wish you all an enjoyable and productive IEEE membership in future,

Prof. Anthony C Davies, IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect, 23 February 2002

2002 IEEE Technical Field Awards (cont'd.)

IEEE ERIC SUMNER AWARD – sponsored by Lucent Technologies - co-recipients:

JOHN MIDWINTER (F'IEEE) - Pender Professor,

Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, University College London and Past-President, IEE, London, United Kingdom, (R8)

TSUNEO NAKAHARA (LF'IEEE) - Advisor and CEO, Sumitomo Electric Industries. Ltd., Osaka, Japan, (R10) "For pioneering contributions to the physical understanding, manufacture, and deployment of optical fiber communications systems."

2002 IEEE MEDALISTS

IEEE JOHN VON NEUMANN MEDAL – sponsored by IBM Corporation – to (co-recipients):

OLE-JOHAN DAHL (Non-Member) – Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Informatics, University of Oslo, Norway, (R8)

KRISTEN NYGAARD (Non-Member) - Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Informatics, University of Oslo, Norway, (R8)

"For the introduction of the concepts underlying object-oriented programming through the design and implementation of SIMULA 67." 1

history@ieee.org

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE IEEE HISTORY CENTER

Guest Article by Michael N. Geselowitz, Ph.D., Director

When the Institute of Radio Engineers (IRE) was founded in 1912 in the United States, the practitioners of this new science intentionally did not put "America" in their name. They felt that radio was a technology that would transcend national boundaries, and they hoped to draw members from around the world. Indeed, even in the early years there were many members from outside the United States.

When the Institute of the Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) was formed in 1963 by a merger of the IRE with the older American Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (AIEE, founded 1884), the international ideal was maintained. AIEE had been a national electrical engineering society, like IEE in the UK or VDE in Germany, but now America had no organization of its own.

IEEE, although headquartered and incorporated in the state of New York in the United States, and with a membership and staff largely American, nonetheless has always considered itself a transnational organization, and today has over 375,000 members in about 150 nations, organized into 10 Regions comprising nearly 300 Sections. IEEE Region 8 represents Europe, the Middle East, and Africa.

From its inception, IEEE had senior volunteers who were concerned with the history of their profession and its technology, and so a standing committee was established from the very beginning to report on historical matters to the IEEE Executive Committee.

The role of the IEEE History Committee is to be responsible for "promoting the collection, writing, and dissemination of historical information in the fields covered by IEEE technical and professional activities, as well as information about the IEEE and its predecessor organizations."

The Committee began with six members; the first member from outside of North America was Stig Eleköf (1904-1993) of Region 8, who joined in 1967 (his IEEE Sweden Section had been founded in 1965) and served for six years. The committee today is comprised of 15 distinguished engineers and historians from five countries. In recent years the Committee has largely carried out its mandate through recommending and overseeing historical projects to be carried out by the IEEE History Center.

The staff arm for historical activities at IEEE, the IEEE History Center was founded in 1980 at the IEEE New York headquarters and in 1990 relocated to the campus of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey—which became a cosponsor. The Center has traditionally carried out its work through a number of programs in the areas of preservation, research, outreach, and education.

Of special interest on the preservation front is our collection of oral histories of prominent participants in the field, in which

engineers from IEEE Region 8 are well represented, for example Konrad Zuse of Germany (see http://www.ieee.org/ organizations/history-center/oral-histories/ oh-alph-menu.html for a complete list of oral histories available on-line). In the research area, the Center staff also conduct historical research and present articles in IEEE publications, historical publications, and publications of interest to the general public; publish monographs; hold conferences and publish collections of papers; prepare exhibits; publish a newsletter; collect historical images; maintain an archive of unpublished IEEE papers; answer reference requests; produce a newsletter; and host relevant Web pages on the IEEE Web site.

Center staff support IEEE volunteers and organizational units such as Sections and Societies in other historical activities of IEEE; examples are the selection of a postdoctoral

MILESTONES

The IEEE Milestones in Electrical Engineering and Computing is a particularly popular activity in the outreach area, and the one history program of IEEE designed specifically for Sections. The program also combines elements of preservation and research, but it is considered mainly an outreach effort because it encourages activity at the grassroots level. An IEEE Section chooses a local event in the history of electrical or information technology that its members wish to have recognized. To be designated, an achievement must be at least 25 years, must have involved a unique solution to an engineering problem, and must have had at least regional impact. There must also be an appropriate location to place the plaque that is both secure and accessible to the public. The IEEE History Center assists the Section in researching the event, and this research and the Milestone designation sometimes contribute to the preservation of the site where the event took place. Upon approval by the IEEE History Committee and the IEEE Executive Committee, the dedication ceremony of the Milestone is an opportunity for engineers to promote their importance to the local community. The IEEE Milestones in Region 8 range from the First Operational Use of Wireless Telegraphy in the south, to the County Kerry Transatlantic Cable Stations in the west, to the Pouslen-Arc Radio Transmitter in the north, to the Volta's Electrical Battery Invention in the east (clearly more work needs to be done by the IEEE Sections in eastern Region 8!). Two of the three most recently dedicated Milestones are also in Region 8: This coming July, the IEEE France Section and the IEEE UKRI Section will join with the IEEE Maine Section in dedicating Milestones as part of the 40th anniversary celebrations for the first transatlantic television broadcasts via TELSTAR and its ground stations at Pleumeur-Bodou, Cotes-d'Armor, France, Goonhilly, Cornwall, UK, and Andover, Maine, USA. A complete list of Milestones is available at http://www.ieee.org/ organizations/history-center/milestones-list.html .

fellow in electrical history, the awarding of a historical paper prize, and the designation of sites as Milestones in Electrical Engineering and Computing (see box).

In the past few years, the History Center has been striving to do an increasing portion of business electronically. The main site for the Center is http://www.ieee.org/history-center. A good deal of information is available through the newsletter. IEEE members can subscribe for free by contacting the IEEE History Center at the address below.

Our latest initiative has been to build an educational service for young people, the IEEE Virtual Museum, which was launched in February 2002. Although currently available only in English, the IEEE Virtual Museum has built-in multilingual capability. In the future there should therefore be the potential for partnership with IEEE Regions and Sections to broaden the scope of the IEEE Virtual Museum. The IEEE Virtual Museum can be visited at http://www.ieee.org/museum.

The Center is located on the main campus of Rutgers University. The address is 39 Union Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8538, +1 732 932 1066, fax +1 732 932 1193, history@ieee.org.

MARCONI TRANSATLANTIC CENTENARY MARKED BY IEEE MILESTONE

Report by Tom Hammons, and Hugh Griffiths

The 12th of December 2001 marked a very special centenary in the history of electronics. It was on that day in 1901 that Guglielmo Marconi, in St John's, Newfoundland, was able to receive a radio transmission from Poldhu, Cornwall, of the Morse code letter 'S'. These were the first radio transmissions across the Atlantic, and showed for the first time that radio signals could propagate over long distances. The success of these experiments laid the founda-



Guglielmo Marconi (Marconi's Grandson) and Hugh Griffiths (Chair, UKRI AESS Chapter) hold the Plaque at the Visitor Centre.

tions for global telecommunications, and so many of the things that we take for granted nowadays.

The centenary was celebrated both at St John's and at Poldhu. On the site from which the transmissions were broadcast, the National Trust, the Marconi Company and the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club had built a brand-new Visitor Centre, and this was inaugurated on 12 December by the Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall. The event was blessed with perfect weather, and over a hundred people converged on the spot to mark the occasion. The most distinguished guest was the grandson of Marconi himself.

The IEEE marked the event by dedicating a plaque under the 'milestone' scheme. The citation on the plaque reads as follows:

'On the 12th December 1901, a radio transmission of the Morse code letter 'S' was broadcast from Poldhu, Cornwall, using equipment built by Prof. Sir John Ambrose Fleming. At Signal Hill, St John's, Newfoundland, Guglielmo Marconi, using a wire antenna kept aloft by a kite, confirmed reception of these first transatlantic radio signals. These experiments showed that radio signals could propagate far beyond the horizon, giving a new global dimension for communications in the twentieth century.'

Reviews of Conferences and Events Held in Region 8

REPORT OF THE TELSIKS 2001 CONFERENCE

The 5th International Conference on Telecommunications in Modern Satellite, Cable and Broadcasting Services - TEL-SIKS 2001 was held from September 19 through 21, 2001, at the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, University of Nis, Yugoslavia.

127 papers with original scientific contribution were accepted, accompanied by 33 invited papers. At the opening ceremony. Prof. Aleksandar Marin, the president of Yugoslav IEEE MTT Chapter, gave the

"Nikola Tesla Award", to Prof. Tatsuo Itoh from University of California, LA, USA, for his exceptional contributions in the fields of microwaves, millimeterwaves, antennas and numerical electromagnetics.

TELSIKS has become one of the most important international events in the region in the field of telecommunications.

> Chairman of TELSIKS 2001 Prof. Bratislav Milovanovic



Opening Session Executive Council (from left to right): T. Itoh, A. Marinic, B. Milovanovic, K. Wu and J. Surutka.

SECTION AND CHAPTER NEWS

From the Chapter Coordination Subcommittee

Motto: The local chapter activities are the most important key to membership growth, improvement of society image and realization of globalization process.

Statistics, New Chapters

The Region 8 has the highest number of chapters from all the regions and the formation of the new chapters is still going very well. There are more than 320 chapters of which 23 were established last year. The table below provides the details of Region 8 new Chapters in 2001.

Society Chapter	Section
Computer	Benelux
1	Iceland
Communications	Poland
Eng. Management	Central & South
Italy/North Italy	
•	Germany
El'magnetic Compatiblity	Benelux
Industry Appl.	Norway
• ••	Saudi Arabia
Ind. Electronics /Industry Appl./PowerEl	Yugoslavia
Industrial El.	Spain
Lasers & El-Optics	Poland
•	Ukraine
Magnetics	Poland
Nuclear & Plasma Sciences	Belgium
	Central & South Italy
Power Eng.	Norway
	Romania
	United Arab Emirates
Power Electronics	Switzerland
SP/AP//ED	Ukraine
Signal Processing	Portugal
	Sweden
Vehic.Tec./InfoTh/Communications	Denmark

The Sections with the highest number of chapters are: *Russia* (24), *UKRI* (22), *Poland* (20), *Germany* (18) and *France* (17). It is my pleasure to inform that already 8 new chapters have been established during the first two months of this year.

Chapter	Section	Chapter Chair
Computer	Sweden	N. Shahmehri, nahsh@ida.liu.se
Computer	Romania	N. Tapus, n.yapus@cs.pub.ro
ED15/SSC37	Bulgaria	J. Kolev, j.kolev@ieee.org
Signal Processing/	Ukraine	G. Churyumov, g.churyumov@
AP03/C16/El'mag.		ieee.org
Compatibility		
SMC28	France	P. Borne, borne@ieee.org
Computer	United Arab	M. Samakam, samaka@uaeu.ac.ae
	Emirates	
CPMT21	UKRI	N.Sinnadurai, innadurai@aol.com
Industry Appl.	Denmark	F. Blaabjerg, fbl@iet.auc.dk

We encourage all IEEE members interested in these new Chapters

to contact the Chapter Chairs and to take part in chapters' initiatives.

Many chapters have increased their activities and amount of technical meetings, workshops and conferences. They want to offer something to all members, whether they work in industry, academia or government.

Contacts

I encourage everyone to contact members of the Sub-committee with their questions or ideas.

Cristophe Cerin	C and IT Societies, c.cerin@computer.org	
Cor Claeys	ED and SSC Societies, c.claeys@ieee.org	
George Contaxis	PE and PEL Societies, gcont@softlab.	
	ece.ntua.gr	
Margaretha Eriksson EM and PC Societies, margaretha.eriksson@		
	ieee.org	
Imre Rudas	RA, IE and CS Societies, rudas@zeus.banki.hu	
Sergei Malyshev	LEO Society, malyshev@inel.bas-net.by	
Jozef Modelski	MTT and AP Societies, modelski@ieee.org	
Guergana Mollova	SP Society, g.mollova@ieee.org	
Maciej Ogorzalek	CAS Society, maciej@zet.agh.edu.pl	
Marko Jagodic	COM and VT Societies, jagodic@iskratel.si	

Chapter of the Year Contest

The CCS aim is not only to have all Chapters exist, but be active, have professional character and be competitive to each other, as it enhances motivation. Therefore for the feeling of competition and appreciation of the activities, the **Chapter of the Year** Contest was launched at the end of 2001, in two categories: "Small and Middle Size Chapters" and "Big Size Chapters".

Winning Chapters will receive diplomas and financial prizes of \$ 1000 each. The first *Chapter of the Year* Award Ceremony will have taken place during the Spring R8 Committee meeting in Budapest, April 20-21, 2002.

Co-organizing Chapter Chair Meetings

An important aspect of CCS presence is co-organizing (together with the relevant Society) Chapter Chairmen meetings for the particular Societies in R8, mostly in conjunction with the main Society Conference in our Region. The idea is to organize such meetings at least once in two years.

Today we include two reports presented, by Robert Weigel from R8 MTT Society Meeting in London and by Guergana Mollova from R8 SP Society Chapter Chairs Meeting in Thessaloniki.

Some of the meetings of R8 Chapter Chairmen planned for year 2002 and 2003 are presented below:

- MTT Chapter Chairmen Meeting in Milan, September 2002, in conjunction with European Microwave Conference
- IE Chapter Chairmen Meeting in Seville, November 2002, in conjunction with IECONí02Conference
- SP or Division 9 Chapter Chairmen Meeting in Barcelona, September 2003, in conjunction with ICIP2003 Conference

One of the activities for which special interest should be given is

the organization of different conferences and workshops. In Region 8 there are tens of events of this kind held each year. Some of them have very firm position and character, and play an important role for the Chapters as well as for the neighboring countries. As an example, the TELSIKS'01 Conference, the report by Bratislav Milovanovic.

Started this issue, I shall present, as a second part of my articles, reports on the chapter activities prepared by members of Chapter Coordination Subcommittee. First is, *Report on the activities of PE and PEL Chapters of Region 8 in 2001*, prepared by Georgre Contaxis.

Jozef Modelski,

R8 Chapter Coordination Committee Chair

Review of Activities of Power Engineering Chapters

In region 8 operate 28 PE chapters (5 of them are joint chapters, mainly with PEL or IA). Two of these chapters (Norway and Romania) were formed in 2001.

The Porto Power Tech'2001 Conference, organized by the Portugal PE chapter, was held in Porto, from 10 to 13 September. More than 450 delegates from 50 countries attended. Preparations are underway for the Bologna Power Tech'2003, to be organized by the PE Chapter of Italy.

UKRI PE Chapter co-sponsored the 36th Universities Power Engineering Conference (UPEC 2001), held at the University of Wales Swansea (September 12-14). More than 200 delegates attended. The same chapter co-sponsored also the European EMTP-ATP User Group Conference (September 3-5)

The Slovenian PE Chapter co-sponsored the Balkan Power Conference, held in Bled. More than 100 delegates from 15 countries attended the conference. International conferences were also organized by the Hungary PE Chapter ("Intelligent System Applications to Power Systems", June 17-21) and by the joint IE/PE/PEL Chapter of Ukraine ("Modern Problems of Electrotechnic", Alushta)

Several chapters organized or co-sponsored national conferences. The PE Chapter of the Republic of Macedonia co-sponsored the local CIGRE conference, held in Ohrid (October 4-6). The joint IE/PE/PEL Chapter of Ukraine co-sponsored two national conferences.

The international seminar "SELIT – Seminar on Electricity Interconnections Liberalization and Trade", organized by the PE Chapter of Turkey, was held in Istanbul, from 18 to 20 September. The seminar covered present situation and future development of main electricity interconnections, liberalization of electricity market and related issues on power quality, electricity pricing. Delegates from 21 countries attended the seminar.

Several seminars, short courses or workshops were organized by various PE chapters. Most of the PE Chapters organized technical meetings with invited speakers. The PE chapters of Greece received during 2001 the High Performing Chapter Award.

Review of Activities of Power Electronics Chapters

In region 8 operate 15 PEL chapters (10 of them are joint chapters, mainly with IA, IE and PE). The joint chapter IAS/PELS/IES of Germany and the joint IA/IE/PEL Chapter of Yugoslavia were formed in 2001.

The joint IA/IE/PEL Chapter of Yugoslavia organized the 11th International Symposium on Power Electronics – Ee 2001. The

Symposium was held in Novi Sad from October 31 to November 2, and it gathered around 220 participants from 16 countries. 116 papers were presented dealing with power converters, electrical drives, electrical machines, control & measurements, and power electronics in telecommunications.

The joint PELS/PES/IES Chapter of Russia co-sponsored the international conference "Power Electronics and Power Efficiency" held in Alushta, Ukraine (September 18-22).

Many chapters organized seminars, tutorials or workshops. A three day seminar entitled "Seminario Anual de Automatica, Electronica Industrial e Instrumentation" was organized by the PEL Chapter of Spain. The same chapter has been active in a local Seminar on "Special Power Converters for Solar Energy" A one-day tutorial entitled "Electromagnetic Compatibility in Industrial Equipment: Standards, Problems and Solutions" was organized by the joint IA/ PEL Benelux Chapter (September 28, 2001).

Three meetings of duration 2 or 3 days each were organized by the joint IAS/PEL/IES Chapter of Germany. These meetings included full day technical programs, distinguished lecturers, technical visits, round table discussions. Technical meetings were organized also by other active PEL Chapters.

The joint PELS/PES/IES Chapter of Russia received the Power Electronics Society Best Chapter Award.

Prepared by Prof. George Contaxis March 3, 2002

Signal Processing Society Chapter Chairs Meeting Thessaloniki, Greece, 09.10.2001

A Region 8 Signal Processing Chapter Chairs Meeting was held on Tuesday, Oct.9th 2001 in Errato room, Conference Center Macedonia Palace, Thessaloniki, Greece (during the ICIP Conference). It was a quite informal event, only for those R8 SP officers who attended this Conference.

All participants presented reports concerning the activities and 'best practices' of their Chapters. Various recommendations about the Distinguished Lecturers Program of SPS and other useful topics have been made: to have more R8 speakers, to organize different SP teleconferences and lectures in R8, to have close connections and common events between neighbouring SP Chapters, etc. The Meeting was very successful and useful for all participants.

Many thanks for the generous support of the Organizers of ICIP Conference and SP Society, as well as to all attendees of the Meeting for their participation and contributions!

Guergana Mollova, R8 SP Chapters Coordinator

Microwave Theory and Techniques Society Chapter Chairs Meeting

London, England, 23.09.2001

All Microwave Theory & Techniques Society (MTT-S) chapter chairs of Region 8, or their representatives, were invited by the MTT-Society to a meeting held in conjunction with the European Microwave Week at the Holiday Inn Nelson Dock in London, England, on Sunday, 23 September 2001.

The meeting was integrated into the regular MTT-S AdCom Fall Meeting which started at the same location one day earlier on Saturday afternoon.

Section and Chapter News cont'd.

The main intention of the London meeting was to bring together the Society's chief officers and AdCom members with their Region 8 chief volunteers to discuss the issues of the Region

Participants were welcomed by MTT-S President, Charles M. Jackson who reported on recent developments: Dr. Jackson emphasized that Region 8 is an extremely important region having now over 25% of the MTT-S membership, and that MTT-S with its 36 Region 8 chapters has more chapters in this region than any other IEEE Society. He mentioned that in addition to the big annual European Microwave Week the many small Region 8 conferences and topical workshops are indispensable to serve members, offer chances for member participation, and serve better the international microwave community.

Peter Russer, member of the Region 8 MTT-S Gallery Working Group, presented the Gallery concept and said that a virtual museum is now under construction. It will be an extension of the historical collection located in Baltimore, USA. The intention is to collect all available history of microwave technology from Region 8 countries. Dr. Russer mentioned that the intended audience is for young people who search the Internet for inspiration and for practitioners in the field who are curious about the microwave history.

Practices Open Forum discussion where some key issues important for chapter activities were raised, various recommendations made and feedback received.

Robert Weigel, MTT-S Region 8 Coordinator

News Reports from R8 Sections

IEEE GREECE SECTION

Following the results of IEEE elections in Greece (over 2000 members). The Greece section has a new Board of Directors. The new Chairman is Professor Philip Constantinou. The new Vice chairman is Professor Nikos Hatziargiriou. The new Treasurer-Secretary is Professor Michel Theologou.

The new Board would like to thank Professor George Contaxis who was Chairman of the Greece section in the past few years, for his work and contributions to the IEEE Greece Section.

Events: On Wednesday 27 of February 2002, the first meeting of the IEEE Greece Section took place when the invited speaker was Dr. E. Jiakoumakis Chairman of National Telecommunications and Post Commissions EETT .The subject of his presentation was The Role of Antagonism on Telecommunications Networks. Was a very interesting presentation attended by 75 IEEE members.

Plans: The IEEE Greece Section is planning to invite all Section Chair from the Balkan area in a meeting for the purpose of organizing common activities and identify procedures for increasing IEEE membership in the area. We would like to ask our friends from the IEEE sections in the Balkan area to contact us for exchanging ideas for the meeting (Please contact email: <code>fkonst@mobile.ece.ntua.gr</code>. Tel: 003010 772 3849)

SAUDI ARABIA Section

The Saudi Arabian Section of the IEEE elected and installed its new Executive Committee Officers for the current term - Mr. Nabil K. Al-Dabal, Chair, Dr. Mohamed Deriche, Vice Chair Mr. Jaafar M. Al-Ibrahim, Secretary and Mr. Khaled Al-Fawaz, Treasurer:

Nabil K. Al-Dabal is currently the Information Technology Manager of Saudi Aramco Computer & Communications Engineering Department. Nabil is an active member of IEEE, and the Project Management Institute (PMI).

Dr. Mohamed Deriche, Vice Chair, developed a Multimedia Signal processing Research Lab and has graduated 6 PhD students to date. In September 2001 Mohammed moved to King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals (KFUPM) where he is Associate Professor in signal processing and communications.

Jaafar M. Al-Ibrahim, Secretary - is a Telecommunications Specialist and General Supervisor of Repair & Logistics Division of IT Communications Operations Department of Saudi Aramco. Jaafar held many positions in the IEEE Saudi Arabia Section, including Chair, Treasurer. He is a recipient of RAB Achievement Award for his outstanding efforts in facilitating the formation of several new sections in and the rejuvenation of inactive sections in Region 8.

Khaled Al-Fawaz, Treasurer- is currently Divisional Head Engineer for the Area Transmission and System Planning, with Saudi Electricity Company in Eastern Branch. He has been active member of IEEE since 1992 and served as IEEE Secretary of the Saudi Arabia Section for the period of 1998-2001.

UK&RI Section

The United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section accounts for some 20% of the overall membership of Region 8. We are a thriving and lively section with some 26 chapters and a very frequent series of meetings for our membership. We are having particular success with the growth of our student membership and increasingly find students from outside EE/CS departments want to benefit from membership.

On 13th March, 2001, new UK&RI Section officers were installed: Simon Jones - Chairman s.r.jones@lboro.ac.uk; Gordon Dodds - Vice Chairman g.dodds@ieee.org; Sean McLoone - Secretary s.mcloone@qub.ac.uk; Narayama Jayaram - Treasurer n.jayaram@computer.org; Jim Christie - Republic of Ireland Representative james.christie@ucd.ie

ublic of Ireland Representative

d.ie

Simon Jones

new Chair of

UK&RI Section

All members are welcome to observe our
Section Committee meetings, usually held in
March and October. See our website: www.ieee.org.uk

Nigel Burton Receives UKRI Chapter Outstanding Engineer Award

Nigel Burton received the IEEE PES United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (UKRI) 2001 Chapter Outstanding Engineer Award at a UKRI PES Meeting at City University, London, UK held on 4 March, 2002.

Following the presentation, Burton gave a lecture 'Electricity Deregulation –What next after California and Enron?' He highlighted Californian and Brazilian power crises, the Enron debacle and con-

tinuing political battles about foreign ownership in several European countries that have had profound impacts on the pace and scope of deregulation and restructuring of the power industry.

News from Engineering in Medicine & Biology Chapter of the UK&RI Section

"The EMB (UK&RI) Chapter is undergoing a change in its structure, with Drs Christopher James of Aston University and Robert Istepanian of Brunel University co-chairing the chapter with help from Roland Saam. They hope to carry on the sterling work started by Dr G Z Yang Professor of Medical Image Computing at Imperial College, and Roland Saam, Managing Director of Micros for Managers. High on the agenda of anticipated activities are those involving biomed eng students and activities designed to promote the biomedical engineering profession from both the academic, and the industrial aspects, within the UK and RI."

Dr. Chris James jamescj@aston.ac.uk Robert.Istepanian@brunel.ac.uk

SPAIN Letter from Magdalena!

It is my pleasure to announce that from March 1, 2002, the IEEE Spain Section has a new Board of Directors.

The new chairman, Prof. Jose-Antonio Delgado-Penin, received the IEEE Millennium Medal for services to the Section. Our vicechairman, Prof. Manuel Sierra-Perez, previously our treasurer, was the first chairman of IEEE Spain Section AP/MTT Joint Chapter and also received the IEEE Medal for his IEEE services. I am sure that under their leadership IEEE Spain Section will continue to expand and will become the Spanish reference institution for professionals in electrical and electronic engineering. I will take this opportunity to thank everybody for the opportunity to work with you during the past few years. It was a pleasure and a wonderful experience.

I look forward to meeting you in the near future serving IEEE under other volunteer commitments. I wish you the best for IEEE Region 8 and for all Region 8 Sections.

Best regards, Magdalena

Magdalena Salazar-Palma
Dr. Ingeniero de Telecomunicacion
Profesor Titular de Universidad
Past IEEE Spain Section Chairperson IEEE



Nigel Burton receives the **Power Engineering Chapter Award** from Tom Hammons

Some news from Sweden!

Margaretha Eriksson, Sweden Section Chair 2000-2002, is appointed as IEEE Engineering Management Society (EMS) representative to the Executive team of IEE Management Professional Network (MPN).

IEEE EMS and IEE will cooperate closely starting 2002, with the co-sponsored International Engineering Management conference in Cambridge, UK in August 2002.

IEE's Management Professional Network will be offered to the IEEE EMS members. Conference: www.ieee-iemc-2002.org Management Professional Network: www.iee.org/OnComms/pn/management

The Swedish IEEE Section has two new Chapters: Computer Science/ Software Engineering and Signal Processing, headed by Interim Chapter Chair Professor Nahid Shahmehri from The Laboratory for Intelligent Information Systems, Department of Comp & Info Sc, Linkoping University, Sweden. The effective date of Chapter formation is 16 January, 2002. nahsh@ida.liu.se

The Signal Processing chapter is headed by Interim Chapter Chair Dr Irene Gu, Associate Professor at Imaging and Image analysis, Department of Signals and Systems, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 26 November 2001 *irenegu@s2.chalmers.se*

POLAND Section Elects New Officers

New Officers of the Poland Section IEEE

Please welcome our new Poland Section officers for 2002.

Marian P. Kazmierkowski, *President* (M'89 - SM'91 - F'98) is from the Institute of Control and Industrial Electronics, Warsaw University of Technology. He is engaged in research work on electrical drive control and industrial electronics. He served as the Industrial Electronics Society - VPresident for Publication (1999-2001) and since 1994, Associate Editor of the *IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS*.

Andrzej Pacut, *VPresident*. Since 1969 Andrzej is with Warsaw University of Technologyand serves as a Deputy Director of the Institute of Control and Computation Engineering. He is interested in learning systems, neural networks, biometrics, identification, stochastic modeling, and related areas.

Andrzej Miêkina, *Treasurer*, is with Institute of Radioelectronics, Faculty of Electronics and Information Technology, Warsaw University of Technology. His research interests are on software aspects of measurements. Since 1999 Treasurer of the Poland Section IEEE.

Mariusz Malinowski, *Secretary*, is also scholar of the Foundation for Polish Science and active member of Polish Section IEEE. His current research activity deals with control of PWM rectifier, modulation and DSP techniques.

Region 8 Senior Members Elected November 2001 - February 2002

Who can become a Senior Member?

Anyone with 10 years in the profession (not 10 years of IEEE membership.) Your educational experience is counted towards this 10-year requirement AND Show 5 years of significant performance. Have three IEEE Senior Member or Fellow references. Be nominated by a Senior Member or Fellow. Apply at: www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/smprogram.html

Congratulations to the following Senior Members from Region 8:

Horst Zimmerman

Benelux:

Anton Bakker Jean-Luc Doumont Wim Nijman Alle-Jan Van Der Veen Edward E.E. Frietman

Central & So. Italy

Marco Lops Vittorio Ricchiuti Maria Pia Fanti

Denmark

Dines Bjorner Flemming K. Fink

Egypt

Adel M. S. El Sherif Mohamed M.M. Negm

France

Evelyne Clavelier Guang-Hua Duan Veronique Perdereau Gerard Barbottin Jean-Marie Palau Frederic Broyde Slim Hammadi Remi B Gaillard Simon Deleonibus Marie Catherine Calvet Laurent Dusseau

Germany

Leo Lorenz Juergen Arndt Karlheinz Brandenburg Ronald Tetzlaff

Rainer Lackmann Yaochu Jin

Johannes B. Huber Boudewiin R. Haverkort Andreas Lubnow Rolf Ernst

Hans-Michael Hanisch Axel Richter

Andreas Schubert Markus Werner Wolfram Wellssow

Athanasios G. Kanatas

Iceland

Anna Soffia Hauksdottir

Abdel-Elah Al-Ayyoub

North Italy

Enrico Sangiorgi Renato Sasdelli William Fornaciari Fulvio Babich Guido M. Cortelazzo

Norway

Terje Gjengedal Tor A Johansen

Poland

Wlodzislaw Duch Tadeusz Kaczorek

Reg 8-Other

Lazhar Ben-Brahim S. Kumaragurubaran

Republic of Macedonia

Vladimir I. Dimcev Marija T. Kacarska **Riyadh Subsection**

Adel Abdennour Romania

Florin Caldararu George A. Florea Theodor D. Popescu Florin Caldararu

Russia

Daniel Klovsky Felix I. Kovalev Yuriy K. Rozanov

Saudi Arabia

Mohammed A. Dashash Ghaleb B. Al-Dandan

Antonio Artes Rodriguez Magdalena Salazar-Palma Francisco I Gamiz Vicente E. Boria

Sweden

Rolf Johansson

Switzerland

Jean-Francois Loude Antonius P. Engbersen Walter Hirt Alfred Rufer Turkey

Cem Ersoy Adnan Khashman Lale Akarun

U.K.& Rep of Ireland

Nigel Cameron Richard Parry Peter Cullen David P. Morgan Geroge Tsoulos

E.J. Zaluska David Allen Eduard Babulak

S. J. Braithwaite

Nigel J. Carter

Zabin Ghassemlooy

Khairi Ashour Mohamd Hamdi

David A. Hutchins Christopher James

Nigel P Johnson Yue Lu

Stephen McGrath I L. Morrow

Terence E. Sale

Neil White

Alexei A. Kostenko Anatoly Ivanovitch Kuzmichev Valeriy Stanislavovich Rogoza Timofeyev Vladimir Vladimir M. Yakovenko Nikolay T Chernak Victor N. Boriskin Leonid A. Rud

United Arab Emirates

Nazar Thamer Ali Hassan R Barada Kahtan A. Mezher

Yugoslavia

Djordje Dobrijevic Neboisa Jankovic Miloljub Smiljanic

Calls For Papers - Forthcoming Conferences, Symposia, Workshops in Region 8 -

IEEE Region 8 AFRICON 2002 -George in South Africa 2 to 4 October 2002

AFRICON 2002 is scheduled to be held at the town of George in South Africa from 2 to 4 October 2002. Details of the conference are available at the website http:// www.cs.wits.ac.za/info/ieee/africon02/. Queries may be directed to the Secetariat at: Tel: +27 12 652 0775 Fax: +27 12 652 0775 Cell: +27 837 256 575 E-mail: africon@cs.wits.ac.za

Photonics and Web Engineering Xth Symposium 23-26 May 2002 Wilga Village

The Xth International Symposium on PHOTONICS AND WEB ENGINEERING is going to be organized on 23-26 May 2002 in Wilga Village near Warsaw (resort owned by Warsaw University of Technology,

The Symposium is organized by PERG.ISE.PW Research Group of the Institute of Electronic Systems

(http://nms.ise.pw.edu.pl), IEEE Poland Section Student Branch (http://nms.ise. pw.edu.pl/ieee) and SPIE Polish Chapter members - The International Society for Optical Engineering (http://www.spie.pl).

The information about the Symposium is available on the web http://nms.ise.pw.edu.pl.

Update: IEMC 2002 Cambridge www.ieee-iemc-2002.org.

The IEEE Engineering Management Society's prestigious International

Engineering Management Conference will be held for the first time in Europe, at Cambridge, England, on 18-20 August 2002.

The Conference Programme will cover plenary talks, parallel sessions on keynote subjects, panel discussions on topical issues and a series of half-day workshops.

The Plenary Speakers include: Sir John Chisholm, Chief Executive, Qinetiq plc; Mr Chris Earnshaw, Chief Technology Officer, British Telecom plc; Sir Robin Saxby, President and CEO, ARM Holdings plc; Dr Lew Terman, President, IBM Academy of Technology; Dr Hans Thamhain, IEEE Engineering Manager of the Year 2001.

IEMC-2002 offers a useful platform for the sharing of experiences, presentation of new results, and for the review of recent developments from some of the leading experts in the field. Further information may be obtained from the Conference website, where on-line registration can be completed www.ieee-iemc-2002.org

EURESCOM 2002 Profitable Services

The conference on 21 to 24 October 2002 in Heidelberg, Germany, will primarily focus on network issues, but also will address Services, Terminals, Users and Business cases that include the network dimension. See http://www.eurescom.de/summit2002/

RADIOCOMM London GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE RADIO SPECTRUM 24 - 25 OCTOBER 2002 LONDON, UK

Getting the Most Out of the Radio
Spectrum is a two-day conference sponsored
by the UK Radiocommunications Agency
and organised by the IEE. It is co-sponsored
by the IEEE UK & RI Communications
Chapter and the MTT/ED/AP/LEO Chapter

Website: http://www.iee.org/Events/e24oct02.cfm. Further details: emaycock@iee.org.uk.

DIPED-2002 VIIth International Seminar/Workshop DIRECT AND INVERSE PROBLEMS OF ELECTROMAGNETIC AND ACOUSTIC WAVE THEORY Tbilisi, Georgia, October 10-13, 2002

The VIIth International Seminar/

Workshop on Direct and Inverse Problems of Electromagnetic and Acoustic Wave Theory (DIPED-2002) will be organized at the Tbilisi State University, Georgia, on October 10-13, 2002. The IEEE MTT/ED/AP/EMC Republic of Georgia, and MTT/ED/AP/CPMT/SSC West Ukraine Chapters are co-organizers of the DIPED-2002.

Important Date: 1 July 2002- Papers due.
General Organizing Committee
Chairman: Prof. N. N. Voitovich
Secretary: Dr. M. I. Andriychuk
Inst. Appl. Probl. of Mech. & Math.,
NASU 3"B" Naukova St., 79601,

Lviv, Ukraine tel: +380 322 651944 fax: 380 322

637088

e-mail: andr@iapmm.lviv.ua
For further information, please visit web
site: http://www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/cpmt/
ukraine/

ICL2002 Call for Papers 5th International Workshop "Interactive Computer aided Learning" September 25-27, 2002, Villach/Austria

Chair: M. Auer (Carinthia Tech Institute), M.Auer@IEEE.org Important date: 03 June 2002: Submission of abstracts For more information contact

http://www.icl-workshop.org mailto: info@icl-workshop.org phone: +43-4242-90500-2115

UPEC 2002

37th Universities Power Engineering Conference (UPEC2002) 9-11 September 2002 Staffordshire University, UK www.staffs.ac.uk/upec2002

The conference provides engineers and academia with the opportunity to explore recent developments, current practices, and future trends in power engineering. Young engineers and research students are especially welcome at UPEC. The conference will be accompanied by a Technical Exhibition. It is cosponsored by the IEEE, IEE and IMechE.

Further information on UPEC 2002 may be obtained from the Web,

http://www.staffs.ac.uk/upec2002 and Dr Moofik Al-Tai, BEng(Hons), PhD, CEng, MIEE, Chairman UPEC 2002

PATMOS 2002

12th International Workshop onPower And Timing Modeling, Optimization and Simulation September 11 13, 2002 Sevilla, Spain

The objective of the workshop is to provide a forum to discuss and investigate the emerging problems in the design methodologies and CAD-tools for the new generation of IC technologies. A major emphasis of the technical program is on speed and low-power aspects with particular regard to modeling, characterization, design, and architectures

More information from: http://www.patmos-conf.org

ITAB 2003

IEEE EMBS Fourth International Conference Information Technology Applications in Biomedicine April 24-26, 2003 International Convention Centre, Birmingham, UK www.mis.coventry.ac.uk/ biocore/itab2003

Bioinformatics, genomics and neuroinformatics

PROP-L: CFP: Saudi Arabia Wireless SYstems & Networking March 24-26, 2003 Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

An announcement for the International Symposium on Wireless Systems & Networks, March 24-26, 2003 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Topics include: Propagation & Channel Modeling Radio Resource & Mobility Management Antennas & RF Subsystems SOftware Radios Mobile Network Architectures 4G Computer Networks The extended abstract submission deadline for research papers is April 30, 2002. For Further information, please refer to http://www.kfupm.edu.sa/iswsn03

IEEE EMC'2003 Istanbul – Venue Change 11 - 16 May 2003 Istanbul, Turkey The 2003 IEEE International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility

We are delighted to announce that the

2003 IEEE International Symposium on EMC will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, on May 11-16, 2003.

The Symposium will provide excellent opportunities for EMC researchers, scientists, engineers and vendors, working in the area of theoretical and applied EMC to present the latest research results, discuss problems of cur-

rent and mutual interest and exchange views and experience, related to new EMC components, materials and equipment.

For further information please contact Symposium Secretariat:

ORTRA Ltd.

1 Nirim Street, P.O. Box 9352, 61092 Tel-Aviv, Israel

Tel: +972-3-6384444 Fax: +972-3-6384455

 $\hbox{E-mail: } emc 2003@ortra.co.il$

Or visit our web site:

http://www.ortra.com/emc2003

Elya B. Joffe Symposium Chair eb.joffe@ieee.org

From Around the World - News of Interest-

Youngsters Win Communications System Award in Future City Competition

St. John Lutheran School of Rochester, Mich., won the second IEEE-USA Best Communications System Award of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition The honor, was for the most "efficient and accurate communications system." Stephanie Rink, Nada Zohdy and Sue Yang, all 13 years old, made up the team with St. John's teacher Jonathan Pfund and General Motors engineer Jane Sternemann.

St. John's city, *Robust in Sitnalta*, is set in the year 2150. The city's communications system has three major elements for each citizen: - a contact lens that projects images onto an air-based personal computer screen; - a back-tooth mini microphone that converts mouth movements into sound; - and a glove for deaf people so that sign language can be converted to sound.

Each person has the ability to send and receive voice, data and video.

"They had a well thought-out system," said Lowell Smith, who served as a judge with fellow U.S. IEEE member Janet Hill. "They used technology that we've yet to fully explore. I especially liked their smartlanguage converter and ability to communicate with the deaf."

The Future City Competition, which IEEE-USA introduced in 1993, is designed to encourage the future generation of engineers. Seventh and eighth grade students create their own vision of a city of tomorrow, working first on computer and then constructing three-dimensional scale models. About 30,000 students competed this past year.

Visit www.futurecity.org. IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers created in 1973 to promote the careers and public-policy interests of the more than 230,000 electrical, electronics, computer and software engineers who are U.S. members of the IEEE.

http://www.ieeeusa.org. The IEEE-USA News February 2002

IEEE MEMBERSHIP REACHES RECORD HIGH

IEEE membership grew 3.1 percent last year to 377,342 members, just short of the year-end goal of 380,000. This was the fifth consecutive year that IEEE membership increased. Student membership exceeded its goal, reaching 65,669 students, with12.6 percent growth.

Higher-grade memberships also grew by 1.3 percent. Region 6 remains the largest with 65,708 members, and Region 10 is second with 58,162. However, if recent growth patterns continue, Region 10 could become the biggest by 2004. Eight of the 10 Regions grew. Only Region 1 (-0.3 percent) and Region 4 (-0.5 percent) decreased.

Although Society membership growth overall was only 0.2 percent, 17 Societies experienced increases.

The five fastest-growing Societies last year were:

- 1. Circuits and Systems, +31.6 percent
- 2. Lasers and Electro Optics, +12.9 percent
- 3. Microwave Theory and Techniques, +6.3 percent
- 4. Components, Packaging, and Manufacturing Technology, +5.7 percent

5. Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society, +4.9 percent.

For more information, visit "http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/progrep/jan02prog.pdf".

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FREE DISTANCE LEARNING FROM IEEE COMPUTER SOCIETY

In 2002, IEEE Computer Society members have free access to 100 interactive, Web-based courses in 17 subject areas. Topics include Java, project management, Cisco, Windows network security, Unix and HTML. Many are designed to help computing professionals prepare for certification exams. For more information, visit "http://computer.org/DistanceLearning/"

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VOTING STANDARD GENERATES WORLDWIDE INTEREST

More than 130 engineers from manufacturers; U.S. local, state and federal bodies; eight countries, and interested parties have joined the IEEE Standards Association in a two-year effort to write an advanced technical standard to modernize voting equipment technology. For more information about the IEEE 1538 Standards Committee, visit "http://grouper.ieee.org/groups"

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REMINDER Calendar - Workshops/ Conferences / Symposia/ In Region 8

4th EURASIP - IEEE Region 8 International Symposium on Video / Image Processing and Multimedia Communications

http://www.vcl.fer.hr/vip/2002 16-19 June 2002 Zadar, Croatia

Mediterranean Microwave Symposium 2002

(MMS'2002) will be held in Caceres (Spain) in June 26-28, 2002. For further details regarding this symposium please visit our Web Site http://tsc.unex.es/mms2002

First IEEE EMBS Special Topic Conference on Molecular, Cellular and Tissue Engineering

6-9 June 2002, Genoa, Italy
Please see the conference website
http://www.dist.unige.it/MCTE02

First International IEEE EMBS Summer School on Applications of Informationand Communication Technology in Biomedicine,

5-10 August 2002, Dubrovnik,Croatia Pleasevisit the website at: http://www.crombes.hr/ICTSSO2

5.5 2nd European Medical & Biological Engineering Conference,

4-8 December2002, Vienna, Austria Please see the conference website for more information: http://www.embec.org

IEEE EMBS UK & RI Postgraduate Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics

Interfacing Engineering Expertise with Medical Applications: Academic and Industrial Perspectives 2-3 July 2002, Aston University, Birmingham, UK http://ewh.ieee.org/sb/ukriembs.

NDES2002

"The Tenth International Workshop on Nonlinear Dynamics of Electronic Systems" 21-23 June 2002 in Cesme, Izmir-Turkey.

New insights in nonlinear dynamics of electronic systems ranging from a mathematical point of view to a circuit design point of view.

Prof. Dr. F. Acar Savaci EE Department, Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey Web-site: http://ndes2002.likya.

E-mail: ndes2002@likya.iyte.edu.tr

PHOTO QUIZ

The winner of February R8News Photo Ouiz



Constantino Carlos Reyes-Aldasoro, Winner of February Photo Quiz

It is with pleasure the Editor awards the February prize to Constantino Carlos Reyes-Aldasoro who selected as his prize book: "Random Processes for Image Signal Processing".

His Answer: "The three early communication devices shown on

page 12 of February Region 8 News are musical instruments ** Drum (omichicahuaztli) wooden materials mostly. The frequency is low, presumably below 400 Hz. ** Flute, made out of bone, higher frequencies. ** "Guiro", made of bone, used scratching back and forth throught the ridges with a stick in a rythmic succesion. Although not shown, it must be hollow to give the characteristic sound. Interestingly



the three musical instruments are still widely used in Mexico and Latin America."

Constantino was born in Mexico City in 1968. graduated from the Engineering School of the Universidad Nacional Autóónoma de Mééxico (UNAM) in 1993 from Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. In 1994, he received the M.Sc. in Communications and Signaling Processing from the Imperial College, London, UK. From 1995 to 2000 as an academic in Mexico. He started a PhD in Image Processing at the University of Warwick in 2001.

NEW! NEW! MAY Region8 News Photo Contest

Each issue, readers are asked to identify an interesting object. The link to engineering can be historical, physical, mathematical, even artistic! Factual, humorous, speculative Answers will all be considered. A prize will

be awarded to the entrant sending in the most informative answer before the dead-line (June 30, 2002).

Prize: is Winner's Choice from any item offered in the *ieee.org* on-line store, up to the value of \$35. (member's price)

Please try your luck in identifying the "Recording Instrument" in the photo.

When, who, where, was it made? What events did it record? What is the sensitivity? What accuracy? For what purpose?

***IEEE region *Student news**

Student Representative: Giorgia German (g.german@ieee.org) Editor: R8StudentNews@ieee.org

Letter from Jens Hannemann

Hi folks.

As you might have noticed, there was no February issue of the Region 8 Student News. In part, the explanation of this is given by the letters from the Region 8 OpComm and the IEEE president, Ray Findlay, in this issue. During the process of editing the material sent to me from all over Region 8, the consequences of the legal situation, imposed on me by directions of the IEEE Board of Directors, on my work as Student News editor were such that I resigned from my volunteer position as *Region8 Student News* Editor.



I would like to thank everybody for their support both during my time as editor and after my resignation. IEEE is a truly remarkable organization, and this is because of the very special people from all over the world that constitute and operate it. Let's continue to fight for IEEE to become a truly transnational organization and please give your full support to Christian Borgert, our Vice Chair Student Activities.

I hope you enjoyed reading the R8 Student News as much as I enjoyed editing it and that you will do so in the future, as well. I once wrote in this place that IEEE has a tendency to recycle its officers, so I'm pretty sure we'll meet again somewhere else while we try to shape our IEEE into what we believe it should be: a transnational organization, networking the world.

Thanks and bye,

Jens

For the Time Being, our Region 8 Vice Chair for Student Activities, Christian Borgert, will gladly receive all Student News for Region 8. e-mails please, in plain text (or dot.RTF, with separate photographs in dot.JPEG) to R8StudentNews@ieee.org

STUDENT BRANCHES IN REGION8:

New Student Branches And Student
Branch Chapters In Region 8:
Components, Packaging and Manufacturing
Technology Society Student Branch
Chapter of the Romania Section
IEEE Student Branch at University Della
Calabria (Italy)

IEEE Student Branch at Fatih University
(Turkey)

IEEE Student Branch at Ain Shams University (Egypt)

IEEE Student Branch at University of Kiel (Germany)

Let's welcome them!

STUDENT BRANCH NEWS

NIGERIA Port Harcourt

The University of Port Harcourt Student Branch was inaugurated on 23rd August, 2001 at the Engineering Seminar Room of the University. The occasion was chaired by Engr. Dr. A.O. Ibe, Head of the Electrical and Electronics Department, supported by Engr. I.A Adekanye, Nigeria Section Chairman, Engr. Tunde Salihu, News editor of Nigeria section, Engr. Kehinde Osunseyi (member IEEE). Lecturers and students were in attendance at the occasion. Tunde Salihu (MIEEE) and T.P.Oje (MIEEE) presented papers respectively on "Information Technology" and "The use of the computer in process control."

I.A Adekanye inaugurated the Branch on behalf of Nigeria Section. The officials of the student Branch are:

Ogiso G.Ovie - Chair, Ogugu Moses -Vice Chair, Otu-Samuel - Secretary General, lungwe Dagogo - Financial Secretary, ngr.Roland Uhumwangho -Counselor, Engr.Dr.A.O.Ibe - Adviser.

> Ogiso G. Ovie SB Chair. ogiso@37.com

New SB in Lagos, Nigeria

The IEEE Student Brand of the University of Lagos, PSI was founded on the 31st March 2001 and formally granted registration on 7th of August, 2001. We are very grateful to all the individuals responsible for the registration, both directly and remotely.

As for us in the University of Lagos, the aim is to climb higher and higher. Do what every Student Branch does but with innovations. To this end, we had a get together to celebrate the foundation of the first Student Branch of the IEEE in West Africa and this was also to win over more members - students and lecturers alike. One of the highest achievements of that day was the presence of Prof. Oluwole Adegbenro (our branch counselor). He spent a lot of time with us and we really appreciated that. Though the get together was primarily for students - a sort of a "Social Stuff". But there he was chatting with us like every other student.

Some people signed up and others made pledges to do so. But the event was a huge success. We look forward to putting together other successful events, most notably the IEEE week on campus (coming up soon). We have also a computer committee trying to put together a computer center (with a number of facilities and also internet hopefully) where our members can do the core IEEE thing... networking the world.

Agabi Oshioenoya E agabi@ieee.org Branch Chair

Nigeria Nsukka UNN SB Is Born

All roads led to the Engineering auditorium of the University of Nigeria Nsukka on the 24th day of November, 2001 to witness the official inauguration of the University of Nigeria, Nsukka Student Branch of the IEEE (IEEE UNN SB). The occassion was well attended, present were executives of the Nigeria section, representatives of student branches from across the country, UNN faculty of Engineering lecturers and close to 200 students of the University of Nigeira.

The inauguration was a huge success. The Dean of the Faculty of Engineering was the able Chair of the occasion. He was supported bythe Head of Department of Electrical Engineering as well as lecturers from the departments of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. The section Chair, Engr Isaac Adekanye was present to give us

an inspiring talk on the 'role of IEEE to the Nigerian Student'. The publicity Chairman of IEEE Nigeria section Engr Tunde Salihu, gave a most educative lecture on GSM technology. The branch Counsellor, Engr Dr C.C.Osuagwu gave a lecture on 'the challenges of tomorrow to the Nigerian student'.

I would like to seize this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed in one way or the other to ensure that the inauguration was a success. During that period, special thanks go to all you great 'lions and lionesses' who, inspite of forth coming exams and busy schedules made all necessary sacriffices to plan and execute an impressive outing. "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

All of us, at the IEEE UNNSB are optimistic that we will play our part in the most important goal of the IEEE, which is - networking the world.

Clementina Vincent-Uvieghara (Chair, IEEE UNN SB) clementina@ieee.org, unn-r08@ieee.org

TURKEY SB METU

Between May 21 - 26, 2001, ICRA 2001 International Conference on Robotics and Automation took place in Seoul, South Korea. ICRA is major conference of IEEE Robotics and Automation Society, attracting more than 1000 papers each year. Together with our counselor Prof. Aydan Erkmen we organized a Student Forum, first of its kind, embedded within ICRA.

This attracted interest from RAS
Administrative Committee, so that opening
addresses were given by RAS President Prof.
Steve Hsia and the IEEE RAS VP for IEEE
membership Prof. Kosuge Kazuhiro. The
main goal of Student Forum was to share
experience we all gained in our METU student branch and explain activities which
brought us prestigious IEEE Worldwide
Outstanding Student Branch Award in 1999
with student branches of Seoul National
University and Korean Advanced Institute of
Science and Technology.

Special importance was given to establishment of RAS Student Branch Chapters and networking between them. The Student Forum lasted 3 hours and showed all us that problems in all student branches regardless of country or geographical region are mostly the same. We believe that all participating student members

of IEEE gained new ideas and visions about management of student branches in future.

Oguz Yilmaz
IEEE METU SB President
oguz@ieee.metu.edu.tr
Ilker Ender Ocak
IEEE METU SB RAS Student Branch
Chapter President,
oilker@ieee.metu.edu.tr
Ilkin Mehrabov
IEEE METU SB Education Committee
Chair ilkin@ieee.metu.edu.tr

PASSAU SB

Developing technical skills and having fun. Ready, steady, ... Go! All envelopes containing the secret tasks were ripped open, the Haskell Hacker Contest had just started.

The Student Branch Passau arranged a programming competition in the past winter term. About 42 students joined the challenge to solve five programming tasks within three hours using the programming language Haskell. This meant a lot of stress.

Especially, as each team - up to three students - had only one keyboard (computer), one pencil and several sheets of paper to handle the problems. And of course Haskell.

Haskell is a polymorphically typed, lazy, pure functional language, quite different from most other programming languages. Its pureness alleviates understanding the written program and proving its correctness. So you can produce short, clear code very fast. Furthermore it is open source and there is major research activity on Haskell.

The advantages of Haskell were very useful for the given tasks which had different levels of difficulty. For instance, the teams had to simplify code, implement the famous Caesar Cipher or even solve the Travelling Salesman Problem. Each of the 14 teams stayed the course, even the freshmen. In the Junior Haskell Hacker League the "Lords of Recursion" won with 1240 of 1300 available points. Their decent statement about their victory: "It was quite interesting;-) "

Even a professor took part, but did not win: "Nevertheless I enjoyed the competition. It is a good exercise for the students to practice programming under pressure of time". In addition he pointed out that hacking did not mean to invade a sophisticated data network, but to program smartly.

The members of the Student Branch Passau were also highly pleased with the whole competition as they succeeded in combining lots of fun with the development of technical and professional skills. The high quality of the solutions resulted mainly from the Haskell training lecture offered by the Student Branch shortly before the event.

The next event will be the Student Branch Meeting 2002 in June, which will take place in Passau. "Connecting the branches" will be the slogan of this meeting to which all German speaking Student Branches are invited. For more information about the Haskell Hacker Contest and the Student Branch Meeting have a look at

http://ieee.students.uni-passau.de.

Gordon Bolduan

Region 9 Student Branch Meeting 2001 - RRR 2001

From October 27th to November 4th 2001 I stayed in Brazil and had the great pleasure to attend the Region 9 Student Branch Meeting (Reunião Regional de Ramos Estudantis - RRR 2001, from November 1st until 3rd 2001) in São Paulo.

Prior to the official part of the meeting I took part in a short trip to Rio de Janeiro, which was organized as some kind of prelude to the meeting. During this trip I already got to know some of the participants and came in contact with the lifestyle of Latin Americans.

The offical part of the meeting included lectures about the economic situation of South America espacially concerning the situation of hydro power generation. We also visited a factory of Voith Siemens near São Paulo.

The most important program items were the lectures and the workshop about leadership and engineers' skills held by Dr. Raymond Findlay, IEEE 2002 Elected President, and Theodore W. Hissey, Member of the IEEE board of directors. It was very valuable to get to know these characters of the IEEE.

Beside this it was most interesting for me as one of three participants from Europe (two students from Spain and me) to see the differences between the central European and the Latin American cultural area. I got to know to the hospitality and kindness of the people there and really had a great time in Brazil.

In this way I again want to thank Tadeu R. de Azevedo, Frederico Bonincontro, and Daniel Pezeta the main coordinators of the RRR 2001 for their brilliant work, but I also want to thank the rest of the people I meet there for this unique experience.

Armin Grädler IEEE Student Branch Passau, Germany Vice Chair graedler@ieee.org

IEEE Malta Student Branch and UESA

Student Professional Awareness Conference 2002

by Claire M. Seguna B.Eng.(Hons.)

On Wednesday 13th March 2002 the IEEE Malta Student Branch and UESA (University Engineering Students Association) brought up the first Student Professional Awareness Conference.

This half-day conference provided an opportunity for all Engineering and IT students to become aware of the possibilities available once they graduate from their first degree. The conference was opened by the vice-chair of the student branch, Nicholas J. Sammut, where he presented Claire M. Seguna (IEEE Malta SB Chair), the latter stating the IEEE Malta SB's mission statement and objectives, and emphasising the benefits students enjoy once they become student members of IEEE.

Different engineering topics were tackled such as the engineer's role in management, the function of the control engineer in automation and cybernetics and the various specialisation areas IT students face once they join a software development firm.

At the end of each session all speakers were presented with a gift pack (sponsored by Chemimart). The conference was concluded with a draw of seven vouchers and a flight ticket to any European destination sponsored by Air Malta.

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland - Engineering in Medicine & Biology Student Society

http://ewh.ieee.org/sb/ukriembs/embs/events.html

The IEEE EMB Student Society for the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland was formed in 2000 to allow postgraduate students to meet, exchange ideas and learn more about the fields of biomedical engineering, medical physics and other related areas of knowledge.



Speakers and IEEE Malta Student Branch Committee. From left:- Mr. Keith Chetcuti (Secretary), Mr. Anton Callus, Ms. Claire M. Seguna (Chair), Mr. Nicholas J. Sammut (Vice-Chair), Prof. Ing. Paul Micallef, Dr. Ing. Simon G. Fabri

Our first informal meeting, on the 30 May 2001 at Oxford Brookes University, was a great success. "Biomedical Engineering in the UK- career prospects "We were very pleased with the number of attendees (25-30) and positively surprised to see how many students had travelled to Oxford from places such as London, Leicester, or Coventry, to name a few.

The five hour programme, organized by Andreas Pohlmann of Oxford Brookes and Dr Chris James of Aston University, included talks by speakers from UK universities and industry, as well as a student competition.

Building on this, a two day conference is currently being organised to take place at Aston University, Birmingham, on the 2nd-3rd July 2002. This meeting will consider the scope of biomedical engineering and medical physics exploring different aspects of the subject from both industrial and academic points of view. There will be a student competition of oral and poster presentations, guest speakers from academia and industry.



Peter Nattrass from GE Medical Systems presents "The Short Presentation Award 2001" to Anita Boardman.

"IEEE EMBS UK & RI Postgraduate Conference on Biomedical Engineering and Medical Physics"

"Interfacing Engineering Expertise with Medical Applications: Academic and Industrial Perspectives"

2-3 July 2002, Aston University, Birmingham, UK. Visit the website at: http:// ewh.ieee.org/sb/ukriembs/'

> Anita Boardman University of Leicester Leicester, LE1 7RH Tel: 0116 252 2873 ab66@leicester.ac.uk

IDAACS'2001 Ternopil, CRIMEA SB Ternopil Academy of National Economy

The international scientific Workshop Intelligent Data Acquisition and Advanced Computing Systems: Technology and Applications (IDAACS'2001) was held in small Crimean town Foros 1-4 July of 2001 organized by Institute of Computer Information Technologies of Ternopil Academy of National Economy (TANE).

The Chair of the IDAACS'2001 was Professor Anatoly Sachenko.

The Organizing committee of IDAACS'2001 consisted of young scientists and graduate student from Institute of Computer Information Technologies, who were all the member of IEEE Student Branch of Ternopil Academy of National Economy.

IDAACS'2001 aim was to assemble teams and scientists from different parts of the world, to find out about each others activities and research approaches and to enhance the prospects for future joint research collaborations among scientists, engineers, educators and businessmen.

Thanks to all of the members of IEEE Student Branch of Ternopil Academy of National Economy, members of IDAACS'2001 International Program Committee and other people who help us to make this Workshop successful.

Oleg Adamiv, Chair of IEEE SB of Ternopil Academy of National Economy