**Why Confer?**

Subtract its technical publications and little remains of the Institute but "Conferences", gatherings of like-minded people supposedly discussing their common problems, making a donation of indispensable knowledge to those of a lesser intellect or advancing theories to explain some hitherto poorly understood observation. What is the reality behind this conferrional Utopia?

We are all familiar with the repetitious cliches; it is a Workshop, Meeting, Colloquium or Conference and its purpose is to "Provide a forum for...", "Push back the Frontiers of Science...", or "Foster Interdisciplinary Cross-fertilisation". If the result is a profit it is successful; successful at what, at making a profit? For a commercial company a commendable aim, but what does the engineering community think of that measure? Attendees are more likely to pass a subjective opinion on the "quality" of the conference contributions. Money is essential, but not the only measure of success.

**Communication**

This leads us to ask whether speakers, given the undoubted quality of their science, are able to convey that quality to the audience. We have all suffered from the distressing experience of having to listen to readings from carefully prepared pages, and of crowded, illegible slides, all too frequently accompanied by "you won't be able to see the figures in this table"; and now we have the enthusiastic computer graphics expert, replete with slides the words of which he proceeds to read, convincing proof of his familiarity with the alphabet.

It is too much to ask of our Conference Committees that they should set out to find ways of producing conferences of quality in which the speakers start and finish on time, address the back row and not just to those in the front, show slides which everyone can see and eschew those mathematics which cannot be properly appreciated as a transient star in an otherwise darkened sky. All these problems are successfully overcome by small specialist Scientific Societies with the ultimate sanction of a chairman's question to the audience "Is your wish that this paper be published in the Society's Journal?"

**Proceedings**

Should they be published? Do bear in mind that the editor of a reputable journal will not admit conference proceedings in a paper bibliography; he is quite "long in the tooth", has served on conference committees, and knows well that in many instances almost any paper is accepted in order to fill the conference sessions.

The ideal Conference Proceedings should be published, and refereed, in exactly the same way as other journal papers. For those attending the conference a book of well written abstracts is sufficient; journal papers which follow the conference will then have a reputable status; they might even include points made in the discussion. However, Conference Proceedings are a valuable source of income, and serve in part to pay for that or another meeting.

**Big is Beautiful?**

Large international conferences need large rooms, usually in large hotels, with large Proceedings and large financial resources, and with the possibility of large losses. Might not the Institute encourage small specialised conferences of high quality? And although not in keeping with one of the Institute's regulations, might there not be a place for an "invited" conference, with a few places reserved for interested "observers"?

Although it is difficult to avoid the use of English as the language of a large international conference, in a small "regional" meeting some other language could be preferred; it is true that most engineers "speak" English, but they are understandably more comfortable in their native tongue.

Small regional Conferences would be easier to organise, eliminate large expensive committees, and be more likely to attract financial contributions from industry and commerce. Discussion flows more freely within small groups.

The Institute is charged with improving the lot of all mankind; that includes priests concerned about their temples and their flocks, local governments concerned about the treatment of sewage and the disposal of refuse and those whose business includes the avoidance of environmental pollution. Not much to write about is there? Perhaps the best measure of "quality" is the number of customers who return next year, with their friends.

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**THE BRUSSELS OFFICE**

has been known variously as the "Brussels Office, TAB Office, Computer Society Office, and Region 8 Office"; readers should note that all these offices are one and the same and are served by the same staff.

Only New Membership Applications can be sent to the office. Payment may be made by any of the following:

- Eurocheques in Belgian, French, German, Swiss or UK Currency (ask the office for the exchange rate)
- Unesco Coupons - sometimes difficult to obtain.
- American Express, Mastercard/Access/Eurocard, or Visa
- Bank Transfer (ask office for details)

All IEEE Publications & Products can be supplied; if not in stock they will be obtained from the US. Payment as above.

Membership, Payment, and Publications enquiries will be answered by the Office.
For Students

By Gozde Bozdagi

In recent issues of Region 8 News I have tried to inform you about the current activities related to Region 8 students. This time I have decided to give you some information about the IEEE itself, students in the IEEE, awards available to students, possible activities and so on.

The Institute.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers was founded by a small group of enthusiastic engineers, in 1884; today it has over 300,000 members of whom about 40,000 are students. The Institute is divided geographically into ten regions; Region 8 consists of Europe, Africa, Greenland, Iceland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Middle-east countries located west of Afghanistan and Pakistan. This geographical Region is further divided into Sections, usually single countries, which are the basic operating entities of the Institute. Student Branches operate under the auspices of the Sections - today there are over 700 such branches in all parts of the world.

In order to be a student member one must attend at least 50% of a normal full-time academic programme as a registered undergraduate or graduate student in a regular course of study in IEEE designated fields. Student members transferring to a higher grade after graduation pay reduced fees over the five consecutive years following graduation. For 1992 the amount invoiced for first-year recent graduates is $30 for Region 8. As a student member one receives IEEE Spectrum, The Institute, local section publications, a pin, and a membership card. One may also join any of the thirty-five technical Societies. Student members of a college, university or technical institute can form a student branch; a minimum of twenty is required.

Each student branch must adopt and conform to a Student Branch Constitution, a copy of which should be sent, together with the petition form and three school prospectuses, to IEEE Headquarters - Section Chairman and Student Counselors will always provide help and advice. Failure of a branch to maintain a minimum of ten IEEE student members and to hold at least three meetings each year will place the branch on probation.

Upon receipt of the "Annual Branch Activity" form by Headquarters, branches with fewer than 50 members receive $25 per student and branches of fifty or more receive $50 per student, both for one calendar year. With the consent of the appropriate Committee, Regional and Section funds may be used to support the operation of a Student Branch; in addition, funds from Foundations, Industry and Government bodies are accepted.

The organisation and administration of student activities involves a Committee of students, a Section Chairman and the Regional Student Activities Committee.

Student Awards

Student members are eligible for a multitude of awards, fellowships and scholarships; here are some of them:

Student Paper Contest: Each Region and Section is responsible for organising a Student Paper Contest. For a Regional Student Paper Contest, the top three undergraduate winners receive $300, $1500, $75; in addition their papers are published in "IEEE Student Papers".

This year the student paper contest was held during CompEuro '91 in Den Haag, the Netherlands. For more information contact your local student branch or Student Committee Chairman - but don’t forget that your must submit your paper before the end of the year to the Regional Student Activities Committee, Chairman Mr. D.C.J. Poortvliet, Westeinde Hospital EEG Department, T.N.O. Research Unit, Lijnbaan 32 VA, The Hague, The Netherlands.

Outstanding Student Award: Each year every student branch may request a certificate for its "Outstanding Members(s)". The award consists of an attractive certificate inscribed with the student’s name, academic year, and is signed by the IEEE President.

The Vincent Bendix Award from Allied-Signal Inc.: a maximum of $500 to finance individual Student Branch Projects.

What Can You Do

Now let’s come to the point; how can students be active, what can they do. SO MANY THINGS! But first of all you must believe that you will benefit from each of the activities you undertake, you should not consider it a chore; I will mention some that come into my mind. Study tours, conferences, exchange programmes, support of student projects, student paper contests, establishing contacts with industry, conducting technical seminars, establishing a file of companies that desire electrical engineers for the summer vacation, organising freshman orientation programmes. You might also organise social activities: parties, picnics, competitions and so on.

IEEE Benefits

Here is a summary of what Bailey and Alexander see as the most significant benefits of being an active IEEE Student Member: Academic and professional improvement and growth, improved deportment and school spirit and reputation, identification with an outstanding profession.

One final remark. The address of the postmaster of Region 8 Student Branch List, Petri Solanti, has been changed to "psa@cs.tut.fi". You can add or change the address of your branch by sending him a message. Also if you want your message to be routed to all the addresses in the list, you have to send it to "luesb-eu@cs.tut.fi", from now on.
Czechoslovakia

By Dr. Vratislav Stepar

For several years a Group of Czechoslovakian members has been attempting to form an IEEE Section. Despite the undoubted interest on the part of technical specialists, there was always the question of financing the Institute's fees, foreign currency being rationed by government officials who had no interest in membership of non-governmental organisations. The membership was therefore confined to those who could find funds from abroad or who were successful in overcoming the official bureaucracy; they numbered about twenty.

Political and economic changes, in particular the convertibility of Czechoslovakian currency, have enabled our citizens to obtain funds, but at a rather unfavourable rate of exchange; furthermore IEEE fees are equivalent to 50-100% of the monthly income of technicians or scientists. Funds to support direct scientific and research activities are not available. All those factors lead a retardation of the formation of a Czechoslovakia Section.

The Czechoslovakian representative was invited to attend the Region 8 Committee meeting in Brussels last year; at the end of that meeting, a group consisting of members and specialists interested in membership, was organised. A temporary committee was established and as its initial task it conducted a publicity campaign along universities and industrial enterprises in Czechoslovakia. A lecture entitled "A century of Electricity" was initiated, the speaker being Dr. Aspray, head of the Historical Institute of the IEEE. Some considerable interest was shown in microwave techniques. At present there are some 30-35 members but further progress is hampered by a lack of funds.

The isolation of the Czechoslovakian economy has as one of its results a lack of personal and professional contacts between local specialists and those in well-developed countries. Possibly one of the most important facets of scientific conferences is the mental stimulation which is produced by discussion and argument between scientists working in similar or allied fields. When all these problems are taken into account, it might seem reasonable for the IEEE or the Region consider some form of concrete assistance to those seeking to lay the foundations of a Czechoslovakian Section.

Prague: November 1991

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An intensive course organized by the Electronics Laboratories of the

SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, LAUSANNE (EPFL), SWITZERLAND

Semi-Custom Design on Transistor Arrays
Analog & Digital
March 16-20, 1992

Michel J. Declercq, EPFL - Electronics Labs., Lausanne, Switzerland
"SEMI-CUSTOM DESIGN ON TRANSISTOR ARRAYS - AN OVERVIEW"

Rolf H. Sigl, LASARRAY, Bienna, Switzerland & Irvine, CA, U.S.A.
"VALUE ENGINEERING FOR ASICS: ASIC DESIGN STRATEGIES AND FINANCIAL CRITERIA."

Philippe Duchène, EPFL - Electronics Labs., Lausanne, Switzerland
"CMOS AND BICMOS ARRAY ARCHITECTURE" and
"METHODOLOGIES AND CAD TOOLS FOR SEA-OF-GATES ARRAYS"

Fujio Nakanishi, FUJITSU, Japan
"GENERAL PURPOSE VS. SPECIFIC GATE ARRAYS"

Richard W. Spehn, AMCC, San Diego, CA, U.S.A.
"HIGH PERFORMANCE BICMOS ARRAYS - THE AMCC CONCEPT" and
"FAST BIPOLAR ARRAYS"

James D. Gallia, TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, Dallas, TX, U.S.A.
"HIGH PERFORMANCE BICMOS ARRAYS - THE T.I. CONCEPT"

Ray Milano, VITESSE, Camarillo, CA, U.S.A.
"GaAs SEMI-CUSTOM INTEGRATED CIRCUITS"

Tim Dhuyvetter, SIPEX, Milpitas, CA, U.S.A.
"DESIGNING WITH HIGH PERFORMANCE ANALOG ARRAYS" and
"SYSTEM APPLICATION OF HIGH PERFORMANCE ANALOG ARRAYS"

Öscar Buset, EPFL - Electronics Labs., Lausanne, Switzerland and
Fouad Rahali, ASCOM Microelectronics, Bevaix, Switzerland
"FAST PROTOTYPING OF BIPOLAR ANALOG ASICS BY LASER DIRECT WRITING"

Matjaz Novak, EM Microelectronic-Marin, Switzerland
"CMOS MIXED ARRAYS WITH HIGH VOLTAGE OUTPUT CAPABILITY"

Deadline for registration: February 15, 1992
Courses director: Michel Declercq
Course location: EPFL-Lausanne, Switzerland
Course fee: 2'500.- Swiss Francs

For further information and mailing address, please contact:

Dr. V. Valencic, EPFL-LEG, EL-Ecublens, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland, Tel: +41-21-693.39.72 (or 75), Fax: +41-21-693.36.40

EPFL is member of the ESPRIT VLSI Design Action of the European Communities.
A Good-bye from Turkey

Serving for two years as the Chairman of the Turkey Section has for me been a great honour. My term ends this year and I shall not be a candidate for another term; by the time this article reaches you the elections for the new Section officers will probably be over.

The petition for the formation of the Turkey Section was filed in September 1988, with over 60 signatures; a separate petition was filed to the Office of the Governor of Ankara in February 1989 by seven founder members, of whom I was one. With the approval of both applications the Turkey Section was born. The membership at that time was around eighty and after three years we are now almost 700.

I am grateful to those volunteers who have promoted the IEEE in Turkey and thus boosted the number of members - more IEEE members means more activities, and that is what the Institute is for. In the beginning we had a number of seminars with general announcements reaching all members, but as numbers grew it became difficult to reach every member on all occasions. Instead, the newly formed Chapters took care of their own members with more specific meetings and seminars. There are now three Chapters: Signal Processing, Computer, and Circuits & Systems. Each Chapter has its own budget and by maintaining close contacts with the parent Society many interesting technical activities have been arranged. I urge our members in other fields to take the lead in forming local Chapters; all the necessary information and documents are available in our office.

Now we have two Student Branches, in Bilkent University and in the Middle East Technical University; one more petition has already been filed by Istanbul Technical University. Growth in the number of student members has been extraordinary; there are now almost 400 members; Ayhan Altinas, Student Counsellor at Bilkent University, was this year given the Outstanding Counsellors Award, an honour bestowed upon only a very few counsellors.

With the current tendency towards cooperation between individuals, nations and continents, the international structure of the Institute places it amongst the leaders of those organisations best able to ensure progress in so many aspects of our daily lives. I am sure that the IEEE will play an even larger part, in Turkey and worldwide, during the coming years.

I thank all the Turkey Section Administrative Committee members; to them is due all the credit for the strong momentum the IEEE has gained Turkey so soon after its formation. Their term ends in December this year and I hope they will all again take up their responsibilities on the Committee.

Bye-bye from Levent Onural

Poland

By Professor Andrzej Filipkowski

At the end of July the Poland Section had 164 members, of whom 14 were Student Members. We have noticed a decrease since April, some of our members, being in a difficult financial situation, did not renew their membership.

Our two Chapters, AP/AES/MTT and CAS, organised their first meetings and are now quite active; the vacation period slowed down the formation of other chapters. Fifteen meetings have taken place since April, eight with foreign guest speakers; among them Prof. Costa Freire and Prof. David Biran.

According to the bylaws of the Poland Section, an election meeting was organised on 19th June; the same Executive Committee has been elected for the next two years. The Section sponsored the following conferences:

SET '91: Semiconductor Equipment and Technology - 22nd-24th October, Warsaw.

Romania

By Professor Andrei P. Silard

The first general assembly was held in Bucharest on June 1st. This first gathering of the members from all the important Romanian towns was given a summary of the opportunities offered to the Electrical Engineering community by the scientific services available through the Institute. The formation of several Chapters, particularly the ED, Computer, and MTT/Mag, was initiated during this meeting. A Student Branch will be formed later this year.

The first issue of the Section Newsletter was produced this summer and steady progress is being made in elevating the Section members to Senior Member Grade. An IEEE office came into existence at the Faculty of Electronics, Bucharest Polytechnic Institute - room A-226 and the IEEE library is expanding and will be enriched by book donations from the Institute. The Section will sponsor research seminars (e.g. Microwave Techniques) and will lend its support to the organisation of an International Symposium of “Fuzzy Systems” and “Artificial Intelligence”, to be held in Iasi on 10-12th October 1991; contact: Dr. H.N.Teodorescu, Copou 8, Academy Building, P.O.B. 1322, Of.P.6, Iasi 6600, Romania.

An expression of inter-section cooperation is the Communications/MTT Workshop to be organised jointly with the Hungary and Jugoslavia Sections next March in Budapest. Contact in Romania: Prof. Marcel Profirescu, Vice-chairman, Polytechnic Institute, POB 57112, Bucharest 74512, Romania. (Continued on page 8)
Chapter Coordination

By Dr. J. Baal-Schem

The aim of the Communication Chapters Coordination programme is to foster cooperation and the exchange of information among members of Communication Chapters in the Region.

International Workshop on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communications

At the Communication Chapter Chairmen’s meeting held in Ljubljana in May 1991, it was suggested that a Regional Workshop should be organised on a subject of interest to members of ComSoc in the Region. The Hungary chapter proposed the organisation of a Workshop; the International Activities Council of the Communication Society endorsed this idea and agreed to provide a grant to assist the implementation of this Workshop. It will be held in Siófok, near Lake Balaton, in Hungary on 25-28th May 1992. The objective is to encourage discussion on recent advances in all aspects of the subject, including networking, propagation, modulation/coding and equipment.

The organisers invite proposals for papers; prospective authors should submit a two-page summary (Camera-ready original and four additional copies) to: The Secretary of the Programme Committee, HTE Budapest, Kossuth Lajos ter 6-8, Hungary H-1055. The deadline is 15th January 1992 - acceptance will be notified by 15th Marcy 1992.

Registration Fees for IEEE members (received before 10th April 1992) are US$120. Full board accommodation (3 nights) including transport from and to Budapest is US$155. Participants from East European Countries may apply for financial assistance; requests should be sent to the Secretary of the Programme Committee, HTE Budapest, Kossuth Lajos ter 6-8, Hungary, H-1055.


Obituary

Prof. Dr. Abdel-Samieh Mostafa

Professor Mostafa (LF), died on 16th September this year. He obtained his B.Sc in 1937, Ph.D. in 1947 and was appointed head of the Electrical Engineering Dept. of Alexandria University in 1952; in 1960 he became Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. He was the first Chairman of the Egyptian Telecommunication Institute and in 1975 was appointed Professor Emeritus at the Faculties of Engineering in Alexandria and Beirut.

Professor Mostafa was a pioneer in teaching telecommunications and electronics in Egypt and was awarded an IEEE Fellowship for “Contributions to Electrical Engineering Education and for his work on the Analysis of Non-Linear Systems”. He obtained several high-level awards in Egypt and was granted the Marconi International Award for his researches in Telecommunication Theory.

He published over one hundred research papers in IEEE journals and elsewhere, and was the Chairman of the IEEE Egypt Section, contributing a great deal to its activities.


Yugoslavia.

(20 years a Section)

By Professor Baldomir Zajc

The Yugoslav Section was established in 1971, with the the status of an independent Society. In 1976, following new state regulations regarding societies, the Yugoslav Section joined the Society of Electrical Engineers of Slovenia. From 1977 the Section has been acting formally as a profession branch-Section of the IEEE, using its own working rules, which are consistent with the IEEE bylaws. Our present membership is 488 members, of whom 120 are students.

In recent years the rate of membership growth has been very high and in 1985 the Section received an award for the most successful membership development among the Regions. Our members are spread through Yugoslavia, with the highest concentration in Ljubljana, Maribor, Zagreb, Belgrade, Novi Sad, Skopje, Sarajevo, Split and Banja Luka. There is also a Student Branch in the Yugoslav Section at the University of Ljubljana.

In addition to regular technical meetings, the section has been active in cosponsoring conferences. It has been involved in the organisation of a series of International Symposia on network theory, with a large participation from abroad. The symposia were held in Hercegovina in 1972, Split in 1975, Ljubljana in 1979, Sarajevo in 1984 and Zagreb in 1989. The organisers were the national organisation for electronics, telecommunications, automation and nuclear techniques (ETAN) in Belgrade.

Among annual events in Ljubljana in conjunction with an Electronics Exhibition, the Section has assisted in the organisation of Kron’s memorial meeting on diacoptics in Belgrade 1984, and a pre-IFAC Meeting on “Current Trends in Control”, in Cavtat 1984. In June 1984 the Section organised the celebration of the centenary of the Institute and on that occasion the President, Dr. Gowen, presented medals to three distinguished scientists: Prof. Rajko Tomicic, Prof. Hrvoje Pozare and Prof. Ljoze Vadovnik.

The Section acted as host to the Region 8 Committee in Dubrovnik, Split and Brdo. Our last major event was MELECON '91 and although the Yugoslav crises had already started and the participants were advised by their own authorities not to travel, 75% of the authors were present, which under the circumstances we must consider a great success.

In order to stimulate technical activities in this relatively large Section, with members spread over all parts of Yugoslavia, four Chapters of IEE Socie-
ties have been established. The first a joint Chapter on CAS/SP and on ED were established in Belgrade and on COM in Kranj. In this way we hope to strengthen the cooperation among our members and with the IEEE Societies.

Another of our aims is to establish relations with national engineering societies in order to cooperate in the organisations of conferences, symposia, seminars, workshops and programmes of continuing education. Twenty years of the Yugoslav Section has resulted in a rich programme of conferences, which the members very much appreciate. They appreciate also the wide variety of technical literature published by the IEEE.

### Sweden

*By Dr. Anders Demeryd*

#### Student Branches

During the weekend of 14-15th September five members of the Sweden Section gathered in Aalborg, Denmark, together with other Nordic Section Board members. The purpose was to discuss student activities and membership development. Two student Chairmen, Goran Eriksson from Stockholm and Leif Smith from Uppsala were present.

One concern is how to attract more members to the seminars arranged by the Branches; another is how to keep a Student Branch active. There are a few inactive Branches at universities in Sweden. If you have any good ideas for starting or improving the activities, please share them with Student Branch and Section Chairmen.

#### Membership Development.

Each year there is a rather large decrease in the number of members, many of whom fall into arrears because their dues are not paid - what should we do to retain these members? Besides receiving Transactions and magazines, there are a number of excellent technical seminars arranged by our Chapters.

The Section has during the last few years encouraged experienced members to apply for higher grade; the campaign has so far been very successful, with many upgraded members. This effort will continue next year.

### Annual Meeting

The Sweden Section annual meeting is planned for January in Goteborg. A separate notice will be mailed to all members together with the annual report. We look forward to a prosperous 1992 with many interesting seminars arranged by Chapters and Student Branches.

*Section Chairman: Dr. Piotr Starski, Chalmers University of Technology, Division of Network Theory, S-412 96 Goteborg, Sweden. Tel: 031 72 1734. E-mail: piotr@nt.chalmers.se (UUCP).*

### Letter to the Editor.

Sir.

We are pleased to announce the creation of a new professional organisation in the field of Computer Science: The Association of Diagnostic and Fault Tolerance Technology (ADOT). This new organisation is composed of some hundred highly qualified specialists in the USSR, working in the field of computer and VLSI testing and fault-tolerance. We held our first Congress of ADOT in February this year. The main goals of ADOT are:

- 1. To invite collaboration with the international community.
- 2. To create a data-base containing the scientific and practical results from the work of ADOT members.
- 3. To produce the Journal of ADOT - initially in diskette form - containing scientific papers, news of professional activities, and advertisements.

We are interested in the development of international programmes and are currently working towards their fulfillment; they include:

- Foreign membership in ADOT.
- An annual East-West Test Conference to be held in Moscow, starting in 1993.
- A consultancy for foreign companies with research investments in USSR.
- The establishment of channels by which ADOT members can compete for foreign projects.

We are also interested in a joint partnership with the IEEE Computer Society, especially in Region 8. Due to currency exchange difficulties we are at the moment unable to form our own branch of IEEE; however we hope in the future to overcome this problem.

President of ADOT: Acad. Cor. Of USSR Academy of Science, P. Parchomenko. Member of Council of ADOT, Assoc. Prof. V. Krivoshapko. For more information about international membership of ADOT, the ADOT databank and/or ADOT scientific conferences to be held in the USSR, please contact: Acad.cor. P. Parchomenko, or Assoc. Prof. V. Krivoshapko, Profsoyuznaya 65, IPU, 117806, Moscow, B-342, USSR. Tel: +095 334 90 00. Fax: +095 530 2233.

Yours sincerely,

*P. Parchomenko*

### Central & South Italy

*Professor Piero Tognolatti (Secretary)*

The following are among the conferences held by the MTT/AP Chapter during 1991:

- **Non-linear Microwave CAD Innovations** - Dr. John W. Bandler, McMaster University, Canada
- **Simulation & Design of Nonlinear Microwave Circuits** - Prof. Vittorio Rizzoli, University of Bologna.
- **Integrated Millimeter-wave Circuits** - Prof. W. Menzel, University of Ulm., Germany
In comparison with last year our membership has more than doubled, the Section being among the fastest growing in the IEEE. The Electrical Engineering world is becoming increasingly aware of the scientific potential in Romania, whilst the Electrical Engineering community in the country is gradually discovering the essence and opportunities offered by the Institute.

Section Chairman: Andrei P. Silard
Acea Alexandru 19, Bucharest, Of. Postal 63, 71273 Romania. Tel: +400 331184. Fax: +400 120188.

CompEuro '92 - 4-8 May
By Prof. Patrick Dewilde

In contrast to previous years, CompEuro now devotes itself to the general field of "Computer Systems and Software Engineering"; we aim to provide the practicing computer engineer or researcher with comprehensive and up-to-date information in this exciting field. With this in view we have invited twenty prominent engineers and scientists to give "State of the Art" lectures on important topics of interest to all participants. These speakers, as well as a number of special sessions have been selected by some ten subcommittees.

The conference will also offer sessions containing high quality submitted papers, a student paper contest, an informative technical exhibition and visits to high performance enterprises in the field - Friday May 8th. Three themes will be highlighted: Computers & Optimisation, Parallel Processing, and Numerical Algebra. Keynote speakers on the first day will be: R.K. Brayton, and J. Dummel both from the University of California at Berkley, and K.E. Drangeid - formerly of ETH Switzerland.

May 4th will be devoted entirely to tutorials on the following topics:
Optimisation and Programming
L.A. Wolsey

CompEuro '92 will be held in the Netherlands Congress Centre in the Hague, a well-connected and picturesque resort city which boarders the North Sea. It offers participants an ideal mix of efficiency and serenity.

Delft, The Netherlands

BILCON’92 - Call for Papers
1992 Bilkent International Conference on Lightwave Technology and Communications
July 27-28, 1992 Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

Conference Topics
- Basic Optical Phenomena
- Propagation in Optical Waveguides
- Nonlinear Optics
- Quantum Optics
- High Speed Networks (SONET, FDDI, etc)
- Network Architecture and Protocols
- Photonic Switching
- Transmission Systems
- Optical Amplifiers and Lasers
- Coherent Systems
- Integrated Optics
- Fiber Design and Fabrication
- Fiber Sensors and Devices
- Other related topics

Invited speakers
Invited speakers include P.L. Chu (NSW, Australia), L.G. Kazovsky (Stanford, USA), J.D. Love (ANU, Australia), F.P. Payne (Cambridge, UK), J.H. Shapiro (MIT, USA).

Conference proceedings
All papers presented at the conference will appear in a proceedings volume, which will be printed after the conference by a major publishing company.

Authors schedule
400-800 word summary due: April 15, 1992.
Notification of acceptance mailed: May 1, 1992.
Camera ready copy must be submitted during the conference.
The conference language is English.

There will also be optional tours to major cultural and historic centers in Turkey.
Send all correspondence to the following address. Include an e-mail address if possible.
BILCON’92, Bilkent University, Bilkent, 06533 Ankara, TURKEY.
Tel: (90) 4-266-4307, Fax: (90) 4-266-4127, E-mail: bilcon@trbilun.bitnet

The conference is organized by Bilkent University, in cooperation with IEEE Turkey Section.
GIORGIO SAVASTANO AWARD

Federation of European Simulation Societies

This award, in honour of the Federation's first President, will be given to the author (or authors) of the best paper published in the open literature before June 30 1991 in the field of:

SIMULATION IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

The Competition is open to young researchers who will be not more than 33 years of age on June 30 1991. Only papers published in Journals with referees will be taken into consideration. After June 30 1992 the appointed commission will review the papers and assign the award.

The winning author will be invited as the Federation's guest to the ESC'92 Congress, to be held in Capri, Italy. On that occasion he will receive the Award Certificate and the sum of 1,000 ECU.

Interested authors should submit one copy of their paper by March 31 1992 to the EUROSIM President:

Prof. Franco Maceri, Dipartimento di Ingegneria Civile, Universita di Roma "Tor Vergata", Via della Ricerca Scientifica, I-00173, Roma, ITALY.

UKRI

MTT/ED/AP Joint Chapter

By Mr. Terry H. Oxley

Participants from the UK, The Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy and USA attended the annual five-day Leeds University Summer School "1991 Short Course on Microwave Subsystem Design". The course was organised by the University in cooperation with the UKRI Chapter. An associated Chapter evening "invited talk" on "Microwaves and Millimetre-waves for Vehicle Control" was held during the course. Plans are proceeding for the next event late in September 1992.

Those present enjoyed an excellent technical programme at the One-day Meeting held at King's College London. The meeting was organised by the Chapter in cooperation with the IEE Professional Group E12 and supported by MTT-S USA. The technical programme comprised selected European papers presented at the 1991 IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium Boston USA and included speakers from the UK, Germany, France and Denmark. The meeting provided an opportunity for those who were unable to attend the Symposium to hear some of the papers and participate in the discussion. Please contact the MTT/ED/AP Chairman should further information be required on the above events.

Future Events.

18th December 1991: King's College London. Final meeting of 1991 - an evening "invited talk" on "Radio-location: the Slide Rule Days" by Professor Alex L. Cullen, OBE, from University College London. Professor Cullen will be talking about the development of microwave radar during the second world war, on a personal recollection basis. The venue is Dept. of Electrical Engineering, King's College London, Strand WC2R 2LS. Tel: +44 71 873 2744. Fax: +44 71 836 4781.

Chairman MTT/ED/AP Chapter: Mr. Terry H. Oxley, "Tremont", Back Lane, Halam, Southwell, Newark, Notts NG22 8AG, England. Tel: +44 636 815510. Fax: +44 636 815865.

France

By Dr. Frederique Vallee


IRESTE '92 - Deuxiemes Journees Internationales de la Polariométrie Radar. Nantes 8-10 Sept. 92. Contact: Pr. Joseph Saillard, Responsable du laboratoire S2HF IRESTE, La Chantrerie C.P. 3003, 44087 Nantes cedex 03, France. Tel: +33 40 68 30 00. Fax: +33 40 68 30 66.

5th International Conference on "Putting into Practice Methods and Tools for Information Design". Nantes, France 23-25 Sept. 92. Contact: M. Henri Habrias Liana, IUT, 3 rue du Maréchal Joffre 44041 Nantes Cedex 01, France. Tel: +33 40 30 60 56. Fax: +33 40 30 60 01.

Other French News

Dans la cadre des accords passés entre l'A.R.E. et la Section française de l'I.E.E.E., nous annonçons les conférences suivantes:

Optronique et le domaine militaire - par M. Jean Dansac - 27 novembre 1991


L'évolution du radar ... et des cibles - par M. Michel H. Carpentier. 22 janvier 1992

Ces conférences auront lieu a 17h, dans la salle no 11 de la FIEE, située au 1er étage, Gaîté, PARIS 5 tro Boisiére ou lénà. Pour tout renseignement ou confirmation, s'adresser à Mme Birckel, 193 rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, 75010 Paris. Tel: 1 46 07 40 77.

Section Chairman: Dr. Maurice G. Bellanger, 54 rue de Rennes, 75006 Paris, France. Tel: +33 1 40 94 75 16.
In industrialised countries, there is a close correlation between the rate of increase in the number of graduate engineers and the level of industrial productivity. Prospects for Europe’s competitiveness may seem bleak, therefore, given that it produces half as many engineers per head as Japan. Ir dac, the EC’s Industrial Research & Development Advisory European Committee, has looked into the matter. Its recommendations are laid down in two reports, one on ‘Skills shortages in Europe’ and the other on ‘School and industry’.

Irdac is made up of representatives of industry. Set up 6 years ago, it is the Commission’s main advisory committee in the field of R&D. In view of the acute shortage of skilled labour, the committee members decided on their own initiative to address the issue of vocational training.

The committee believes that the tremendous effort made in European R&D could well prove fruitless unless it is accompanied by a corresponding drive to make the supply of skilled staff match the requirements set by accelerating technological advance. The speed at which new knowledge is transferred to industry is a key factor in preserving the European economy’s competitive position vis-à-vis tough rivals such as Japan, South Korea or the United States.

The EC is facing two disturbing trends in human resources. In quantitative terms, Europe will have to cope with the consequences of an ageing population after the turn of the century, a decline in the working population, and a 1·7% decrease in the number of workers aged 20-30. Among other things, this phenomenon is compounded by a schooling rate among under-18s and a percentage of students in scientific training that are far lower than Japan’s.

In more qualitative terms, there is, first, a mismatch between the supply of young graduates and the needs of industry, resulting in a skills shortage in sectors such as biotechnology, electronics and information technology. In addition, continuing vocational training and retraining are inadequate in a constantly changing industrial and technological context. It has been shown that intellectual capital depreciates by 7% every year that it is not maintained.

To improve the situation, Ir dac has made a number of recommendations questioning the practices both of teachers and of industrialists and workers. Most of these are what one would expect — attract more young people into science, more science in schools, better contact between industry and education, investment in continuing education, ‘further analysis needed’ etc. However, the committee also has a more original idea: a European approach should be developed, integrating those involved from the Community level down to the individual business, notably to make labour mobility respond to regional shortages and to avoid a brain drain.

The Commission has lost no time in taking up the challenge, since it has already proposed, within the framework of the ‘Human Capital’ programme, a wide-ranging scheme to promote a researchers’ Europe. The Commission is currently examining other measures (such as strengthening the Comett programme) to put Ir dac’s recommendations into practice.

A new philosophy of conceiving scientific theory is about to be born in the so-called computer laboratory, which may be considered to stand half-way between theory and experiment. This is one conclusion of a report by a group of experts, chaired by Prof. Carlo Rubbis, director general of CERN, and set up on the invitation of the Commission of the European Communities. The initiative for its creation came from Commission vice-president Filippo Maria Pandolfi.

Supercomputers will allow a whole new methodological approach research amounting to a reformulation of the basic principles of physical, economic and social systems. It is rendered possible by powerful computing devices, with a capacity unthinkably large. Thanks to these ‘artificial brains’, it will soon be possible to model present and future reality with a degree of accuracy previously unattained.

This leap in computing power will open up a new vista of opportunities for the chemical, pharmaceutical, aerospace and automobile industries, along with mathematics, physics, and natural and environmental sciences. The USA and Japan have wasted no time in their bid to harness these new computing methods. Crucial decisions have to be taken now if Europe is not to be totally out of the supplier race, including for its own market (25·30% of the world market).

The European information-technology market is very open, as can be seen by the 20% market share obtained in Europe by Fujitsu supercomputers distributed by Siemens and Amdahl. Europe is lacking in state-of-the-art industrial teams in the key technologies used by high-performance computers today: RISC, Fortran and C optimising compilers, emitter-coupled logic and gallium-arsenide semiconductors etc. Because of this supply-side gap, Europe will be obliged at first to buy technology components from abroad, possibly within the framework of joint ventures and other forms of industrial co-operation.

To counter this situation, the working group believes that ‘Europe should make a substantial investment [1 billion ECU by 1995] in the field of high-performance computing’. The development of an advanced pan-European high-speed network is of strategic importance.

The next step is the design and production of high-performance machines. The experts recommend that education and training be enhanced in order to alleviate the critical shortage of skilled engineers and scientists. The report, which mentions a European brain drain, chiefly to the USA, highlights the need to spread the high-performance computing ‘culture’ among scholars of all disciplines, even those in commercial and financial environments.
Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers

November 1991

Region 8 Conference Record

Athens, Greece 30:Aug.-1Sept. 1993

ATHENS POWER TECH Planning, Operation & Control

APT, Electric Energy Systems Lab., University of Athens, GR 106 82., Greece. Tel: +301 3600551 Fax: 301

Munich, Germany 16-19 Mar 93

IWACA'92, International Workshop on Advanced Communications & their Applications to High Speed Networks

WACA, Siemens AG, Zfe Is Kom4, Otto Hahn-Ring 6, 8 Munich 83, Germany. Tel: +49 89 636 41977. Fax: +49 89 636 48000

Faleigh, NC, USA 7-10 July 92

INTELLIGENT RobertoS & SYSTEMS - IROS '92

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Tel: 515 5193 Fax: 515-5523

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Fax: 02-836323

Tel-Aviv, Israel 2-6 Nov. 1992

FROM A UNIFIED EUROPE TO A UNIFIED WORLD

1992 EMC Symposium

Prof. R. Rubin, IEEE- EMC, PO Box 50432 Tel-Aviv 61 500, Israel
Tel: 972-03-664825 Fax: 972-3-660952

Geneva, Switzerland 23-26 May 1993

ICC '93: IEEE International Conference on Communications

Prof. P.E. Leuthold, Communications Technology Laboratory, ETH-Zentrum, CH-8092 Zurich. Fax: +41.1.262.0943

Southampton, UK 2-4 Sept. 1992

ULTRASOUND ANGIOGRAPHY '92

Ultrasound Angiography 92, PO Box 15, Eastleigh, Hampshire, S05 5XG, UK.
Tel: 0703 260003. Fax 0703 261090

Delft, The Netherlands 16-18 June 1992

1992 IFAC/FIF/IMACS Symposium: Artificial Intelligence in Real-Time Control Control

AIRTC-92, Delft University of Tech. Faculty of Elec Eng. PO Box 5031 2600 GA Delft.
Tel: +31 15 785113. Fax: +31 15 626738

Ankara, Turkey 27-28 July 92

BILCON '92

Light wave Technology & Communications

BILCON'92, Bilkent University, 06533 Ankara, Turkey. Tel: +90 4 266 4307. Fax: +90 4 266 4127. E-mail: bilcon@trbilun.bitnet.

1992 Regional Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility

Europ'92 EMC Directive - Its Applications & Implications

Deadlin for Submission of Abstracts
15th February 1992

For further information please contact
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Editorial

Page No. 11
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
2-4 September 1992 - Oslo, Norway

Papers are invited within the following topics:
Systems Analysis and Evaluation  Information for the Driver
Traffic Monitoring and Control  Management of Traffic
Location & Navigation  Fleet Management
Communications  Vehicle Control
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For further information please contact Ms. Lise Marks Norwegian Society of Chartered Engineers, PO Box 2312 Solli, 0201 Oslo, Norway. Tel: 02-838330. Fax 02-836323

INTELLIGENT ROBOTS AND SYSTEMS
IROS '92
Sensor-based Robotics for Industry
July 7-10 - Radisson Plaza Hotel, Raleigh, N.C., USA

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DEADLINES:
Paper Submission: - four complete copies - 1December 1991
Acceptance Notification - 15 December 1992
Final Camera-ready paper - 1 April 1992

DETAILS FROM: Ren C. Luo, Box 7911, Dept of Elect. Eng & Comp., North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7911, USA. Tel: 515-5193. Fax: 515-5523. E-mail: luo@eceis.ece.ncsu.edu

IECON '92 Call for Papers

1992 International Conference on Industrial Electronics, Control, Instrumentation & Automation
Marriott Mission Valley, San Diego, USA
November 9-13, 1992

There will be sessions and tutorials on current topics of interest. Anyone willing to chair one of these sessions should submit a proposal to include a list of 6-12 possible papers. There will be a reduced fee for authors and chairs.

Topics will include:

Deadlines: Special Sessions Proposal 10.02.92.
Paper Summary 02.03.92. Final Manuscript 10.08.92

Enquiries from Europe: Dr. Guiseppe Buja, Dept d'Informatica e Elettronica, Universita di Trieste, Via Valerio 10, I-34127, Trieste Italy. Tel: +39 40 560 3415. Fax: +39 40 560 3460.

First Call for Papers
International Power Conference

"Athens Power Tech"
Planning, Operation & Control in Today's Electric Power Systems
30 August - 1 September, 1993 - Athens, GREECE

AUTHOR SCHEDULE
500 Word Summary: May 15 1992
Notification of Acceptance: November 15 1992
Camera-ready Copy: March 15 1993
The Conference Language is English

The Conference will be in the new and prestigious Athens Concert Hall. The weather at this time is very pleasant and there will be ample opportunity to combine leisure and work in a city well known for its antiquities and social life.

Details from: "Athens Power Tech", Electrical Energy Systems Laboratory, National Technical University of Athens, 42 Patission Str., Athens, GR 106 82, Greece. Tel:+301 3600551. Fax: +301 3605604

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