

# IEEE

## Region 8 News

No 115 - August 1996  
Europe, Middle-east and Africa



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### From the Regional Director

Hallo, Hallo!

The activities of the Sections and Chapters are now being scheduled for the second half of 1996; I sincerely hope that all members in the Region will have an opportunity to attend interesting Section/Chapter meetings several times during the year. We should, however, not forget the established Regional conferences, Melecon and Africon, and the increasing number of Societies that have found attractive venues in the Region

#### Section Anniversaries

During the Region 8 Committee meeting on June 2nd in Helsinki, the Croatia, Slovenia and Yugoslavia Sections were presented with special IEEE banners celebrating their 25th anniversary. The Yugoslavia section was established on June 21st 1971 in Ljubjana, where Professor Baldomir Zajc and his colleagues at the Electrotechnical faculty have hosted several IEEE meetings and conferences.



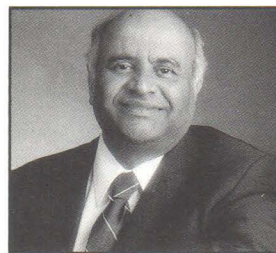
#### Chapter Coordination

In Region 8 we support strongly the creation of new Chapters. Most Societies now appreciate that there are advantages in reaching their members in countries outside the United States and in many cases they provide some very practical support and advice to Chapters; this year for instance the Power Society is holding its summer meeting in Germany, The Distinguished Lecturers programme is gradually being extended, but support from it from the Societies varies considerably. In order to encourage the Societies to increase their support for Chapter activities in the Regions outside the U.S., the Regional and Technical Activities Boards are recommending that the Societies should establish committees for Chapter Coordination; e.g. the Control Systems Society established a Transnational committee at least 10 years ago.

In order to improve Chapter coordination within the Region, we have established a well functioning Chapter Coordination Committee (R8CCC), chaired by professor Basil Papadias from Greece. Additionally the R8CCC chairman has appointed five members from the larger Societies. In June last the Region 8 Committee approved the appointment of representatives from the Society-Chapter Coordination Committees as Corresponding members of the R8CCC.

The Board of Directors has decided that all mandatory assessments will be frozen at the level they attained in June of this year, consequently the Region 8 assessment will be maintained at \$11. According to the proposed new bylaws any additional services to members must be financed either by the sale of products and services, or by additional assessment only when approved by a majority of the members involved.

The funding of Regional Activities will be assured by the proposed formulation of new IEEE Bylaws. Your Regional Director has strongly stressed the importance of Regional support of member services and the training of elected officers in the Sections and Chapters, a support which is possible only when financed through the Regional Assessment.



#### Election of the President-Elect 1997

The IEEE President for 1998 (President-elect 1997) will be elected this autumn. The candidates are Vijay K. Bhargava, who is a professor at the University of Victoria, Canada, and Joseph Bordogna, Director of Engineering in the National Science Foundation of America. I recommend that your vote should go to the transnational candidate: Vijay Bhargava.

#### "Implementation Committee for Structural Reorganisation",

During the Memphis and Montreal meetings changes in the Bylaws were proposed. In addition, new Bylaws have been formulated for the Regional Activities Board, the Technical Activities Board and the IEEE-USA (previously the United States Activities Board); the Standards Board will become a committee under the Executive Board.

#### Volunteers are needed

All IEEE activities in the Sections and Chapters are dependent on volunteers. We realise that most members in the Region have joined the IEEE in order to subscribe to the technical publications, but it is also beneficial to meet colleagues at technical meetings; volunteers are needed for the continuance of these local activities. At least every second year, there should be an election of Section/Chapter officers; please consider volunteering when next the elections are announced

Best Wishes

*Peer Martin Larsen*

## Russia

By Dr. Heinrich Lantsberg

A diploma of the Honorary Member of the Russian Popov Society for radio engineering, electronics and communications has been presented to Dr. Theodore W. Hissey - IEEE Executive Director. The presentation was made by Dr. Heinrich Lantsberg, IEEE Russia Section vice-chair, on behalf of its President Prof. Yuri Gulyaev. The citation of the diploma reads as follows:

*"Dr. T.W.Hissey has been elected an Honorary Member of the Russia Popov Society in recognition of his distinguished contribution in developing and furthering cooperation between the IEEE, the Russian Popov Society, the Russia Section and the IEEE Chapters"*

The presentation ceremony took place on June 2nd 1996 during the Region 8 committee meeting in Helsinki, Finland.



Dr. H. Lantsberg  
(Right)

Dr. T W Hissey  
(L eft)

Dr. Lantsberg also informed the committee that Dr. Charles A. Eldon - 1985 IEEE President - had been elected an Honorary Member of the Society in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the re-establishment of good relations between the two Societies, and to the development of mutual cooperation between the IEEE and the Russian Popov Society. Dr. Eldon's diploma will be presented during the November IEEE Sections' Congress in Denver, Colorado.

"These awards will contribute substantially to further cooperation, for the benefit of both Societies."

## The Netherlands

Eindhoven Student Branch

Study Tour 1996

By Mr. M.W.Krom

Every year the Eindhoven Student Branch organises a study tour for students of the Eindhoven University of Technology; this year we visited Bari in Italy where the Region 8 Melecon was held. On this occasion our particular interest was the Student Paper Contest.

### Organisation

In September 1995 the travel committee "TICKET" of the branch began preparations for a two week tour. The committee, which consisted of a number of students, had the difficult task of arranging an interesting programme, obtaining financial support, encouraging participants and arranging sleeping accommodation.

### The Programme

The duration of the tour was thirteen days, it consisted of visits to companies and IEEE entities in the north, central and

southern Italy - in all, six sites were visited. We started in Turin, and then visited Milan, Parma, Florence, Rome and Bari. In each city we were introduced to cultural sites and museums; our itinerary also included excursions to local electrotechnical companies and laboratories.

We were very impressed by the opportunities and possibilities available from an organisation such as the IEEE. This was particularly apparent during our trip to Milan, where we received substantial help from Professor Gandelli of the North Italy Section.

### Excursions

In Parma and Rome the local Student Branches organised several interesting visits. The conversations were not all on a technical level, we very much enjoyed discussing culture, politics and educational matters with our Italian friends.

We visited seven companies and research laboratories. A broad spectrum of electrotechnical topics was covered, from high power applications to software development. Our tour included:

CSELT (Telecom)

CESI (High power applications and robotics)

CISE (Laser and Solar Cells)

ATM (Control centre for public transport in Milan)

DATA SYSTEMS (Software development & client servers)

SELTA (Telecom)

EUROSAOLARE (Solar Cells)

### Student Paper Contest - Melecon

At the end of the tour came the Student Paper Contest. We were welcomed by Professor Onural (Student activities Committee) and Professor Acciani (Melecon organiser). One of the candidates in the contest was Marc Geilen, a student from Eindhoven, and a member of our tour party. At the SPC, six presentations were given, all of them very interesting. Despite an excellent paper by Marc Geilen and the support of ten students, the jury decided to give first prize to our colleague from Delft. At the conclusion of the SPC Professor Acciani invited the party to the Gala Dinner.

### Acknowledgements

During the thirteen days we visited a number of interesting companies and learned much about Italy. This would not have been possible without the support of Professor Gandelli, Professor Acciani, Professor Onural, SB Parma, SB Rome, the Benelux Section, Region 8 and the North Italy Section.

Student Branch Secretary: Mr. M.W.Krom, Eindhoven University of Technology, Faculty of Engineering, EH6.17 Den Dolech, PO Box 513.5600 MB Eindhoven, The Netherlands.

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Nottingham, UK

23-25 Sept. 1996

## Power Electronics and Variable Speed Drives

Contact: IEE Conference Services  
Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)171 344 5469. Fax: +44 (0) 171 240 8830  
E-mail: jchopping@iee.org.uk

# St. Petersburg - Russia ED/MT/AP Chapter

By Sergei Tretyakov

## Student Paper Contest

A Student competition for junior students studying radioengineering was organised by St. Petersburg Electrotechnical University and several other universities and higher education institutions in St. Petersburg. Support and cooperation was provided by the St. Petersburg ED/MTT/AP Chapter. Professor Ushakov, Vice Rector of the Electrotechnical University, was the organising committee chairman. The event was held at the Electrotechnical University on April 27th 1996

The goal was to bring together the best students from different universities where electrical engineering is taught and to give them the opportunity to try solving problems more complicated than those included in the standard study programmes. Linear and non-linear circuit theory, the basics of signal theory, transmission line theory and other related topics.

Ninety students from six different institutions took part in the event: both the best individual and the best university team were selected. The best team was from the Electrotechnical University and the best student was Mr. Guzenko from St. Petersburg State Technical University.

## Visit by Executive Director T. Hissey

On June 4th the IEEE Executive Director T. Hissey visited the St. Petersburg Chapter and took part in a variety of meetings and discussions. At the Leninetz company (radar technology); at Svetlana (electron devices); at Ferrite (microwave ferrite devices) and at three of the city's universities. The meetings were organised by Mr. N. Kocheshkov, Secretary of the Leninetz Scientific and Technical Council. Various aspects of IEEE developments in the St. Petersburg area were discussed. Specifically, the IEEE Entrepreneurial Skills Seminar (Proposed for summer 1997), possible help from the IEEE for the School of Electromagnetic wave propagation, and the continuing education programme of Leninetz were discussed.

Interest in the establishment of other IEEE Chapters was clearly expressed. Prof. Mickerov of the St. Petersburg Electrotechnical University, suggested that there was potential and increasing interest on the part of specialists in power engineering, power electronics, robotics and automation, industrial applications, and control systems. Prof. Sanychev from Leninetz, spoke about his company's interest in aerospace electronic systems, engineering in medicine, and signal processing. The problem of high (relative to local salaries) IEEE fees was raised.

Mr. Hissey also visited the Svetlana company. In discussion with Mr. O. Arshinov and Dr. V. Tsvetov, many St. Petersburg problems were discussed. Generally low salaries, payments delays, massive lay-offs (Svetlana lost about three quarters of its staff during the last few years). The best of specialists migrate from industry, mainly to financial and commercial organisations. The IEEE mission can possibly help in improving the professional status of electrical engineers. The lack of information about the IEEE was discussed; to improve that situation the Chapter will organise displays of IEEE materials in libraries of the universities and industrial companies in the city.

## Diffraction '96

International Seminar Day on "Diffraction '96" was held in St. Petersburg from June 4-6th; it was organised by the St. Petersburg branch of the Mathematical Institute of Russian Academy of Science and the State University of St. Petersburg (co-sponsored by the ED/MTT/AP Chapter. More than thirty reports were given, scientists from six countries participated.

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IMPERIAL COLLEGE

Programme for Professional Development  
University of London



## Neural Networks: Basics, Applications & Futures

18 - 20 September 1996

A modular 3-day programme for all with interests in this important field. In the first two days, the basics and applications, both industrial and commercial, of neural networks will be discussed. The final day will be a seminar on the 'Future of Neural Networks', with international authorities including Igor Aleksander, Shun-ichi Amari, John Hopfield, Teuvo Kohonen and John Taylor.

## Safety Critical Systems

16 - 20 September 1996

Designed for all those who require an understanding of the approach and methods used to generate software in safety critical systems, whatever the application. It will be of interest both to software engineers, who need to familiarise themselves with techniques, and to those who specify or manage projects in which safety issues are a concern. Participants will be taught how to use software tools by working, in groups, through small projects in SCS development.

## Microsystems Technology

23 - 25 October 1996

An inter-disciplinary programme covering the science, technology and application of microsystems - i.e. sensors, actuators and other 3D-structures of emerging importance. Topics covered will include materials, fabrication, devices and applications.

All the above courses are recognised by IEE for Professional Development Units.

Further details from: Sally Verkaik, Continuing Education Centre, Imperial College, Sherfield Building, Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London SW7 2AZ, UK. Tel: +44 (0)171 594 6882/1 Fax: +44 (0)171 594 6883; E-Mail: cpd@ic.ac.uk

At the leading edge of research, innovation and learning

## The Isle of Dreams

By Professor Thanos Stouraitis

Three hundred sunny days a year, an unparalleled legacy of archaeological treasure, a luxury hotel or a sumptuous bungalow, all immersed in idyllic and romantic isolation in the bay of Ialysos; it was here that some of the world's greatest thinkers solved the scientific problems of the then universe.

*On the occasion of their third Summer-Conference the Circuits & Systems Society requests the pleasure of your company on the island of Rhodes, from 13th to 16th of October*

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- Low Power Design
- Computer Systems - Network Performance Evaluation
- Hf Log and Square-root domain analogue circuits
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Your oracle for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity:

ICECS Secretariat, Electrical Eng. Dept., University of Patras, Rio, 26500 Greece. E-mail alexopou@ee.upatras.gr

Fax: +30 61 994 798.

# Germany

By Professor Dr. E. Handschin

The executive committee of the Section met on April 17th in Karlsruhe, under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Schwab. The Section now has 3965 members.

The secretarial support provided by Dr. Schanz, manager of the ITG and VDE headquarters in Frankfurt, is much appreciated. In agreement with the treasurer Prof. Dr. Wiesbeck, it has been suggested that the Section should give financial support to the German Chapters and Student branches, in order that their programmes should be both more attractive and more complete; and also to give them a wider basis for increased cooperation related to IEEE activities.

In the recent past the German Section has expanded so that it now has eleven Chapters.

## *Microwave Theory and Techniques / Antennas & Propagation.*

N.J.Keen Reinbach  
Phone: +49 (2226) 16432  
Fax: +49 (2226) 16479

## *Computer Society*

M.M. Köhler, Rüsselsheim  
Phone: +49 (6142) 802440  
Fax: +49 (6142) 801713

## *Circuits and Systems*

Prof. Dr. techn. J.A.Nossek, München  
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Fax: +49 (89) 2105-8504

## *Power Engineering*

Prof. Dr. Denzl, Pulheim  
Phone: +49 (2234) 852340  
Fax: +49 (2234) 852695

## *Electron Devices*

Prof. Dr. rer. nat. K.Heime, Aachen  
E-mail: mailbox@enterprise.rwth-aachen.de  
Phone: +49 (241) 80-7746  
Fax: +49 (241) 8888-199

## *Information Theory*

Prof. Dr. Han Vinck, Essen  
Phone: +49 (201) 32064-50  
Fax: +49 (201) 32064-25  
E-mail: vinck@exp-math.uni-essen.de

## *Engineering in Medicine & Biology*

Prof. Dr.rer.nat. H.Witte, Jena  
Phone: +49 (3641) 6-33133  
Fax: +49 (3641) 6-33200  
E-mail: iew@imsid.uni-jena.de

## *Electromagnetic Compatibility*

Dr. R. Sturm, Soltau  
Phone: +49 (5191) 5992  
Fax: +49 (5191) 5993

## *Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology*

Dr. Ing. E. Zakel, Berlin  
Phone: +49 (30) 314-72896/-72882  
Fax: +49 (30) 314-72835

## *Communication*

Prof. Dr. rer. nat. F. Jondral, Karlsruhe  
Phone: +49 (721) 608 3345/46  
Fax: +49 (721) 608-6071  
E-mail: nsys@etec.uni-karlsruhe.de

## *Ultrasonics, Ferroelectrics and Frequency Control*

Dr. Ing. F. Möller, Ilmenau  
E-mail: moeller@rfm.com

## *A Very Important Event*

### *Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer*

The final deadline for submission of the completed election forms is August 21st. A list of the candidates, the election forms and information about the election will be sent to members in July. In anticipation of a substantial turnout, the evaluation of the votes will take place in September. The new term of office will start on January 1st, 1997. During that term the German section will be looking forward to the IEEE Power Society Summer Meeting, which, for the first time will take place in Germany (July 20-25). Deadline for the submission of contributions: January 1 1997.

### *Future activities within the German section are:*

#### *August 25 - 28 1996*

*Eighth Workshop on Local & Metropolitan Area Networks*  
Dr. Daniel Pitt; Hewlett Packard Labs.; 1501 Page Mill Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94304. Tel: (415) 857 7096. Fax: (415) 857 8526. E-mail: pitt@hpl.hp.com  
*Hotel Mercure,- Potsdam, Germany*

#### *September 8-13 1996*

*1996 Conference on Lasers & Electro-Optics Europe and the 6th European Quantum Electronics Convention (CLEO) EUROPE/EQEC*  
Ms. Samantha H. Padilla; IEEE/LEOS- 445 Hoes Lane-, Piscataway, NJ 08854. Tel: (908) 562 3984; Fax: (908) 562 8434; E-mail: s.padilla@ieee.org  
*Congress Centrum, Hamburg, Germany.*

#### *September 22 - 25 1996*

*1996 IEEE 4th International Symposium on Spread Spectrum Techniques and Applications (ISSSTA '96)*  
Dr. Peter Jung; University of Kaiserslautern; P.O. Box 3049, D-67653 Kaiserslautern, GERMANY. Tel: +(49) 631 205 2085. Fax: +(49) 631 205 3612. E-mail:wowbag@rhrk.uni-kl.de  
*Electoral Castle, Mainz, Germany*

#### *April 21 - 24 1997*

*ICASSP 1997 - 1997 IEEE,- International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing*  
Prof. Bernd Girod, Lehrst. f. Nachrichtentechnik, University of Erlangen Nuremberg, Cauerstr 7, D-91058 Erlangen, GERMANY. Tel: +(49) 9131 85 7101. Fax: +(49) 91 3130 3840. E-mail: b.girod@ieee.org  
*Gasteig Cultural and Convention Centre, Munich, Gemany*

#### *June 29 - July 04, 1997*

*1997 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory*  
Prof. Han Vinck, Institute of Experimental Mathematics, University of Essen, Ellernstr 29, 45326 Essen, GERMANY. Tel: +(49) 201 3206 458. Fax: +(49) 201 3206 425 Ulm, Germany.

#### *July 20 - 25, 1997*

*1997 IEEE Power Engineering Society Summer Meeting.*  
Executive Office: IEEE Power Engineering Society; P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331. Tel: (908) 562 3864. Fax: (908) 981 1769.  
*Berlin Intercontinental Hotel, Berlin, Germany.*

*Section Chairman: Prof. Dr. Ing. Adolf J. Schwab, Kaiserstrasse 12, 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany. Tel: +(49) 721 608 2520, Fax: +(49) 721 695 224. E-mail: a.schwab@ieee.org*



# PIMRC '97

## Call for Papers

### The 8th IEEE International Symposium on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communications

September 1-4, 1997. Marina Congress Center, Helsinki, Finland

#### General Chair

Sari Baldauf, Nokia Telecommunications

#### Organizing Chair

Pentti Leppänen, University of Oulu

#### Technical Program Chairs

Savo Glisic, University of Oulu. Juha Rapeli, Nokia Mobile Phones

#### Area Coordinators

A. H. Aghvami (Europe, Middle East, Africa) King's College London, UK  
K. Pahlavan (American Continents) Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA  
S. Kato (Pacifc Asia) PCR, Japan

#### Program

The technical program will consist of invited lectures, tutorials, panel discussions and presentations covering all important topics in the field.

#### Topics

Papers are welcomed in all areas of wireless personal communication systems and networks. Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

##### A. Channel Measurement and Modeling

(A1) microwave, (A2) millimeter wave, (A3) infrared, (A4) narrowband, (A5) wideband, (A6) statistical, (A7) ray tracing, (A8) indoor, (A9) land mobile, (A10) satellite, (A11) mixed and multiple radio environments

##### B. Transmission Techniques

(B1) modulation, (B2) coding, (B3) equalization, (B4) synchronization, (B5) diversity, (B6) spread spectrum, (B7) multicarrier, (B8) multiuser transceivers, (B9) interference rejection, (B10) novel system structures and realizations

##### C. Networking Technologies

(C1) channel access, (C2) multiple access, (C3) FDMA, (C4) TDMA, (C5) CDMA, (C6) SDMA, (C7) PRMA, (C8) radio resource allocation, (C9) handover, (C10) roaming, (C11) power control, (C12) authentication, (C13) security, (C14) wireless multimedia, (C15) wireless local and wide area networking, (C16) wireless computing, (C17) wireless access to fixed networks, (C18) internetworking

##### D. Deployment of Systems and Networks

(D1) satellite mobile communication systems, (D2) PCS trials, (D3) new wireless, cellular and mobile systems, networks and operations, (D4) system evolution, (D5) intelligent networks, (D6) system planning

##### E. Implementation Technologies

(E1) VLSI implementation, (E2) RF IC technology, (E3) software engineering, (E4) battery technologies, (E5) speech, image and video compression, (E6) handsets and terminals, (E7) antennas, (E8) complexity and implementability analysis

##### F. Services

(F1) mobile specific services, (F2) mobility services, (F3) integrated services, (F4) mobile multimedia, (F5) nomadic information processing, (F6) mobile video, (F7) mobile access to global, European and national information infrastructure

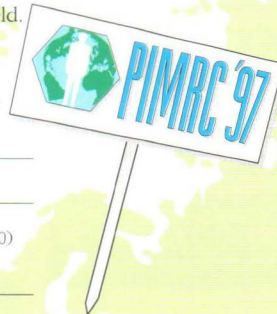
##### G. Regulations, Standards, Spectrum Allocation and Global Issues

#### Submission Guidelines

Please submit 5 copies of original papers in English to the PIMRC'97 Technical Program Committee Secretary as per schedule. The title page should include name, affiliation and full contact information of author(s). Additionally, the **authors are requested to indicate the technical area of their papers** by including below the title and author information any of the topic codes (if applicable) shown in parenthesis in the list of topics, or other key words describing the topic. The manuscript should not exceed 3000 words.

#### Schedule

**Full Manuscript:** February 28, 1997  
**Notification of Acceptance mailed:** June 1, 1997  
**Camera-Ready Copy:** July 1, 1997



#### General Information

For general information on registration, accommodation, conference venue, social programme and other related issues, please refer to the Symposium Coordinator.

#### Contacts

Technical Program Committee  
Secretary: Jaakko Talvitie  
University of Oulu  
Center for Wireless Communications  
email: jaakko.talvitie@ee.oulu.fi  
P.O. Box 444  
FIN-90571 OULU  
Finland  
Fax. +358 81 553 2820

Symposium Coordinator:  
Laila Tervasmäki  
Mercum Fennica  
email: Pimrc97@mercum.fi  
Kirkkokatu 2  
P.O. Box 89  
FIN-90101 OULU  
Finland  
Tel. +358 81 321 6677  
Fax. +358 81 321 6688

The area code 81 will change to 8 on October 12, 1996



## Non-U.S. Investment Programme

By Professor Charles W. Turner

Available exclusively to members outside the US and Canada

By establishing an International Financial Management Account with Smith Barney for a minimum of US \$5,000, members can invest in mutual funds and also be issued with the Institute's credit card.

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New York, NY 10177  
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Fax: +1 212 692-2924

## Section Libraries.

### Donation of IEEE Publications.

The scheme introduced two years ago, whereby members can donate surplus IEEE publications to Eastern European libraries, is being extended to cover the whole of Region 8. We also plan to include Student Branches and Sections if they wish to receive publications for their own libraries. Anyone interested in donating publications they no longer require should contact:

**Prof. C.W. Turner, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS England. Fax: +44 171 836 4781.**  
E-mail: [c.turner@ieee.org](mailto:c.turner@ieee.org)

## The Region 8 Volunteer Award

By Professor E. Folke Bolinder

The nomination committee met on 31st May: its members were: Maurice Papo - Director-elect; - Basil Osborne - Secretary Region 8; E. Folke Bolinder - Awards and Recognitions. In making their recommendation to the Director the committee will consider the following: i) Length of Service to the Section ii) Innovative ideas introduced by the candidates iii) Administrative ability. iv) Support for the work of other Section Committee members.

Having considered these factors it was the conclusion of the committee that the award should be given to

### Mme Frédérique Vallée

Mme. Vallée served as secretary to the French Section for some nine years, during which time she organised the Section Board meetings, attendance and reporting, assistance to members and maintenance of the Section files. From 1987 to 1990 she added the Student Activities chair to her other responsibilities; promoting the IEEE among students, and organising presentations and student contest papers.

She is now the Chief Executive Officer of Mathix, a French consultancy company specialising in dependability evaluation and risk management of complex systems.

## You Might Wish to Know

• The Engineering Council - UK - has formed an association of all engineers from some forty professional societies, whatever their discipline, so that the new body might speak with one voice on matters affecting engineers in general. This "amalgamation" may be said to represent almost half a million members; it seeks to make easier the management of those projects where several kinds of engineering contribute to the whole; and to smooth the path for those who deal with facets of engineering common to many professional institutions, education or accreditation would be examples. *The Engineering Council, 10 Maltravers St., London WC2R 3ER*

• Doctors from Abidjan in the Cote d'Ivoire are consulting with specialists in Italy and France via a voice and picture satellite demonstration of telemedicine for all African countries. *International Telecommunications Union, Place des Nations, CH-1211 Geneve 20, Switzerland.*

• The Electrical Engineering Students' European association has as its primary aim the promotion and development of international contact between electrical engineering students; and the introduction of its members to the industrial and educational systems of other countries. *EESTEC. c/o AMIV an der ETH Universitat, At-strasse 19, 8092, Frich, Switzerland*

• In a trend that has gone largely unnoticed, photovoltaic solar power has made its way into mainstream energy production in the U.S. Although photovoltaic power is not yet fully competitive, the U.S. electrical utilities are starting to use it. Major companies are establishing plants to make photovoltaic panels and costs are falling due to mass production and new technology. *Physics World, The Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London Place, London WIN 4AA England.*

(Continued on p8)

## France

by Professor Edwige Pissaloux

OCEANS '96 MTS/IEEE, The Coastal Ocean, will be held on 23-26 September 1996 in Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This Conference sponsors a Student Poster Competition. Inf. Prof René Garello, Télécom Bretagne, ITI, BP 832, 29 285 Brest Cedex, France; phone: +33 98 00 13 71 or +33 98 00 10; Fax: +33 98 00 10 98; E-mail: rene.garello@enst-bretagne.fr

CESA '96 IMACS Multiconference, organized with the support of the IEEE-SMC, Ecole Centrale de Lille and Région Nord Pas de Calais, will be held on July 9-12 1996 in Lille at Ecole Centrale de Lille. Inf.: Conference Secretariat: Ecole Centrale de Lille, BP 48, 59 651 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France; Fax: +33 20 33 54 99; E-mail: cesa96@ec-lille.fr; URL: <http://www.ec-lille.fr/-cesa96>.

### NEWS IN FRENCH

#### Compte rendu de la dernière assemblée générale.

L'Assemblée Générale de la Section Française s'est tenue le mercredi 12 juin 1996 à 19 heures à la Maison des Polytechniciens, 12 rue de Poitiers, 75 007 Paris.

Le compte rendu de la précédente Assemblée Générale a été approuvé à l'unanimité.

Le rapport moral, présenté par M. Maurice Papo, président de la Section Française, a résumé les différentes activités de la Section pendant l'année 1995.

Le rapport financier, présenté par M. Jean-Gabriel Herry, a reçu le quitus sur les comptes de l'année 1995.

Le nouveau Bureau de la Section a été élu. Il est composé comme suit: Mine Christine Nora, président; M. François Meslier, vice-président; Mme Edwige Pissaloux, secrétaire; M. Jean-Gabriel Herry trésorier. Sont élus membres du nouveau Bureau; MM. Thierry Bosch, Hussein Fawaz, Victor Fouad-Hanna, Michel Israel, Jean Robieux et Michel Urien.

A la suite de l'Assemblée Générale, un dîner a réuni les membres avec leur conjoint. Monsieur Laffitte, sénateur. des Alpes Maritimes, a fait un exposé sur <Les inforoutes, craintes et espoirs>.

La prochaine Assemblée Générale aura lieu à la même période l'an prochain.

**Création du CHAPITRE français de la Power Electronics Society (PELS).** M. le professeur Gérard-André CAPOLINO organise ce chapitre; les intéressés sont invités à le contacter à l'Université de Picardie, IUP, Département Génie Electrique & Informatique Industrielle, 33 rue Saint-Leu, 80039, Amiens Cedex; tél. (16) 22 32 78 21; Fax: (16) 22 82 78 22

**Création du CHAPITRE Robotics.** Mlle Yasmina BESTAOUI de l'Ecole Centrale de Nantes l'organise. Les intéressés peuvent la contacter au Laboratoire d'Automatique de Nantes, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, 1 rue de la Noe, 44 072 Nantes; tél. 40 37 25 12, fax: 40 37 25 22; E-mail YasminaBestaoui@lan.ec-nantes.fr

**LES ANCIENS DE LA RADIO ET DE L'ELECTRONIQUE** vous invitent aux conférences suivantes:- le 11 juin 1996 Les atomes froids - Applications aux horloges atomiques (et à la navigation?), par Christophe SALOMON, directeur de recherche à l'Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris.

- le 22 octobre 1996, <Le Projet de Laser Mégajoules>, par Michel ANDRE, Maître d'oeuvre Principal du Projet au CEA-

- le 19 novembre 1996, <Les Programmes Spatiaux Français et Européen>, par Michel BIGNIER, ancien Directeur Général du C.N.E.S., et ancien Directeur de l'Agence Spatiale Européenne.

-le 21 janvier 1997 <L'électronique dans les transports ferroviaires>, par Michel CHATEAUREYNAUD (X64, ESE69), Direction des Equipements et Systèmes électriques SNCF, et Marc PROVOOST (ESE81), Direction de l'Electronique, SNCF.

- le 18 mars 1997, <Le télescope Hubble >, par Olivier LE FEVRE, astronome à l'Observatoire de Paris-Meudon.

Les conférences ont lieu à 17 heures à la F.I.E.E., 17 rue Hamelin, 75 116 Paris, secrétariat: M. CRANTELLE elles sont suivies d'un pot amical.

## South Africa (Africon '96)

Professor W.J. Perold

AFRICON is a major international conference sponsored by Region 8. The first AFRICON was held in Nairobi in 1983, the second in Abidjan in 1987 and the last one in Mbabane, in 1992. In all these AFRICONS, South Africans were heavily involved in the organisation and exhibitions and contributed largely to the success of the conference. The South African Section, the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Foundation for Research Development were successful in their bid to hold the 1996 Africon in the beautiful setting of Stellenbosch - from 24 - 27th September next.

The first day has been set aside for ten fine tutorials, with the technical programme of the conference running from 25 - 27th September; the official opening will be on the morning of the 25th. The conference will concentrate on electricity and telecommunication services for Africa. Some four or five hundred engineers, academics and key industry delegates from Africa, Europe, the Far East and USA are expected to attend. Several companies, some of them large multi-national organizations, will participate in the exhibitions.

The three major conference themes will address services that are essential for establishing infrastructures for developing peoples, with a view to improving their quality of life and to generate prosperity:

- electrical energy technology in Africa
- communications systems in Africa
- development of human resources in Africa

The IEEE/SAIEE, AP-MTT and IEEE COMSIG 1996 conferences will be combined with AFRICON '96.

We are honoured that the President-elect of the IEEE, Charles Alexander, will attend the conference to deliver the introductory address. In addition we have distinguished keynote speakers, all experts in their respective fields. We also expect a large contingent of VIP guests from the electrical, telecommunications and educational fields in Africa to attend the conference. If your interests lie in the fields of electrical energy, telecommunications or human resources, and are related to these topics in the African context, this is the conference to attend.

We look forward to sharing with you what promises to be a most exciting and stimulating AFRICON in the pleasant Cape setting of Stellenbosch. For information, visit the AFRICON '96 web site at: [http://www.sun.ac.za/local/academic/fak-ing/ee\\_ing/africon.html](http://www.sun.ac.za/local/academic/fak-ing/ee_ing/africon.html).

OR

Daleen Kleyn, Telephone- +27 21 808 4455.

E-mail: [dkleyn@firga.sun.ac.za](mailto:dkleyn@firga.sun.ac.za).

OR

Prof. W.J Perold, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Stellenbosch, Private Bag X1, Matieland 7602, South Africa.

## Region 8 Conference Record

Cambridge, England. 1-2 Oct 96, 11-12 Dec 96, 17-18 March 97

### **Microwave & Radio Frequency Processing**

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Paris, France

17-20 March 1997

### **European Design & Test Conference ED&TC '97**

Conference Secretariat: CEP Consultants Ltd., 43 Manor Place  
Edinburgh EH3 7EB. Tel: +44 131 300 3300  
Fax: +44 131 300 3400. E-mail: edtc@cep.u-net.com  
ED&TC 97 WWW home page at: URL=http://imec.be/edtc/97/

Nottingham UK

7-10 July 1997

### **Seventh International Conference on Radio Systems and Techniques**

Contact: IEE Conference Services  
Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 171 344 5469. Fax: +44 (0) 171 240 8830  
E-Mail: jchopping@iee.org.uk

Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland

20-21 June 1997

### **International Symposium on Technology & Society 1997 Technology & Society at a Time of Sweeping Change (ISTAS 97)**

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22-24 April 1997

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NETWORK GmbH, Wilhelm-Suhr Str. 14, D-31558 Hagenburg  
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Rodos, Greece.

13-16 October 1996

### **Third IEEE International Conference on Electronics, Circuits and Systems**

Contact: ICECS Secretariat, Dept. of Electrical and Computer  
Engineering, Rio 26500, Greece. Fax: +30 61 994798  
E-mail: alexopou@ee.upatras.gr

Berlin, Germany

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Make Plans to Attend

### **IEEE Power Engineering Society Summer Meeting**

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### *You might wish to know* - (Continued from page 6)

- Over 160,000 schoolchildren from 15 European countries will take their first steps into the Information Society in a project financed by the European Commission. The project is coordinated by the Pegasus Foundation, which promotes the European identity primarily through programmes in education. Students will experiment with multimedia workstations, software applications, the Internet, digital cameras, and scanners. They will have the opportunity to use the technological tools necessary to master data, to navigate in a sea of knowledge, and at the same time to develop a deeper understanding of their own cultural heritage and its European context. *Pegasus Foundation, European Parliament, 97 rue Belliard, Room 112, Brussels B-1047*

- Europe sets up a nanosecond centre. One hundred researchers of a new £2,000,000 laboratory of nanoscale science at the university of Birmingham UK, represent probably the largest team in Europe dedicated to the field. The initial research programmes include the growth of fullerene by molecular beam epitaxy and processes in molecular films stimulated by electrons & photons. *Optics & Laser Europe, Institute of Physics Publishing, Redcliff Way, Bristol BS1 6NX, UK.* <http://www/iop.org>