



# region8news

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. 445 Hoes Lane Piscataway, NJ 08855

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

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

## From the Regional Director

**D**uring my first Board of Directors Meeting, IEEE President Ken Laker reported on a very good year for IEEE.

By the end of 1998 the IEEE reached the highest ever membership of 335 000 members worldwide, which was an increase of 4,7 %.

Worldwide student membership was close to 50 000 and the society membership about 388 000. This trend has continued and the membership statistics listed below show the latest data by end of January 1999. The figures speak for themselves:

Total US members	226 436	2,8% increase
Total non-US members	133 309	10,3% increase
Total US Stud. members	23 998	10,0% increase
Total non-US Stud. members	27 357	12,6% increase
Total R8 members	41 720	10,7% increase
Total R8 Stud. members	9 014	17,4% increase

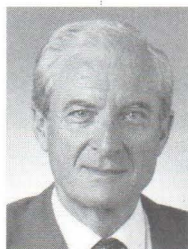
This trend of steadily increasing non-US membership continues in 1999 and R8 is contributing with a substantial share. The non-US student membership has already surpassed the US student membership and I am convinced this increase will continue within the next years. The figures demonstrate a clear vision for IEEE's future.

Ken Laker further announced that he would concentrate during 1999 on the activities of three new AdHoc committees:

1. Branding
2. Streamlining Decision Making
3. New Financial Model

In 1998, IEEE asked a Consulting Firm to perform a study on the IEEE "Brand." The major part of the outcome proposed a new IEEE "Logo," as well as a new and more uniform appearance of our various publication products. The first Committee will discuss these issues and come up with its own views.

The complex IEEE Volunteer structure makes the decision making process more difficult. It has to be improved, the response time enhanced, and more power delegated to IEEE entities. The second Committee will have to work on these issues.



The IEEE Treasurer reported on first ideas for the New Financial Model. The present financial system is to be replaced by an alternative model, which better conforms to the New York State Law for non-profit organizations. It will provide concentration banking instead of world-

wide distributed IEEE funds, eliminate allotments and allocations by annual budgeting, and not raise dues unless absolutely necessary. I will be a member of this RAB Ad Hoc Committee and keep you informed, since this new model might have a significant impact on Region and Section business. However, I do not expect any major decisions before year end.

The globalization process, as described by M. Papo in the last R8 News, will continue in 1999 as well. As one result, the IEEE Honors Ceremony will be held for the first time outside the USA together with the BoD Meeting in London during June 99. Another goal is still to include more members from Regions 7 – 10 in US Standing Committees, Subcommittees and Boards. We always have to look for candidates from Region 8.

President-Elect B. Eisenstein was authorized to appoint Ad Hoc Committee members for planning and organization of an IEEE Millennium project to celebrate IEEE in the year 2000.

### VISIT TO IRAN SECTION

My first Section visit was to Tehran/Iran together with IEEE President Ken Laker. Its

origin goes back to our Student Branch Congress in Istanbul, where a student from Iran (Ali Shahrokni) had the courage to invite the IEEE President-Elect to visit his student branch. After the invitation of the Iran Section Chair, Dr. Ghafoori-Fard it became an official visit of the Iran Section. We enjoyed a very warm welcome from the Section members, outstanding hospitality as well as highly motivated and enthusiastic students, who are also interested in technological advances. We learned a lot about the technical interests of our Iran members, the infrastructure, and their problems. During our discussions with the Iran Section Chair, Dr. Ghafoori-Fard, his Secretary H. Avanessian and other EXCOM members, we tried to find ways to assist and further develop the Section. As a result of this visit at least 4 new student branches were founded.

Since one of our hosts, Ali will give his own report in this Newsletter, I will finish mine and only express our feelings in the

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# Meet Our Vice-Chairs

In this issue we present our remaining Vice-Chairs. The Vice-Chairs for Strategic Planning and Technical Activities were presented in the February 1999 issue of the R8 News.

## MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

My task as Vice-Chair of Membership Activities (VC-MA) in terms of IEEE Region 8 Bylaws is to co-ordinate the activities of assigned committees to effectively execute the planning, leadership and guidance for activities relating to various IEEE programs. These include membership activities, in the areas of membership development, admission and advancement, awards and recognition, and Life Members. Furthermore, the VC-MA has to act as the focal point for the following activities in Region 8: Region 8 News, Life Members, Women in Engineering, organization of Sections Congress, Affinity Chapters, Electronic Communications, and Recognized Education Programs.

The coordination will be performed with the help of the Chairs of the two Standing Subcommittees for R8 Membership Development and R8 GOLD Program. There will be close contacts between the Subcommittee Chairs and the VC-MA mostly by e-mail, phone and/or fax. Close cooperation will be kept with Vice-Chair for Technical Activities and Student Activities for a better overall coordination of all activities for the benefit of members. Lastly, but not the least important, very close contact must be kept with Sections in order to develop specific actions or programs to help them in the furtherance of their activities.

Reinforcement of the cooperation between Sections, National Societies and Region 8 are a priority issue. Development of specific actions for Sections in smaller countries and for Sections with special problems, are essential for the growth of these Sections. For obvious reasons, which include the rapid dissemination of information and knowledge, a sustained effort must be made to expand the use of electronic communications among Sections and among members. Very close connections and interactions between the VC-MA and Sections are urgent issues, which must also be addressed

Raul Vidal  
Vice-Chair, Membership Activities  
r.vidal@ieee.org

## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

As Rolf Remshardt mentioned in his article in February issue of R8 News, the IEEE's future is in the hands of our student members and all the issues concerning students are very important for us. Due to this fact, this year we have a new structure for R8 Student Activities for better communication with student branches and students.

There are two Standing Committees under the control of the Vice Chair: Student Activities, Publications Advisory. The Student Activities Committee is appointed by and will be responsible to the Vice Chair, Student Activities. The Regional Student Representative is also be a member of the Student Activities Committee.

The objectives of the Student Activities Standing Committee are:

- 1) Maintain contact with all the Student Branches in Region 8 through e-mail, phone or visits.
- 2) Promote new branches and student members within the Region.
- 3) Provide information and support to student branches through mail, e-mail and WEB.
- 4) Organize and implement the annual Student Paper Contest.
- 5) Organize and implement the Student Branch Congress.
- 6) Publicize and encourage students to apply for the IEEE RAB Awards and Recognition programs.
- 7) Promote student activities at the student branches.
- 8) Evaluate the financial support requests from the student branches.
- 9) Promote interaction with student branches from all regions.
- 10) Continue existing and establish new programs for students (conference support, etc.).

The objectives of the Publications Advisory Standing Committee are:

- 1) Edit the student pages in Region 8 News.
- 2) Coordinate with IEEE Potentials editor for the content and distribution of the magazine.



- 3) Coordinate with the electronics communications coordinator for the update of the Region 8 SAC WEB page.

The Student Activities Standing Committee consists of the Chair (Vice Chair, Student Activities); the Student Representative; the coordinator, Awards and Recognition and the coordinator, Student Paper Contest. The Coordinator for Awards and Recognition is also responsible for the student-related activities in Europe.

The Managing Director for the Student Paper Contest is responsible for the Near and Middle East countries located west of Afghanistan and Pakistan, Greenland, Iceland, Africa, and the countries of the former USSR, in addition to his/her duties for Student Paper Contest. The Publications Advisory Standing Committee consists of the Vice Chair, Student Activities and the Student Editor of the Region 8 News.

This year the following members have been appointed for the above positions:

### Coordinator, Student Paper Contest:

Martin Bastiaans, Technische  
Universiteit Eindhoven, Netherlands  
M.J.Bastiaans@ele.tue.nl

### Coordinator, Awards and Recognition:

Javier Macias-Guarasa  
Madrid Technical University, Spain  
macias@die.upm.es

### Student Representative:

Jorge Luis Sanches Ponz  
Polytechnical University of  
Madrid (UPM), Spain  
j.s.ponz@ieee.org

### Student Editor of the Region 8 News:

Jens Hanneman  
University at Kiel, Germany  
j.hannemann@ieee.org

We all are very enthusiastic to work within this committee and with the students. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions, any ideas that you want to share with us, or any activities that you believe we can help with.

Gozde Bozdagi  
Vice-Chair, Student Activities  
g.bozdagi@ieee.org



# AWARDS

## IEEE EAB seeks nominations for annual awards

The Educational Activities Board (EAB) of the IEEE is currently accepting nominations for the 1999 EAB Awards. The deadline for nominations is 30 April 1999. In June, the EAB Awards and Recognition Committee will review all nominees and decide upon recipients for the following awards:

### Meritorious Achievement Award in Accreditation Activities

This recognizes IEEE members for outstanding contributions in accreditation of engineering, engineering technology, and computer science programs. Meritorious Achievement Award in Continuing Education - recognizes IEEE members for the design, delivery, or management of continuing education activities for IEEE members. Major Educational Innovation Award - recognizes IEEE members for outstanding innovation in an educational field appropriate to the mission of the IEEE. Meritorious Service Citation - recognizes IEEE members for outstanding and sustained service to the aims and objectives of the Educational Activities Board.

### Employer Professional Development Award

This recognizes organizations employing IEEE members for contributions to employ-

ee continuing education and professional development.

Nomination packets must include the following materials:

- ♦ A nomination letter that details the achievements of the nominee
- ♦ A complete vita of the nominee (except for the Employer Professional Development Award).
- ♦ A cover sheet listing the name of the EAB award being sought for the nominee, and the name, address (both postal and e-mail), and telephone and fax numbers of both the nominator and nominee
- ♦ Up to three letters of endorsement and not more than five pages of materials supporting the claims of contributions or achievements

NOTE: For the Employer Professional Development Award, letters of endorsement must include at least one from an employee who is an IEEE member, and one from the director of an IEEE region in which the organization's contributions were made.

Recipients of these awards will be announced at the Frontiers in Education Conference in November 1999. Nomination materials should be sent to Rae Toscano, Manager, EAB Administration, via e-mail, "r.toscano@ieee.org", or post: IEEE Educational Activities, 445 Hoes Lane,

Piscataway, NJ, USA, 08855-1331. For more information, nominees should contact Rae by e-mail, phone 732-562-5482, or fax 732-981-1686.

*The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE*  
12 Feb. 1999, Vol. IV, No. 3

## RAB Achievement Awards

At the 13 November 1998 Regional Activities Board Meeting the following Region 8 members were approved as recipients of the 1998 RAB Achievement Award:

**Zbigniew Ciok** "For outstanding service as Section Chairman which accelerated the development of the IEEE in Poland and Eastern Europe."

**Zbigniew H. Czyz** "For exemplary service to the IEEE Poland Section."

## Winner - Year of the Senior Member Contest

The EGYPT SECTION is the winner of the Year of the Senior Member Contest announced last year by the outgoing Director of Region 8, Maurice Papo. The Section deserves recognition for what has been achieved.

The Section Chair, or his representative, will be invited to attend the May 1999 Berlin Region 8 meeting. ♦

# CONFERENCES IN REGION 8

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADVERTISING

The IEEE Region 8 News is receiving requests to publicize conferences at an increasing rate. The situation has now been reached where we need to clarify the position of Region 8 in this matter. The following guidelines will accordingly be adhered to until further notice:

- ♦ Brief announcements of no more than 80 words will be treated as news items. This will provide essential information as to the conference title, date, venue, scope, and contact information. The editor will estimate whether the Region 8 News is expected to reach members in time, either for the deadline for papers, or for members to be able to make arrangements to attend the conference,

in order to decide on publication. The material will be published on a first come, first served basis, depending on available space, and could be shortened substantially. Eventually preference may be given to conferences with specific IEEE involvement.

- ♦ Conferences co-sponsored or organized by Region 8 will be allowed no more than a single page Call for Papers to advertise the event. Such Calls for Papers will be published free of charge. Organizers of Conferences with substantial Region 8 involvement and commitment are urged to keep an eye on the date of publication of the Region 8 News, and at least the submission date for papers, in order to select the issue in which the Call for Papers is to appear.

A brief announcement could be placed by prior arrangement with the Editor to serve as a reminder of conference dates.

- ♦ Organizers of conferences such as those presented by IEEE Societies or other bodies and in which members may be interested, are given the opportunity to place a half page advertisement to publicize the Conference at a cost of US\$1000. The conference organizers will be billed for this amount by IEEE in Piscataway. The same guidelines with regard to timing, as for Region 8 conferences mentioned in the previous paragraph, apply. Organizers are reminded that the Region 8 News is accessible on the Internet, and that it

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# Section News

## IRAN - VISIT BY IEEE PRESIDENT AND R8 DIRECTOR

The IEEE president and Region 8 director made a visit to Iran on Feb. 20-24, for the first time in history. In this three-day visit they presented lectures about the IEEE and Region 8 student activities. They also visited several universities, and ITRC (Iranian Telecommunications Research Center).

The students had the opportunity, though brief, to talk to them and to inform them about their activities and difficulties. There are currently four student branches in the Iran Section, but there is a great potential for student membership, and many universities are applying to form student branches.

One of the goals of the IEEE student branch here has been to promote the spirit of teamwork among students. Our main goal, however, is technical activities, and we wish to take steps toward the realization of world globalization. For example, a good start is joint projects with nearby sections. The student branches in Iran could cooperate with student branches in neighboring countries such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Turkey, to organize technical conferences and projects.

After this visit, our student branch has gained profound recognition among students, faculty, and private organizations all over Iran, and it has been appreciated by all that students are able to realize great goals. In addition, the IEEE is better known in our country, and members have gained remarkable status. This is the main reason for the fact that there is now an unprecedented number of requests for student membership.

We would like to thank Dr. Laker and Dr. Remshardt for their visit, and hope that they visit us again in the future. In addition, we thank our section chairman, Dr. Ghafoori-Fard, for making this visit possible, and the branch counselor of the University of Tehran, Dr. Faraji-Dana, for his support. ♦

*Ali Shahroki*

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*Mithra Malayeri*

*allumete@ivy.net*

## CELTIC TIGER EMBRACES CIRCUIT DESIGN

Ireland, the so-called Celtic Tiger, has the fastest-growing high-tech economy in Europe. A significant factor in the coun-

try's increasing prosperity is its integrated circuit design industry, which now employs over five hundred designers in twenty-two different multinationals and indigenous start-ups.

Attracted by a highly skilled workforce and a favorable tax regime, US multinationals such as Analog Devices, which pioneered circuit design in Ireland in 1976, have been joined in recent years by Cadence, Cypress, Lucent, Motorola, Nortel, 3COM, and Xilinx.

One of the newest arrivals (mid-1998) is Motorola, whose Irish design center is focusing on RF and Mixed Signal IC design for the wireless market. "We decided that one of the best places in the world to strategically grow IC design talent was Ireland," says John Quigley of Motorola. "This decision was driven by the evident quality of the academic institutions within Ireland as seen by the design engineers in the workforce."

One such academic institution is the National Microelectronics Research Centre (NMRC), founded in 1982, which has grown much of the native talent in the IC industry.

Among the earliest local start-ups is Silicon and Software Systems (S3), which was founded in 1986 by a former Philips employee, Maurice Whelan, to exploit local engineering talent. S3 is now one of the largest independent design centres in the world and a market leader in providing leading edge integrated circuits, software, and hardware systems solutions to the global electronics industry.

Irish-owned SSL, founded in 1993, has become one of the world's leading developers of System on a Chip solutions, with over one hundred and fifty design engineers having core expertise in Mixed Signal, DSP, and RF. Recognising the importance of its IEEE profile, the company's designs have been presented at ISSCC, ESSCIRC, and in JSSC. In addition, SSL's Sean Killeen is Co-Chairman and Editor of the IEEE P1394b Task Group, which has responsibility for the development of a key portion of the IEEE 1394 standard.

In an effort to increase the number and quality of technical events related to IC design in Ireland, members of the Solid State Circuits Society, in collaboration with the IEE, organised a colloquium on

"Systems on a Chip" at University College Dublin in September. The keynote address was delivered by Willy Sansen. A decision was taken to start a local Chapter of the IEEE SSC Society. The Ireland Chapter was formally activated in December 1998. ♦

*Michael Peter Kennedy, FIEEE*

*Peter.Kennedy@ucd.ie*

*<http://eleceng.ucd.ie/staff/pkennedy.htm>*

## BENELUX General Assembly

A new Benelux Committee was chosen February 9, 1999 at Philips Research, Eindhoven, Netherlands.

Acting Chair J. Noordanus welcomed the members present, who, notwithstanding the bad weather conditions, took an interest in Section matters.

The main agenda items reported concerning the period 1997-1998 are summarized below:

- ♦ IEEE organization, especially the matrix structure (RAB - TAB) and Region 8 committee.
- ♦ Membership, reached 2568 at end 1998, the growth over the last 2 years was 0%, overcompensating an earlier loss.
- ♦ Benelux Chapters, increased from 8 to 11. Among these is GOLD, a first in Region 8, which was rewarded with the 1997 GOLD award.
- ♦ Electronic communications, good progress was made. Our Web site: <http://www.medfac.leidenuniv.nl/ieee/>
- ♦ Cooperation with NERG is now in full momentum, via the so-called SNPEG group contacts with AES, KIVI and IEE are formalized.
- ♦ Student activities, there are now 7 Student Branches, from which Eindhoven and Leuven are the most active. Three students and SC Bastiaans visited the Region 8 SB congress.

SB Eindhoven won the worldwide SB Web-site Contest, Eindhoven and Delft held several technical symposia. SB Gent won the R8 Student Paper Contest and Eindhoven became second.

- ♦ *Financial report*, the net assets increased with Euro 8000, Student activities were supported with 4800 E and the Chapters received 6700 E.
- ♦ *New Fellows and Awards*, three awards

and seven fellows were nominated, there are now 44 Fellows and 131 Senior Members.

- ✦ *Farewell to Committee Members*, Paul Jespers, Hans Peek and Daniëlle Vanhoenacker received Recognition Certificates.

After the lunch, kindly offered by Philips Research, the new Section Chair Cor Claey's opened the technical meeting where new Fellows and Award winners gave a tutorial review of their work. This meeting was together with NERG and IEE members. The subjects dealt with were:

- ✦ 'Robustness and adaptation in control', by Prof. J.C. Willems (RU Groningen).
- ✦ 'System identification, why do we need it?' Prof. R. Pintelon (VU Brussels).
- ✦ 'Computer Engineering: An Introduction', Prof. S. Vassiliadis (TU Delft).
- ✦ 'Storing information in a non-volatile and reliable way', Dr. H.E. Maes (IMEC, Leuven).

The current Chair is

*Prof. C. Claey's, IMEC,*

*E-mail: cor.claey's@imec.be.*

Check our Website <<http://www.medfac.leidenuniv.nl/ieee/>> for more information on the Benelux Section. ✦

*J. Noordanus, NETC*

*J.Noordanus@ieee.org*

## KUWAIT

### Cooperation agreements

- ✦ At the invitation of the Chairman of IEEE Kuwait Section, Eng. Abdul Rahman Al-Ghunaim, the chair-persons of IEEE Emirates and Saudi Arabia Section, Dr. Essa Mohamed Abdulrazak Bastaki and Dr. Samir Al-Baiyat respectively, visited Kuwait on Nov. 25-27, 1998. A memorandum was signed by the Chairmen of the three sections as an understanding to establish links of communication and cooperate in line with the IEEE principles and purposes to promote Telecommunications, Electrical, Electronic, and Computer Engineering research and knowledge. This will be achieved by jointly conducting regular meetings, seminars,

talks, technical workshops, etc. with the support of the IEEE headquarters in USA, for the benefit of Kuwaiti, Saudi and UAE peoples.

- ✦ An agreement has been reached between IEEE (Kuwait Section) and Kuwait Society of Engineers (KSE) to work in collaboration. Due to this agreement, IEEE Kuwait Section can function under the umbrella of the KSE. In addition to a legal recognition this means that the Kuwait Section has found a home for itself. Many thanks to Eng. Fadel Abu-Alhasan, who consistently followed up the matter to its final conclusion.

### Design Contests

IEEE Kuwait section sponsored two design contests for undergraduate students of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department of Kuwait University. Electrical engineering students were asked to design and construct an electronic amplifier, while the computer engineering

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## UKRI - PROGRAMME FOR 1999-2000

The UK and Republic of Ireland (UKRI) Section of IEEE has accepted to be associated with a number of International Conferences sponsored by other organizations (such as IEE, SMi, BCS, IoP, etc.). The titles, dates and locations of these events are given in the following table:

<b>18 - 19 May 1999</b>	International Conference on Military Data Links II Central London
<b>24 - 25 May 1999</b>	Designing and Deploying Tactical Internets London
<b>24 - 25 May 1999</b>	International Conference on Combat Identification and Identification of Friend or Foe The Hatton, London
<b>25 - 28 May 1999</b>	Ninth International Conference on Metering and Tariffs for Energy Supply - MATES 99 International Conference Centre, Birmingham, UK
<b>28 - 29 June 1999</b>	International Conference in Military Radar (development and technologies) The Hatton, London, UK
<b>12 - 13 July 1999</b>	Eleventh International Conference on ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY University of York, UK
<b>12 - 15 July 1999</b>	Seventh International Conference on Image Processing and its Applications University of Manchester, UK
<b>1 - 3 Sept. 1999</b>	Ninth International Conference on Electrical Machines and Drivers Canterbury Christ Church College, UK
<b>May 30 - June 2 2000</b>	EuroElectromagnetics (EUROEM) 2000 Edinburgh International Conference Centre

The UKRI section also maintains a web site (<http://www.ieee.org.uk/>), which contains more information about the following issues: - further details on supported conferences - guidelines regarding technical co-sponsorship provided by the UKRI - additional data and links to partner organisations, such as IEE Conference Services, SMi Defence Conferences, etc.

For more on the UKRI Section conference activities please contact: ✦

*Georgi Petkov (petkov@isd-nec.co.uk)*



students designed an airline reservation system for the internet. The winners were given memorial plaques in addition to merit certificates.

Also, the Kuwait Section sponsored a design contest to design a web page for the IEEE Kuwait. The winner of the contest was given a cash prize of KD 200/- (1 KD is approx. equal to US\$ 3.3) which was generously donated by the chair of the Kuwait Section, Eng. Abdul Rahman Al-Ghunaim. Our web address is [www.ieee.com.kw](http://www.ieee.com.kw), please check us out. ♦

Salim Tariq  
[salim@cairo.eng.kuniv.edu.kw](mailto:salim@cairo.eng.kuniv.edu.kw)

### FRANCE

**ISEP and ATMEL** organize, with **IEEE France Section** support, the FTFC'99, 2emes Journees Francophones d'Etudes Faibles Tension Faible Consommation, in Paris, May 26-29, 1999. Inf. Amara.Amara@isep.fr; tel. 33 (0) 1 49 54 52 73; fax: 33 (0)1 49 54 52 51.

**IEEE, SEE and France Telecom** organise the Third Int. Workshop on

Transmission Line Matrix (TLM) Modeling Theory and applications. October 27 to 29 October 1999, University of Nice, Sophia Antipolis. Inf.: <http://www.elec.unice.fr/LABO/labio.html>; email [pompei@elec.unice.fr](mailto:pompei@elec.unice.fr); fax: 33. (0) 4 92 94 28 12

The **IEEE France Computer Chapter** supports the forthcoming events hosted in France:

Europar'99, Toulouse, 31/8/99 - 3/09/99; <http://www.enseiht.fr/europar99>;  
Renpar'11, Rennes, 11 June 1999; <http://www.irisa.fr/renpar11>

The conference address: FIEEC, 17 rue

Hamelin, 75 116 Paris at 5pm; phone: 33 (0) 1 45 85 37 40

The **General Assembly** of the Section France will be held at 19 h, on Thursday, June 1st, 1999, Maison des Polytechniciens, rue de Poitiers, Paris 7. The speaker will be Gerard THERY. Gerard THERY is actually in charge of the "Mission an 2000" within the French Ministry of Economy, Finances and Industry. He will give his analysis on the bug of Year 2000.

During this assembly, the new board of the Section France will be elected." ♦

Edwige Pissaloux  
[Edwige.Pissaloux@univ-rouen.fr](mailto:Edwige.Pissaloux@univ-rouen.fr)

### Les Anciens de la Radio et de l'Electronique

invite you to attend the following conferences:

**1 June 1999** "Flat screen - state-of-art" by *M. Hareng*, Thomson Multimedia;

**15 June 1999** "Sciences as a tool of the art history" by *M. Bernard*, IGT, Directeur Honoraire du Laboratoire des Musees de France;

**19 October 1999** "Races for very high speeds: why and how", by *J. Jerphagnon*, Alcatel.

## Society and Chapter News

### CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS SOCIETY

During the ECCTD'99 conference in Stresa, Italy, 29th August - 2 September 1999, there will be a 'Design Automation Day', devoted to Cellular Visual Microprocessors. This will be a full day of presentations on this topic by active researchers in this field, including Leon Chua (UC Berkeley), Tamás Roska (Hungarian Academy of Sciences), Angel Rodriguez-Vasquez (Univ. of Sevilla), Veiko Porra (Helsinki University of Technology).

Some limited financial support to cover travel, accommodation or registration fees is expected to be available for research students and visiting scientists from Central and Eastern European countries, for attendance at the 'Design Automation Day' and at the rest of ECCTD'99.

Anyone interested in the possibility of applying for such a grant should apply as soon as possible to Prof. Pier Paolo Civalleri <[civalleri@polito.it](mailto:civalleri@polito.it)>. They must explain their personal interests or involvement in this field of the Design

Automation Day and/or ECCTD'99 as a whole, and their reasons for needing the financial support. In the case of students, a supporting letter from their supervisor confirming their student status and the relevance of the event to their studies should be provided as well.

The financial support is being provided from two separate sources: the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society and the IEEE Region 8 Voluntary Contributions Fund. ♦

### COMPUTER SOCIETY CHAPTER - CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A Computer Society Chapter of the Czechoslovakia Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 28 December 1998.

Interim Chair:

Jan Hlavicka  
CVUT Fel, Technicka 2  
Praha 6-16627 Czechoslovakia  
email is [hlavicka@fel.cvut.cz](mailto:hlavicka@fel.cvut.cz)

### JOINT CHAPTER - BULGARIA

Instrumentation and Measurement/Control Systems/Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society joint Chapter of the Bulgaria Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 5 January 1999.

Interim Chair:

Vassil S. Sgurev  
PO Box 161. V. S. Gurev  
Sofia 1113 Bulgaria  
e-mail if any is not known ♦

### SIGNAL PROCESSING CHAPTER - RUSSIA

A Signal Processing Chapter has been approved (8 Feb 1999) in the Russia Section. The Interim Chair is Prof. Yuri Prokhorov. e-mail address: [yprokhorov@gin.global-one.ru](mailto:yprokhorov@gin.global-one.ru) ♦

### SIGNAL PROCESSING CHAPTER - EGYPT

A Signal Processing Society Chapter of the Egypt Section has been formed. The effective

tive date of this Chapter formation is 12 March 1999. The Interim Chair is Dr. Abdel-Raheem, 8 Korash Str., Apt. 7 Area 6 Nasr City, Cairo 11371, Egypt ♦

## JOINT IAS/PES CHAPTER - GERMANY

The Industry Applications Society Chapter of the Germany Section has changed status to include the Power Electronics Society.

The effective date of this Chapter change is 12 March 1999. The Chapter Chair is R. W. De Doncker, RTWH – ISEA, Jaegerstrasse 17-19, Aachen D-52066, Germany. ♦

Tony Davies

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[tonydavies@ieee.org](mailto:tonydavies@ieee.org)

WWW:[http://www.eee.kcl.ac.uk/](http://www.eee.kcl.ac.uk/member/staff/a_davies.html)

[member/staff/a\\_davies.html](http://www.eee.kcl.ac.uk/member/staff/a_davies.html)

# Membership

## DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP IN BUDAPEST

The IEEE Region 8 Committee in May 1998 approved organization of a Membership Development workshop in Central Europe for training of appointed MD officers in the sections in Central and Eastern Europe in membership activities, support and services. The workshop was held in Budapest on October 2, 1998 and hosted by the Hungary Section. Region 8 received a grant of \$ 2,000 from the IEEE MD Committee to cover up to 50% of the expenses associated with the workshop.

Out of 15 sections invited to send delegates to the workshop, 9 sections were represented: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Macedonia, Poland, Ukraine, and Yugoslavia.

Peer Martin Larsen, the prime organizer of the workshop was ably supported by the RAB Vice-Chair for Student Activities, Levent Onural, and IEEE Membership Staff Director Jill Berman Levy.

The afternoon was reserved for discussions among the participants on:

- ♦ Recruitment
- ♦ Retention and Recovery
- ♦ Member Support
- ♦ Chapter Support

Each participant prepared a list of important issues in priority order, and the recommendations can be summarized as follows:

## Recruitment in industry

Special Recruitment Plans should be effected in the local industry by sections/chapters.

## Retention

- ♦ Encourage the IEEE Financial Advantage Program to extend their outreach to European countries, realizing that each country has its own rules and traditions for insurances, and pension plans. It is

assumed that members will continue membership if they benefit from IEEE insurance and retirement plans.

- ♦ Introduce rewarding programs with additional benefits for continuous membership
- ♦ Extend the Reduced Membership Dues Program

## MD officers

The Region 8 MD officers are responsible for the following issues as basis for informing and encouraging the Section officers to support retention and recovery of members:

- ♦ Obtain lists of members and Affiliates going into arrears as soon as possible after May
- ♦ Scrutinize the content of the SAMIEEE database and its monthly updates immediately after reception from the IEEE Headquarters, and analyze the monthly statistics
- ♦ Extract regularly lists of potential candidates for Senior Membership
- ♦ Encourage regularly Affiliates to become IEEE members
- ♦ Include MD issues on the section Homepage

## Recruitment at universities

IEEE members on university staffs must be encouraged to use the Member-get-a-Member Program. Direct mail to university staff members, but not IEEE members should be used tactfully.

## Practical issues

- ♦ Membership Application Forms to be available at all section/chapter meetings
- ♦ Money transfer from Eastern Europe to the IEEE is cheaper if section, chapters, and student branches collect dues and fees in local currency. Bank charges are high for checks in local currency if accepted by

the IEEE headquarters and the currency exchange rate is less favorable for the members than for checks in US dollars.

## Metrics for MD success

The success of the MD activities in a section and a region can only be measured through careful analysis of changes in membership and in membership growth rate. In recent years the annual growth rate in the Region 8 has been approximately 10%, which makes it more difficult to identify the effect of MD. A better measure is the retention rate, which expresses the members' satisfaction with the membership services. Consequently, we should concentrate our efforts on retention more than recruitment as suggested in the recommendations above.

## Notes from the workshop

Staff Director Jill Berman Levy has prepared an unofficial list of issues brought up by the participants in the MD workshop. These notes are available through the Germany Section Homepage on the address: <http://www.lwe.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/md/index.htm>

Peer Martin Larsen

R8 MD subcommittee Chair

[p.larsen@ieee.org](mailto:p.larsen@ieee.org)

## GUIDE FOR VOLUNTEERS

In response to requests from members in Region 8 a guide has been published for the benefit of volunteers serving as Section, Chapter and Student Branch Officers. The aim of the guide is to help all IEEE members who assist in the running of local IEEE entities to understand the way that IEEE works and how to use best practice to ensure that their valuable time is used productively. Many members new to IEEE operations find that the official documentation available to them lacks the kind of practical advice that they need, especially in respect of the administration of financial matters and record-keeping. In many Sections this kind of 'know-how' is confined to a relatively small group of experienced volunteers, which makes it more difficult to recruit new officers from the membership.

The Guide attempts to show how the responsibilities of being a volunteer should be discharged, and where help is available within IEEE to sort out problems. The guide will be updated every year to incorporate changes in

*continued on page 8*



## Membership *continued*

IEEE bylaws and procedures, and will be amended in response to suggestions and comments received from users. The guide

has been published at the Region 8 website and copies have been sent to every Section for distribution to key volunteers. Further

copies are available from my office. ♦

*Charles Turner*  
*c.turner@ieee.org*

## IEEE EUROPEAN OPERATIONS CENTER

The IEEE European Operations Center located in Brussels, Belgium is designed to provide multilingual (English, Dutch, French, and German) decentralized, local service and support to a constituency of IEEE and Society members, non-member customers and potential members in Europe, Africa and the Middle East (Region 8). This report summarizes its activities. A more detailed version of this report can be found on the Region 8 Homepage in the November 1998 Electronic Bulletin (address is under logo on page 1).

### Member Services

The Office provides facilities for local membership meetings, promotes IEEE membership at IEEE meetings in Region 8, and disseminates IEEE material as requested by members. The Office is on-line to the IEEE's database and handles a variety of members' queries.

### Customer Services

The office responds to requests for quotations and products availability; it processes orders for Press books, conference proceedings,

IEEE standards, and Educational Products on line to the IEEE database. Adapted shipping methods ensure timely delivery.

### Society Support

**The IEEE Computer Society** and the **IEEE Communications Society** currently use the Brussels office to heighten their global presence and serve their local membership. The Office provides a large number of administrative and support services for Societies

### Volunteer Services

The Brussels office provides support to volunteer committees such as CEEIC (Central & Eastern Europe Initiative Committee – Computer Society) and EAMEC (Europe, Africa and Middle East Committee, Communications Society) as well as to local sections, chapters and volunteers in their efforts to organize IEEE activities locally. Special attention is paid to student activities. Regular contacts are maintained with the officers of the Region 8 Committee.

### Long Term Objectives.

The ultimate goal of the European Operations Center is to provide decentralized IEEE presence and services, to members, volunteers and customers in Region 8. This will effectively support the IEEE's strategic vision and help it to achieve its strategic goals promoting career enhancement, globalization, organizational improvement, product and service delivery, and public responsibility.

IEEE European Operations Center

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Society)

Fax: +32 2 770 85 05

E-mail: [memservice-europe@ieee.org](mailto:memservice-europe@ieee.org) ♦

*Report by Jacques Kevers,*  
*IEEE European Operations Center.*

## IEEE Initiatives

### COOPERATION AGREEMENTS

The IEEE recently entered into cooperation agreements with the following:

- ♦ Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik e.V. (VDE)
- ♦ The Institution of Engineers, Australia (IEAust)
- ♦ The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunications Engineers (India)(IETE).

All of these agreements are in effect until 31 December 2001.

These agreements are "To encourage the exchange and dissemination of technical information, and to promote understanding and cooperation between members..." of that organization and the IEEE. The agreement outlines specific matters of cooperation,

including: visiting member procedures, joint activities, coordination of technical meetings, publications exchange, and membership. The agreement with IETE also includes cooperation in the area of standards information. The agreement with IEAust includes cooperation in the areas of standards information, students, and joint service delivery.

For additional information Contact Lynanne Hunt - IEEE Corporate Activities - telephone 732-562-6898; fax 732-981-9515; E-mail: [l.hunt@ieee.org](mailto:l.hunt@ieee.org).

IEEE agreements may be formed between an international or national organization and either the IEEE or an IEEE society. Agreements may discuss publications, conferences, membership, educational ventures, standards activities or a

variety of other activities. All agreements should include terms and conditions for all financial arrangements, length of the agreement, terms to terminate the agreement, and dispute resolution procedures. In all negotiations, special care must be taken. Entities entering into agreements are encouraged to review items with staff to identify difficulties in processing, intellectual property ownership, copyright issues, interrelationships with other active agreements, and costs. Final copies of all agreements should be sent to staff, who will file and distribute to Regional Directors and Section Chairs.

For additional information on Society Sister Agreements, Contact Mary Ward-Callan - IEEE Technical Activities - tel.



## COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES

### Executive summary

The purpose of this document is to provide ideas to IEEE Sections, and IEEE Technical Societies, to assist them in the development of cooperative efforts with the local National Societies in various countries around the world.

### Preface

One of the basic reasons for signing cooperation agreements - NSA - National Society Agreements - with the National Society of a country is to enhance the professionalism of both the members of the National Society, and the members of the IEEE, of that country.

The formal signing of an agreement can - and should - create greater visibility for both organizations. It is a vehicle to stimulate meaningful cooperation in areas of common interest.

Post signing activities will determine the real value of the agreement. A formal cooperative agreement often stimulates the process of evaluating joint programs that could be of mutual benefit.

Implementation of successful cooperative ventures has the potential to assist in the development of improved technical skills, professional status, and networking capabilities for members of both organizations.

The IEEE is committed to working cooperatively - not competitively with the many National Societies with whom we desire closer ties. This commitment brings another obligation - to be flexible and responsive to the differences in - culture; thought process; language; laws; political structure; etc.

In all cases, the agreements signed by the IEEE - and the local IEEE Sections - have been worded so that they do not inhibit the initiatives, or operations, of the IEEE Technical Societies, or Technical Council, in any way. The agreements are worded so that the IEEE Technical Societies, and Council, can create their own "Sister Society" agreements - with appropriate wording on Society dues, publications, products, and other activities.

Some individuals would rather see the word "collaboration" used where we have utilized "cooperation". Whichever you prefer is fine. We are referring to real active programs and projects where we jointly take positive actions for the betterment of electrical, electronics, and computer engineers - and computer scientists - of the country. As noted in the Executive Summary, the basic purpose of this document is to provide ideas and suggestions to IEEE Sections and Technical Societies, to assist in the development of cooperative - or, collaborative efforts with the local National Society.

### NSA status - December, 1998

IEEE has 43 "umbrella" agreements with various National Societies around the world. These agreements cover some 25 countries, and are under the control of 32 IEEE Sections. The latest listing of these agreements is available on request. An updated version of the agreements is distributed three times per year to the IEEE Board of Directors and Transnational Committee. Copies are also distributed to all IEEE Sections (by RAD); all IEEE Technical Societies - and Council (by TAD); IEEE International offices (by staff); plus an internal IEEE staff distribution to all involved and interested departments.

The "Sister Society" agreements registered by the various IEEE Technical Societies are shown on pages 9 through 12 of the agreements document. Upon the signing and registering of the agreements, copies of the documents are forwarded to the Section and Regional chairs for their use. In a program initiated in 1996 - with the actual exchange of documents starting in mid-1997 - each of the National Societies shown on the list receive the following publications:

- ♦ IEEE Spectrum / Institute
- ♦ Technical Activities Guide
- ♦ Proceedings of the IEEE
- ♦ IEEE Publications catalog
- ♦ Potentials
- ♦ IEEE Standards catalog
- ♦ IEEE UPDATE
- ♦ IEEE Education catalog

Although encouraged to do so by the wording of the IEEE "umbrella agreement, only a few of the National Societies have chosen to exchange publications. The material received from these National Societies

is assembled in a dedicated location at the Piscataway, IEEE Operations Center.

### Ideas and suggestions for cooperative efforts

Note: The following segment provides a suggested listing - to stimulate thoughts and actions for possible cooperative activities / ventures with National Societies. These ideas are not listed in a priority order. Each IEEE Section must decide the best course of action for its' particular Region and country. All ideas must be carefully considered prior to "bringing them to the table", to insure that they will create a cooperative - and not combative - atmosphere. Many of these suggested activities are already "works-in-progress" and have been implemented by the local IEEE Section and the cooperating National Society. Additional thoughts and ideas are encouraged, and welcome.

- 1) Both organizations (NS and IEEE) actively publicize the relationship established - including, but not limited to, initially planned joint activities
- 2) Work with NS to emphasize "value added" to students and young professionals of active participation in both organizations.
- 3) Work to better educational standards and curriculum for the country
- 4) Work with the National Society, Industry, and Academia on surveys, workshops, and reports defining curriculum - and / or philosophy - changes needed to successfully meet the quality, and focus, of the future work - force for the country.
- 5) Work to improve the understanding of Standards, and their worldwide applications - including developing activities for a country - where applicable.
- 6) Co-sponsor technical conferences / exhibits, meetings, and workshops. When not cosponsoring, seek recognition of National Society/IEEE cooperation through participation by means of a booth, or table, at the session.
- 7) Jointly sponsor tutorials / short courses on technical; professional; and personal improvement subjects.
- 8) Work to insure publicity in both organizations for (National) country engineers/scientists receiving significant awards.

*continued on page 10*



## IEEE Initiatives *continued*

- 9) Consider engineers / scientists / members of the NS for IEEE Awards - where appropriate - and, vice versa.
- 10) Consider the possibility of establishing future joint awards - always with the agreement and concurrence of the Awards Board(s) of both organizations.
- 11) Invite NS executives to participate in major IEEE events held in the country. Acknowledge/recognize them, and give them VIP treatment, when they do attend.
- 12) Ensure all NS members receive notice/invitation when international speakers/visitors are involved.
- 13) Invite National Society executives to be a participant in the IEEE Section ExCom
- 14) Exchange space in Newsletters - particularly for highlighting important occasions / events. Provide a link to each other's WEB pages.
- 15) Investigate the establishment / value of an electronic "alias" covering the National Society; the IEEE Section; and, the IEEE Student Branches.
- 16) Invite appropriate National Society executives to attend IEEE Regional meetings; Sections Congress; and, Awards ceremonies.
- 17) Investigate / encourage the formation - possibly every 5 years - of a multi National Society / IEEE Region (or, World) conference on "Engineering and Society".
- 18) Investigate what the IEEE can do to promote the membership; status; and access to technology - of the National Society through IEEE Section / National Society "collaborations".
- 19) Consider necessity / and, implement if appropriate - the translation of certain IEEE documents / forms.
- 20) Evaluate (carefully) the possibility - and impact - of exchanging membership mailing lists.

*Ted Hissey*  
IEEE Foundation  
[t.hissey@ieee.org](mailto:t.hissey@ieee.org)

### IEEE FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR PROJECTS IN IEEE REGIONS 8, 9, AND 10

Primarily known through the IEEE in North America, the IEEE Foundation - in order to

better support the global outreach of IEEE - has expressed interest in receiving proposals to support new IEEE Educational and Scientific initiatives in IEEE Regions 8, 9, and 10.

Although the IEEE Foundation is open to receiving requests for support funds for all types of new IEEE initiatives in the educational and scientific area, the type of projects "ear-marked" for support include:

- ♦ Improvement of Educational Standards
- ♦ Definition of curriculum to better support Engineers and Scientists of the 21st Century in a specific country, or region
- ♦ IEEE Student Branch activities
- ♦ Graduate student exchange

See the IEEE Foundation WEB page <<http://www.ieeeorganizations/foundation.html>> for additional data on the IEEE Foundation, or via E mail contact <[foundation-office@ieee.org](mailto:foundation-office@ieee.org)> ♦

*Ted Hissey*  
IEEE Foundation  
[t.hissey@ieee.org](mailto:t.hissey@ieee.org)

## Conferences

*The Region 8 Home Page list of R8 Conferences and Technically Co-sponsored events has been updated. Visit our Website at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/conferences/conference.html>*

### CONFERENCE REPORTS ICCCP'98

The second International Conference on Communication, Computer & Power was organized at the Sultan Qaboos University near Muscat in Oman with great success.

When I first heard of the preparations for the Conference it seemed to me rather broad in scope. But after I became more familiar with the economy and circumstances there I recognized that it was exactly tailored to the needs of the community there.

The country is rather big, about 300 000 sq. km, with a length of about 1 200 km and with a 1700 km long coastline. The population is 2.5 million. It is a desert country with mountains up to 3000 m high. Naturally, they have some oil too.

Of course they need to build up and develop

power and communications infrastructure and use computer support everywhere as much as possible. In so doing the professionals have vital technical experience to report at the conference and they are interested solutions proposed by the foreign participants and invited lecturers. These participants came from all over the world. Education in the third millennium was a topic frequently raised at many panel sessions.

The Conference was held at the university campus about 40 km away from Muscat in the desert. The buildings are built in a homogenous oriental style of architecture. Classes and laboratories are connected by beautiful corridors.

There are also student accommodations and housing for professors. No big everyday Commuting is necessary.

The campus was an appropriate place for the Conference. Besides modern equipped rooms and halls it also enabled lunches and dinners, which were outstanding. The hospitality was fabulous. We were all treated more as guests more than conference participants.

At the conference there was considerable interest in becoming an IEEE member stu-

dent member. I introduced the IEEE at a panel session and had many private discussions. They are already preparing to organize an IEEE Student Chapter.

ICCCP was covered by IEEE Region 8's conference policy because we want to support meetings in geographical areas where the number of existing events is low.

The organizers promised the third ICCCP at the end of 1999.

#### Organizing Committee:

Prof Colin Windsor; e.mail:  
[colin.g.windsor@ccgate.ukaea.org.uk](mailto:colin.g.windsor@ccgate.ukaea.org.uk).  
Dr Lorenzo Capineri; e.mail:  
[capineri@ieee.org](mailto:capineri@ieee.org)  
Mr Gianfranco Mela; e.mail:  
[abc@abc.florence.it](mailto:abc@abc.florence.it)

*Baldomir Zajc*  
IEEE Region 8 Conference coordinator

#### PREP'99

#### PREP '99: Postgraduate Research in Electronics, Photonics and Related Fields

Held 5-7 January 1999; UMIST, Manchester, UK



Sponsored by the Institute of Physics;  
Co-sponsored by the IEEE, the IEE and the  
Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council.

PREP'99 proved to be a highly successful and enjoyable event, which was attended by approximately 120 delegates, most of them postgraduate students. This conference, the first in the PREP series, was specifically developed as a postgraduate student conference, with all the papers having students as first authors and presenters. As such, it was intended to allow many students the opportunity to present their first paper in an environment rather less intimidating than many of the major conferences in electronics. However, it should be said that the overall quality of papers was extremely high, and many of the oral and poster presentations were outstanding. This made the selection of the five prize-winning papers a difficult task! Oral presentations were placed in three parallel tracks covering the broad themes of devices and circuits, photonics, materials and computing, while there were also a large number of posters in the same fields.

The conference also had the privilege of hosting two very distinguished lecturers who gave inspirational and thought provoking talks. Helen Sharman described her experiences as the first UK astronaut/cosmonaut, while Prof. Peter Cochrane of BT Labs gave his thoughts on how technologies of the future will affect society. An excellent atmosphere was helped by a strong social programme, which included a design-and-build competition and a series of transferable skills courses on the first day of the conference, and a dinner at the Granada TV studios in Manchester.

*Dr Stavros Iezekiel*

*email: s.iezekiel@ieee.org*

*Web: <http://www.elec-eng.leeds.ac.uk>*

## **CALLS FOR PAPERS**

### **MINE'99**

The Euroconference on "Sensor systems and signal processing techniques applied to the detection of mines and unexploded ordnance" will be held at Centro Studi "I Cappuccini" in S. Miniato-Empoli (Florence), Italy, from 1 to 3 October 1999.

The basic themes of the Conference include:

- Penetrating Radar
- Infrared Systems
- Metal Detectors
- Nuclear Methods
- Signal and Image Processing
- Data Fusion
- Novel Methods and Instruments for Demining

Submission deadline: 30 May 1999.

*Conference Chair:*

Prof. Leonardo Masotti

*e.mail: [masotti@ingfi1.ing.unifi.it](mailto:masotti@ingfi1.ing.unifi.it)*

*Conference Secretariat:*

Mrs. Annalisa Mettel

Dept. Electronic Engineering,

University of Florence,

Via S.Marta 3, 50139, Firenze, Italy

Tel / Fax+39 55 4796517

*e.mail: [mine99@diefi.die.unifi.it](mailto:mine99@diefi.die.unifi.it)*

*<http://www.diefi.die.unifi.it/~mine99>*

### **MILLENNIUM SEMINAR ON BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS, February 15-17, 2000**

The Millennium Seminar on Broadband Communications marks the beginning of a new era where wireline, wireless and optical technologies will complement each other to deliver bandwidth at unprecedented levels to the end user. Global networks will allow ubiquitous access to information services giving rise to a plethora of new applications scenarios. The "2000 International Zurich Seminar on Broadband Communications" will bring together the experts in these fields to foster direct, personal contact between industry and universities and to jointly find solutions to the new challenges.

Visit our Website:

*<http://www.ifh.ee.ethz.ch/~izs2000>*

or contact

*Prof. Dr. R. Vahldieck*

*Tel. +41-1-632 2810*

*President IZS'2000*

*Fax +41-1-632 1198*

*IFH/ETHZ, Gloriastrasse 35*

*E-mail: [izs2000@ifh.ee.ethz.ch](mailto:izs2000@ifh.ee.ethz.ch)*

*CH-8092 Zurich, Switzerland*

### **DECOM 2000 - TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

The IFAC Conference on Technology Transfer in Developing Countries: Automation in Infrastructure Creation is

planned for University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, 5-7 July 2000

This meeting is organized by the South African Council for Automation and Computation (SACAC), the IFAC National Member Organization in South Africa. It will focus on the transfer of automation technology in the field of infrastructure creation and development. Particular emphasis will be given to automation in developing countries in the following areas: power systems; water supply and purification; transportation systems; telecommunications systems. All four these areas are currently of particular importance to South Africa and other developing countries as a good and reliable infrastructure forms the basis of a modern economy.

Deadline for submissions: 1  
September, 1999

*Contact details:*

*Prof. Ian K Craig*

*Department of Electrical and  
Electronic Engineering*

*University of Pretoria*

*Pretoria 0002, South Africa*

*e-mail: [icraig@postino.up.ac.za](mailto:icraig@postino.up.ac.za)*

*Tel: +27 (12) 420-2172;*

*Fax: +27 (12) 362 5000*

### **BRIEF ANNOUNCEMENTS ISRACAS'99**

The Second Israeli Symposium on Computer-Aided Surgery, Medical Robotics, and Medical Imaging was scheduled for Thursday, May 6, 1999, at The Hebrew University, Givat Ram Campus, Jerusalem, Israel.

*Dr. Leo Joskowicz*

*Phone: +(972)-2-658-6299*

*FAX: +(972)-2-658-5439*

*E-mail: [josko@cs.huji.ac.il](mailto:josko@cs.huji.ac.il)*

or:

*Prof. Moshe Shoham*

*Phone: +(972)-4-829-3264*

*FAX: +(972)-4-832-4533*

*Email: [shoham@tx.technion.ac.il](mailto:shoham@tx.technion.ac.il)*

Check our web site for frequent updates: <http://www.cs.huji.ac.il/~josko/isracas99.html>

### **IWSSIP'99**

IWSSIP'99 (6th Int Workshop on Systems,

*continued on page 12*



Signals and Image Processing), 2-4 June 1999, Bratislava, SLOVAKIA. This Workshop is co-sponsored by IEE, IEEE, EURASIP. The General Chairs are Kalman Fazekas (Budapest) and Branka Zovko-Cihlar (Zagreb).

<http://www.ktl.elf.stuba.sk/iwssip99>

## HMM'99

The 2nd International Symposium on HYS-TERESIS MODELING AND MICRO-MAGNETICS, HMM'99, will be held in Perugia, 7-9 June, 1999

Enquiries:

*Prof. Ermanno Cardelli*

*Fax +39 075 5852703*

*e-mail: hmm99@unipg.it*

<http://www.unipg.it/hmm99>

## VIPromCom'99

The International Workshop on Video Processing and Multimedia Communications, 23-25 June 1999, is scheduled for Zadar, Croatia. Workshop Chair: Branka Zovko-Cihlar. This is the 41st ELMAR International Symposium, organisation is by University of Zagreb, co-sponsored by IEEE Croatia Section.

<http://grgicnt.cc.fer.hr/vip99>

## HITEN'99

The third European conference on High Temperature Electronics will be held between 4th and 7th July 1999 in Berlin, Germany. Organised by HITEN, the European commission's High Temperature Electronics network of excellence, the conference is receiving technical co-sponsorship from the IEEE Electron Devices Society as well as from AEA Technology, Deutsche Bank, the European network of Innovation Relay Centres and the ZVEI electronic components association. Full details of the conference programme will be available from mid-May at <http://www.hitent.com>. For more information, contact:

*Richard Sharp*

*Tel +44-(0) 1235-463407*

*fax: +44-(0) 1235-464253*

*e-mail: richard.sharp@aeat.co.uk*

## SCS'99

The Fourth International Symposium on Signals, Circuits & Systems, will be held in Iasi, Romania, from 6-7 July 1999, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Liviu Goras. It is being organized by the Faculty of Electronics & Telecommunications of the Technical University Iasi and the IEEE Romania Section Circuits and Systems Chapter, co-sponsored by the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society, in cooperation with IEEE Region 8. Iasi is accessible by plane or by Intercity train from Bucharest.

*SCS'99 International Symposium*

<http://www.tuiasi.ro/events/scs99>

## NDES'99

The Non-linear Dynamics of Electronic Systems conference will be held from 15-17 July 1999, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Erik Lindberg of the Technical University of Denmark. This annual event is sponsored by the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society, in association with the European Circuits Society, and IEEE Region 8.

It is hoped that some financial support will be available, to assist attendance by participants from countries in Central and Eastern Europe who are IEEE members.

Contact:

*Dr Ali A Rezazadeh*

*Tel/Fax: +44(0) 171 873 2879*

*E-Mail: ali.rezazadeh@kcl.ac.uk*

## ECCTD'99

ECCTD'99 (European Conference on Circuit Theory and Design), 29 August - 2 September, 1999, Stresa, ITALY.

Conference Chair: Pier Paolo Civalleri.

ECCTD is a regular event of the European Circuits Society, and ECCTD'99 is organised in cooperation with the CAS Society.

<http://www.ibow.com/cc/ecctd99/>

## ICECS'99

ICECS'99 (6th International Conference on Electronics, Circuits and Systems), 5 - 8 September, 1999, Pafos, CYPRUS ICECS has become established as a successful venture in the Mediterranean area, and

ICECS'99 is co-sponsored by IEEE CAS Society.

<http://www.vlsi.ee.upatras.gr/~icecs99>

## ICEET99

The 1999 International Conference on Electrical Engineering and Technology has been scheduled for 6-7 September, 1999, at University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The aim of ICEET99 is to bring together Engineers from Academic and Research Institutions as well as Industries of both developed and developing countries for the purpose of exchanging ideas and progress made in recent years in the Light and Heavy current areas of Electrical Engineering and Technology.

*ICEET99 Secretariat*

*Tel: +255 (51) 410762*

*Fax: +255 (51) 410029 / 410114 / 410380*

*E-mail: ee99@ee.udsm.ac.tz*

## IWSNHC3DI'99

The International Workshop on Synthetic-Natural Hybrid Coding and Three-Dimensional (3D) Imaging is organized by the European Community research project ACTS II VIDAS, ACTS project 057, and will be held in 15-17 September, 1999, Fera Congress Center, Santorini, Greece

Arrangements:

*Nikos Sarris*

*Tel: +30.31.996349*

*Fax: +30.31.996398*

*E-mail: nikos@dion.ee.auth.gr*

or

*George Tzanetos*

*Tel: +30.31.996359*

*Fax: +30.31.996398*

*E-mail: gtza@dion.ee.auth.gr*

Further information (updated regularly):

WWW server [<http://uranus.ee.auth.gr/IWSNHC3DI99/>]

## MIA-ME'99

The Second IEEE-Russia Conference on High-Power Microwave Electronics: Measurement, Identification, Applications (MIA-ME'99) will be held 23-25 September,



1999 at the Novosibirsk State Technical University, Novosibirsk, Russia.

For more information contact:

*Dr. V. Snournitsin*

*Tel/fax +7-3832-462598*

*e-mail: crra@ref.nstu.ru or visit*

*MIA-ME'99 web site at*

*http://www.nstu.ru/miame99*

### **Advanced Technologies and Air Traffic Management**

The Workshop on "Advanced Technologies and Their Impact on Air Traffic Management

in the 21st Century" will be held at the Hotel La Residenza, Island of Capri, Italy, on 26-30 September, 1999; see the announcement and registration form at <http://www.disp.uniroma2.it/~pandisci/ATM.HTM>

### **WMC'99**

The Second World Manufacturing Congress (WMC'99) will be held 27-30 September, 1999 at the Universities at Sunderland and Durham, U.K.

For further information please see:

<http://www.icsc.ab.ca/wmc99.htm>

or contact:

*ICSC International Computer Science Conventions*

*Email operating@icsc.ab.ca*

*Fax +1-780-387-4329*

*Phone +1-780-387-3546*

or

*Dr. Mozafar Saadat,*

*General Chair WMC'99*

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*E-mail mozafar.saadat@*

*sunderland.ac.uk ♦*

## **From the Regional Director *continued***

moment when we left Tehran: We made a lot of good friends and we envision a bright future for the Iran Section.

### **Chapters in Region 8**

Chapters are the most active entities in our region, concentrating on their professional and scientific goals with many technical activities. There is the famous maxim that a chapter always has two parents, its geographical mother, the Section and its technical father, the Society, which covers the technical interests. Both parents should take care of their chapter "children" and support it technically and financially. This does not seem to happen in all cases; maybe some parents are ignorant, or the "kids" are not aware of their rights, opportunities and financial support possibilities within IEEE and Region 8. In those cases our R8 Chapter Coordinator, Prof. A. Davies is the most helpful man. <a.davies@ieee.org>.

We had several discussions on how to improve the relations between a chapter and both parents in general, to better inform existing chapters and to help forming new chapters or joint chapters in smaller sections or with smaller societies. An idea came up to have a R8 Chapter Congress and to bring all Section Chairs, most Chapter Chairs and Society representatives together at one place in R8, to discuss mutual problems, new opportunities and benefit from meeting and getting to know each other. The large num-

ber of people, the diverse technical interests of all chapters /societies together with the financial aspects might make it difficult to realize. Others felt, that chapter chairs are strictly technically oriented members, who do not care much about geographical entities, and its relations to sections and the region, and would not attend such a meeting. Divisions I and IV have had some successful Chapter meetings in R8. We may have to follow this road and invite other Divisions to R8. I wanted to bring some of these ideas to your attention to think about. Maybe you will come up with your own and much better ideas to improve the Section/

Chapter/ Society relations. In this case please inform our R8 Chapter Coordinator, Tony Davies or myself. We appreciate hearing from you, and as always value your opinions. ♦

*Rolf Remshardt  
r.remshardt@ieee.org*

*P.S. Don't forget to visit the IEEE Website and click on our new R8 Home Page as well. As you know, we have a monthly R8 Bulletin Board in the Web with the latest information from the Region.*

## **CONFERENCES IN REGION 8 *Continued***

is distributed to a prime target audience of some 40 000 members in Region 8. Publicity coverage is quite extensive for the amount involved.

Should you have any further queries, please contact me. ♦

*Duncan Baker  
IEEE Region 8 News Editor.*

### **DEADLINES**

Material to reach me by the following dates:

August 1999 issue - 4 June 1999

November 1999 issue - 6 September

*Duncan Baker  
Editor, R8 News  
duncan.baker@ieee.org*





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# region8student news

**Editors:** Levent Onural Region 8 Vice-chair (Student Activities) l.onural@ieee.org Gozde Bozdagi (Student Activities Chair) bozdagi@baskent.edu.tr Jens Hannemann (Student Representative) j.hannemann@ieee.org

## EDITORIAL

Hi folks,

As you can see from the article by Jorge, we have a new student representative. I wish him good luck as my successor and would like to thank IEEE in general and all the people I had the pleasure to work with in particular for the wonderful time and experience during the last two years. Thank you!

As to this issue, I would like to draw your attention especially to two contributions. The first one is about the anniversary of the Bochum Branch, which happens to be my "home" branch. This shows that we already have a growing number of "mature" branches that operate smoothly, which is a great source of experience for newer branches. The second set of articles I would like to point out are the ones from Iran. As you could see also in past issues, the Iranian branches are very active, and this has been honored by a visit by Ken Laker, then IEEE president and Rolf Remshardt, R8 Director. It might be interesting for you to know that the idea has grown from the Student branch congress last year.

Well, pretty early during my term, Maurice Papo, now Past Director of Region 8, threatened me that IEEE would recycle its officers, so my chances of getting away from volunteering with IEEE are pretty slim. This means that I will still have the pleasure to serve as your student news editor in the future, and from the sheer amount of the articles I received for this issue, this is indeed a pleasant task. It is so much easier to ask Duncan for additional space or - in the worst case - to shorten or select articles than to desperately beg for contributions. So keep the articles coming...

*Jens*

## NEW STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Hi folks,

It is a great pleasure for me to be appointed as the new Region 8 Student Representative. First of all, I would like to thank my predecessor, Jens Hannemann, for the outstanding work he has done. I believe, together with the new SAC Chair of the Region 8, Gozde Bozdagi, and all the student members in Region 8, we will continue to be one of the most active regions in the world.

After considering the situation of our Region 8 during the last months, I can propose you the main goals for the next two years relating to the students. My own experience of the Student Branch Congress (SBC) in Istanbul was so good that I encourage all of you to attend the next SBC or even to host a Congress at your University. The SBC is a good opportunity to meet people, discuss ideas and opinions about IEEE, enhance the performance of the IEEE Student Branches and, of course, have fun. So we will try very hard to make the SBC a regular event.

The second main goal is to increase the number of IEEE student members and Student branches. We, the active volunteers, can think about ways of doing this, using the email (j.s.ponz@ieee.org) or the Region 8 News to put forward the ideas and argue about the real IEEE issues.

Another important goal for the students is the application for the different awards of our Region or of the IEEE. The purposes of the awards are to recognize and encourage students and students branches. In the future we will inform you about the deadlines of the different awards. As an example of these awards, Gozde proposed the hardware contest. This is a new activity to be carried out in our Region in order to increase the number of applicants for the IEEE hardware contests, such as the ATT Labs award. It is a complementary award to the student paper contests, for those students who prefer the hardware... However, we want to cheer you on to enter for these contests.

Gozde and I want to get in touch with all IEEE Regions, but in particular with those outside the USA area. Taking advantage of that I am Spanish, we would like to try hobnobbing with the IEEE Region 9, the Spanish American Region. Maybe in the future, we will be more active with them and even we can invite them to our SBC or other activities.

Finally, I am planning on putting up a web site to present all the additional information along with an electronic copy of the regular Student News. The web page is now under construction. It would be important for me that you e-mail me with the info you would like to be included in this page; for example - deadlines, awards, upcoming events...

Once again, it is very exciting for me to be in the Region 8 Committee as the new Region Student Representative. I will be more than happy to help you in any way regarding the IEEE student activities from now on.

*Jorge-Luis Sanchez Ponz*  
Student Representative

## ALL MAGAZINE PACKAGE FOR STUDENT BRANCHES

In 1998 Region 8 used some of the funds donated by members through the Voluntary Contributions Fund to provide the IEEE Societies' All Magazine Package to 12 Student Branches in Region 8. This year the scheme is being extended to include more Student Branches and eventually it is hoped that around half of all branches will be able to benefit for a limited period of two or three years. Any Student Branch that currently cannot afford to subscribe to the All Magazine Package can apply to receive the magazines free of charge by contacting the Region 8 Student Activities Chair, Dr. Gozde Bozdagi.

*Charles Turner*  
c.turner@ieee.org

## STUDENT BRANCH NEWS Signal Processing Workshop in Iran

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of



the establishment of the IEEE Signal Processing Society, University of Tehran Student Branch held a Signal Processing Workshop on February 14-16, 1999. The idea was brought to the branch by our senior friend Reza Omrani, who was also the secretary of the workshop.

Directed by our SB Chair, Hossein Sheini, and Reza Omrani, a group of volunteers was formed to organize the workshop. Reza managed to contact expert professors from leading universities in the field, while others took the executive part of the work. Eight professors were invited to give lectures on 9 main topics of signal processing, based on the Signal Processing Magazine "Past, Present and Future of ..." articles. About 240 students from several universities in Tehran attended our workshop. It was a wonderful experience for all of us to have a chance to get to know students with a common field of interest.

We also managed to contact related companies. One of them, "Iran Communication Industries" funded the event, co-sponsored by ECE Department at University of Tehran, Iran IEEE section and VLSI Circuits and Systems Research Lab.

At first it seemed to be an easy task to do. But very soon, we understood that in order to succeed, we had to act as a unit, not individuals.

For the final word, I'd like to add that for progressive Region 8 student activities, we need to gather as a family and share our experiences and activities together.

*Azad Shademan,  
University of Tehran,  
E-mail : shademan@ieee.org*

## First Iranian Student Conference on Electrical Engineering

The first Iranian Student Conference on Electrical Engineering (ISCEE) was held from Nov. 18-20th, 1998 in Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran. The conference brought more than 2200 electrical engineering students together from all over the country. It was sponsored by the university, some local Iranian companies, and of course IEEE. The only organizers were students.

The Technical Program Committee received 440 abstracts - from 47 Iranian uni-

versities and University of Melbourne, Australia. From these 109 papers were accepted for presentation in several parallel sessions. In addition to the lectures, there were 15 workshops on different topics. Parallel visiting tours to eight companies were also held during the conference days.

We had the pleasure of hosting region 8 SAC chair, Dr. Gozde Bozdagi. She talked about IEEE related activities and membership benefits. The meeting had more than 300 attendees. It should be mentioned that during the conference a great deal of effort was done by Sharif University of Technology Student Branch to familiarize students with IEEE activities and recruit new IEEE student members throughout Iran. Our attempt resulted in the formation of about 15 new student branches.

Organizing ISCEE was a great step toward establishing cooperation among fellow students in the country so we hope to witness similar joint student conferences among Region 8 student branches in the near future.

*Mahmoud H Tajari  
Chairman  
Sharif University IEEE SB*

## Student Branch Passau Workshop

At the 6th and 7th of February '99, the IEEE SB Passau Web Workshop took place at the building of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Passau, Germany.

After a welcome speech from our counselor Prof. Dr. W. Hahn, the participants of the workshop were able to listen to a full two-day conference programme of 14 lectures. The lectures covered a lot of technical aspects of the World Wide Web, starting with introductory courses on HTML, web programming with Java and JavaScript, up to an overview talk concerning XML. A lecture about legal aspects of e-commerce, several company talks and three lectures on technical and design issues of web-site layout tried to show interdisciplinary aspects of the WWW.

As this was the first Student Branch Workshop after nearly half a decade, the whole organization of the event was a very exciting time for all members of the Student

Branch (actually, sleepless as well ;-)). For each of the 130 participants of the Workshop, a booklet of 110 pages was printed, each participant got a CDROM with additional material e.g. shareware versions of software mentioned in the talks, documentation and the electronic version of the booklet. A completely new challenge for us was the active search for sponsors and we were lucky to find several large companies in the area of computer science, office material, consumer electronics and food that added to the success of the workshop. Last but not least, we would like to express our gratitude to the German section of IEEE, which made the workshop possible through a very generous donation.

*Gerald Anleitner  
Chair IEEE Student Branch Passau  
(g.anleitner@ieee.org)  
Visit our web-site at  
<http://ieee.students.uni-passau.de/>*

## Bochum's 10th Anniversary

To celebrate the 10th birthday of the student branch in Bochum, its board invited prominent IEEE executives, former board members and the many IEEE student branches in Region 8 to come over. On the 3rd of February '99 the festivities started off with an official opening by the chair, Oliver Keitmann, at the Kulturcafé of the university. The Region 8 Director, Dr. Rolf Remshardt, explained his satisfaction with the fact that so many people volunteer to work for the Branches and IEEE. Of course we were very honoured that he also mentioned our branch, SB Eindhoven, as a good example of what student branches can accomplish. Besides his nice words, he handed Oliver a plaque, sent by IEEE USA, to congratulate the branch. Dr. Francesco Volpe, the first chair of the Bochum Branch, was the next speaker. Together with the counselor, Prof. Florian Haberey, he founded the branch on the 20th of February 1989.

Our branch was present with a delegation of 9 persons to congratulate our German colleagues. Mathijs Visser, our vice chair, held a speech in which he explained the strong friendship between our branches. The good relations between the two branches



started in February 1997 when they first met on the "#IEEE" IRC-channel. The Eindhoven chair, Alwin Groot Bluemink, presented Oliver with a collage of the many visits and joint activities that followed. After this, we all toasted with champagne and started a nice buffet.

Congratulations Student Branch Bochum, we hope to meet you all at our 20th anniversary in 2000!

*Alwin Groot Bluemink  
Chair IEEE Student Branch Eindhoven*

## New Branch in Jordan

First of all I say hi to every IEEE member and specially the students and say that I am really very happy and proud about having a new student branch in our university; that is the UJB (University of Jordan Branch). This university is the largest & oldest university in Jordan -founded in 1962- with about 23000 students.

I have been a student member for more than two years and dreamed about this day to establish a branch in our university, which I believe will be one of the most active branches in the region. In fact we started work from the first day and we put up some plans and objectives during this year. Until now, we organized some activities such as several meetings to introduce the idea behind the IEEE & the Branch. Useful information was presented, graduation project presentations by the graduated students had been organized and a number of courses of computer programming languages have been given to provide the students with extra knowledge for their academic careers and other activities with the "learn & have fun" objective have taken place. Also we have in the branch several groups to help with performing the different activities.

We, as a still new branch, need the experience and the support, which I believe the other older members will no doubt be prepared to share with us. It is our pleasure and wish to build good relations with them.

*Feras M Diab  
Secretary SB  
University Of Jordan  
ieee@fet.ju.edu.jo*

## Beirut SB Activities

The IEEE student branch at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, has already accomplished two major events besides the opening reception in the beginning of the academic year. The Internet rally organized by the branch took place on Wednesday December 23, 1998. The participants in this event were IEEE members and non-members. The IEEE members benefited of a reduced application fee. A special web-program and a logo were created for the event. The game consisted of passing ten stages in an allotted time of 3 hours. All groups benefited from the Pentium 200 MMX computers offered by the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture of the American University of Beirut. There were seven groups with 3 to 5 participants per group. The winning group, Victory, won a prize of US\$300.

The second event was a five-day seminar during the week of 22 to 26 February, 1999. The first day covered the topic of E-commerce and was presented by Mr. Khaled Chebat, technical manager at New Horizons, Beirut. The second day was hosted by Mr. Wassim Tabbarah and dealt with computer piracy, Internet security and hackers. The third day was dedicated to digital TV covering the 4:2:2 baseband format, the MPEG2, satellite transmission formats, and digital terrestrial broadcast. These sessions were hosted by Mr. Nassim Boustany, Director of Engineering at the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation International (LBCI), Lebanon. The fourth day was dedicated to the provi-

sion of electricity in Lebanon and was presented by Mr. Chafic Bou Said, research director at "Electricite du Liban". The topic of the last day was on Internet Agents, their characteristics, types, problems with security, and applications. Miss Rita Wouhaybi, Inconet corporate engineer, shed light on the subject. The average attendance was about 150 persons per day, professionals and students, including IEEE members.

*Chady Zein  
IEEE Student Branch Secretary  
AUB, Lebanon*

## New Branch in Saudi Arabia

In October 1998 the IEEE approved the formation of an IEEE Student Branch at King Saud University (KSU), and on February 23, 1999 (after the Ramadan Holidays) the first meeting of the student branch was held. The IEEE student members elected the branch officers for the current year.

KSU is the largest university in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It was founded in 1957 and has an enrollment of over forty five thousand students. The main campus of KSU is located in Riyadh and it has two other campuses in the middle (Qassim) and southwest (Abha) regions of the Kingdom.

For more information please contact the IEEE KSU branch.

*e-mail : ieeesb@ksu.edu.sa  
Roshdy AbolAzayem, Associate Professor  
and  
IEEE Faculty Advisor  
<e-mail: roshdy@ksu.edu.sa> ♦*

## DEADLINES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| June 4     | The IEEE Industry Application Society: Myron Z Undergraduate Student Design Awards deadline. For more information see: <a href="http://www.electrostandards.com/zucker.htm">http://www.electrostandards.com/zucker.htm</a> |
| July 12-16 | Student Paper Contest Finals will be held at the ISIE '99 in Bled, Slovenia.   |
| August 1   | Fall Promotional Mailing sent to all Branch Counselors. So, after the usual mail delay (4—6 weeks) check with your counselor whether that stuff has arrived.   |
| August 15  | Rebate Checks will be sent if the Annual Report of Activities has been received by headquarters in time (deadline May 1).  |

If you want \*your\* local student branch activity listed here, just drop us an email.