



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

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

Elections - Region 8 Director Elect Candidates' Statements

LEVENT ONURAL



During my IEEE activities, it has been my experience that Region 8 (R8) is not represented adequately at top level IEEE bodies to the extent we deserve.

My primary goal is

to have more R8 volunteers appointed to central IEEE boards. Most of the member services are inconvenient for us in R8. Therefore, my second goal will be to get concrete results for improved service. My third goal will be at least preserve, and probably to advance the admired status of IEEE, and IEEE membership.

I believe that IEEE members in R8 do not get their fair share in prestigious IEEE awards. I will promote the award nominations procedure in R8 so that more R8 members will get the recognition they deserve.

Although IEEE is pretty successful in globalization, the achieved level is far from satisfactory, yet. Improving the links among our members worldwide is another challenge that I am willing to take up.

It will be my highest priority to seek the support and involvement of IEEE volunteers in R8 in achieving the goals above.

Remember, this is YOUR IEEE ...

*Levent Onural,
Candidate for R8 Director-elect*

BALDOMIR ZAJC



Long experience in the IEEE and extra time in 2001, after my retirement, encouraged me to run for the candidacy for the IEEE Region 8 Director.

If elected, I will endeavor that the many excellent IEEE Services will be more readily available to members for furthering productive, rewarding careers. Regional conferences Eurocon, Melecon, Africon should include, besides excellent Technical Programs, also "Integrated IEEE Services" such as Continuing Education, Society Programs via Chapters, Student Activity and Membership Development, on the spot among conference participants. I will encourage various projects among the Sections (neighboring in clusters, use of video-conferencing to bridge the distances, experienced Sections aiding less experienced ones). New Sections will thus feel more comfortable and will quickly adopt IEEE best practices; the experienced ones

will be exposed to new ideas and challenges. Such co-operation mechanisms will automatically also include the Middle East and Africa Sections. These projects will demand the IEEE Services support, too. Concrete response to meeting these needs will be determined by members looking for improvement.

Expanded Region 8 representation in IEEE Boards, awards for prominent engineers and globalization will be some of my permanent concerns.

*Baldomir Zajc
b.zajc@ieee.org*

INSIDE

Sections Congress 1999 ..	2
News From IEEE	3
Section News	4
Membership Development News	4
Society and Chapter News	5
Region 8 Committee Meets in Berlin, Germany	5
Awards	6
Region 8 Student Branch Granted AT&T Awards ...	6
Volunteer Service	7
The R8 News - From Me To You	7
Conferences	8
Nominating an IEEE Fellow	11
Electrical Engineering Milestones	12
Student News	13-16

Guest Editorial

Technical Activities Board (TAB), Divisions and Societies

The technical entities are comprised of 334,811 IEEE memberships, 388,029 Society memberships, 36 Societies, 2 Technical Councils, 10 Divisions and 1144 Chapters (Dec 1998 figures). The Societies

are grouped in 10 Divisions. The Society Presidents and Division Directors sit on TAB. The TAB mission statement is, "To promote and facilitate the technical activities of the IEEE, and to represent the interests of all IEEE Societies and Technical

continued on page 2

Guest Editorial *continued*

Councils within the IEEE." The Objectives of TAB are:

- ♦ TAB must encourage the development of new opportunities for production and delivery of intellectual property products.
- ♦ TAB must offer increased value and awareness to attract and retain students, recent graduates and young professionals.
- ♦ TAB must define what Globalization means to technical activities.
- ♦ TAB will identify and provide a welcoming environment for technologies, either new or new to the IEEE.
- ♦ Chapters need stronger involvement with and support from the IEEE Societies.
- ♦ Increase perceived value of IEEE membership to industrial researchers and engineers.
- ♦ Work towards improving the image of electrotechnologists as viewed by the public at large.
- ♦ Develop leaders for TAB.

These are the facts - Division IV (Electromagnetics & Radiation) consists of 7 Societies (Antennas & Propagation, Broadcast Technologies, Consumer Electronics, Electromagnetic Compatibility, Magnetics, Microwave Theory and Techniques and Nuclear & Plasma Sciences.) The Societies operate in a very similar way. All are working to increase membership, grow conferences, create specific standards, and expand technical publications. Most of the Societies have web pages and offer their members web access for everything. When the Society Presidents meet at TAB they work together on the TAB initiatives. They also work on special TAB focus issues. We as Division IV are working to expand chapter growth and support by the Societies. We have initiatives in place to organize Joint Chapters with Division I societies. This is in place in Region 8 and is now beginning in Region 10. In fact on September 12, 1999 in Leuven, Brussels Division I and IV Chapters will meet together as they did last year. "Joint Chapters" are supported by the Societies as well as the Regions and Sections. It is working together for the member.

My visits to many Society ADCOMs this year confirm so many efforts to Globalize and increase membership. This is also what was seen during the Region 8 meeting in Berlin in May 1999. So many of the TAB and RAB concerns and thrusts are common. As a member of the RAB/TAB Transnational committee last year and the RAB/TAB Section & Chapter Support Committee this year I was and am very much involved in Chapter creation and Chapter rejuvenation when required. We, TAB & Div. IV, are all very concerned about training leaders and volunteers and how to better serve our members. In fact I solicit all ideas for the purpose of helping the various entities better serve the member. There is a working group within RAB/TAB Section & Support Committee which I am a member is working on this very topic. The cooperation we all work for is a lot better than it was and is really getting better everyday. We and thee are the reasons. ♦

*Bill Gjertson,
Division IV Director
w.gjertson@ieee.org*

Sections Congress 1999

MINNEAPOLIS IN OCTOBER

The IEEE Sections Congress 1999 is scheduled for 8-11 October 1999 at the Minneapolis Hilton & Towers in Minneapolis, Minn., USA. Workshop and tutorial sessions will be held on section operations, section activities and the technical and professional aspects of the IEEE. The Congress is the one major meeting sponsored by the IEEE, which brings together the Institute's grass-roots leadership, so that they can share ideas, concerns and solutions. Sections Congress 1999 registration packets have been distributed to section chairs, region directors, society presidents, IEEE offices, and the major boards. These packets include information about the program, registration forms for the program, and a separate form for the hotel registration. Registration information also is available on the Web (<http://www.ieee.org/ra/sc99>)

or via e-mail to sc-coordinator@ieee.org. For information contact Paula Dunne - IEEE Technical Activities - telephone +1.732.562.3919; fax +1.732.981.1769; E-mail: p.dunne@ieee.org.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BERLIN FOCUS GROUPS

At the Region 8 Committee meeting held in Berlin May 8/9th 1999 five Focus Groups discussed ten issues identified by Section Chairs as being most relevant to the membership in our Region. The outcomes of these discussions are listed below as a set of recommendations and proposals to be followed up by action at Region and Section level. In October, at the IEEE Sections Congress in Minneapolis, the representatives from Region 8 will be raising these issues and sharing their concerns with IEEE members from other

Regions. More details can be found in the July Electronic Bulletin on the Region 8 Homepage. Any comments that readers of the Newsletter may wish to add should be sent to c.turner@ieee.org

- ♦ Industry Relations
- ♦ National Society Partnerships
- ♦ Section Management
- ♦ Electronic Publishing and Communications for IEEE members
- ♦ Chapter / Section Support
- ♦ IEEE Database Problems
- ♦ Member Benefits
- ♦ Membership Development at IEEE Conferences
- ♦ Recruitment of Volunteers
- ♦ Women in Engineering

*Charles Turner
c.turner@ieee.org*

News From IEEE

Taken from the IEEE Leadership Wire for April, May and June 1999.

IEEE SEEKS THIRD MILLENNIUM MEDAL NOMINEES

Nominations are now open for Third Millennium Medals for members who have been selected by their societies, sections and major boards for outstanding contributions. Third Millennium Medals are the first IEEE-wide medals program since Centennial Medals were presented during the IEEE's 100th anniversary year in 1984. A total of 3,000 Millennium Medals, up from 1,984 medals in 1984, are allotted among societies, sections and boards.

Each society selects recipients for outstanding contributions to that society or its area of technology. Each section selects recipients for outstanding contributions to the section, the chapter or community. Each major board selection will be based on outstanding contributions to that particular board. Each society and section is urged to include a GOLD member among its nominees where possible.

Nominees' names must be received no later than 1 October. Procedures for nominating and awarding IEEE Third Millennium Medals have been sent to all society presidents, section chairs and board vice presidents. But it can also be obtained by sending a message to mmedals@ieee.org. The IEEE Millennium Medal nomination form is available via auto-retrievable file by sending a message to mmedalsnom.txt@ieee.org. It is not necessary to enter any text in the body of your message (unless your software requires you to do so). Upon sending the message, the file should be forwarded to you within a matter of minutes.

Each entity should complete and forward the nomination form to IEEE Awards/Fellow Activities by e-mail (as an attached file) - mmedals@ieee.org; by fax +1.732.981.9019 or mail to: IEEE Millennium

Medals, IEEE Awards/Fellow Activities, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331 USA. In mid November, the 2000 IEEE president will advise entities which nominees will receive an IEEE Millennium Medal and will notify awardees, indicating the entity that nominated them. Medals and certificates for the recipients will be forwarded by IEEE

Awards/Fellow Activities. By mid December, each entity must designate a meeting during the year 2000 at which its Millennium Medal recipients will be honored.

BORDOGNA CONFIRMED AS NSF DEPUTY DIRECTOR

IEEE Past President Joe Bordogna was confirmed 6 May as deputy director of the US National Science Foundation.

GRANTS FOR IEEE STUDENT BRANCHES

The IEEE Foundation has provided \$50,000 and the Life Members Committee \$25,000, to help establish Student Branch Centers in Regions 1-10 in 1999. This program has been developed to encourage more electrical and computer engineering students to join Student Branches worldwide.

Student Branch Centers of Excellence will serve as visible evidence of the exciting world of electrical and computer engineering, a central location for Branch activities and a resource center on college campuses.

To apply for a grant, a business plan must be developed by students, with the help and support of their university (the university should provide the space on campus), their department chair and the IEEE Student Branch Counselor. Proposals are due 15 August 1999. Section support of Student Branch efforts is strongly encouraged. Visit <http://www.ieee.org/sac> for complete program details.

NEW CAREER COLUMN ADDED TO IEEE WEB SITE

Educational Activities has added a career advice column to their Web site at <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/>. Each month, Greg Hutchins, PE and author of "Working It: The Rules Have Changed," will give a different insight on how working professionals can thrive and prosper in the post-Dilbert work world. Light-hearted and humorous in tone, the column

will address such issues as finding satisfaction in work, making moves in a company, and the ever-changing work environment. In the current column, "Work Rules," Hutchins introduces both himself and the column's content. For the July column, Hutchins will discuss "Weird Data and Stuff." For more information, contact Christy Bouziotis at c.bouziotis@ieee.org.

WEB APPLICATIONS

The online membership application continues to be very popular with prospective members. In May, 7,274 Web applications (1,708 student and 5,566 higher grade) were received. This was a 30 percent increase over the same period in 1998.

While higher-grade applications are up 19.4 percent, student Web applications have increased a remarkable 82.7 percent over May 1998.

The growth in student Web applications is being driven by increases in the number of IEEE student branches registered for the program - 124 as of May. Forty new student branches registered between January and May, twice the number that registered in the same period last year. If this pace continues, the IEEE will have 250 student branches participating by 2000.

Ankara University in Turkey is an example of the Web application's popularity. The school registered for the program at 4 p.m. and by the next morning, there were 18 new student applications waiting to be processed. ♦



IEEE President Elect, Bruce Eisenstein (right), about to sign a Cooperation Agreement with the Iranian Association of Electrical Engineers, represented by Dr. Ghafoori-Fard (left), President of the IAIEE and Chair of the Iran Section

Section News

FRANCE

The Section Annual Meeting was scheduled on Tuesday, June 1, 6.30 p m in Paris. The Section elections took place during that meeting. Dr. Jean-Gabriel REMY (jean-gabriel.remy@mail1.sfr.fr) is the new Section Chair, and Prof. Victor Fouad Hanna (victor.fouad@lis.jussieu.fr) is the new Treasurer. Other functions will be finalized before the next board meeting in September.

During the evening after the Section meeting, M. Gerard THERY, head of the Mission "Passage Informatique a l'An 2000" gave a talk entitled "The 2000 bug: 6 months before the truth-hour".

The new composition of the France Section is or will be soon on the France-Section Web.

Future Events

The French MTT&ED Chapter organizes a workshop on the topic "New Semiconductor Materials for Microwave and Telecommunication" in Saint Malo, France, on November 18-19, 1999. Inf. Prof. Daniel Pasquet, pasquet@ensea.fr Prof Pasquet is the new Chapter Chair.

The IEEE Computer Society and PAMI TC is organizing the 4th Int. Conf. On Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition (FG'2000) in Grenoble, March 26-30, 2000. Inf. Prof. Jim Crowley, James.Crowley@inrialpes.fr, <http://www-prima.imag.fr/FG2000/>. Paper submission deadline: October 1, 1999

LES ANCIENS DE LA RADIO ET DE L'ELECTRONIQUE invites you to their next evening lectures, always at 5

p.m. at the headquarters of the FIEEC, 17 rue Hamelin, 75 116 Paris, followed by a cocktail:

- ♦ June 15th, 1999 "Technology to assist the history of arts", by Maurice BERNARD, Ingenieur general des Telecommunications, Hon. Dir. of Laboratoire des Musees de France ;
- ♦ October 19th, 1999 "Towards extremely high data rates, why and how", by Jean JERPHAGNON, Alcatel ;
- ♦ November 16th, 1999 "Low orbiting satellites for telecommunications - one example: Skybridge", by Joelle THOULOUSE-COQUET, Armament Chief-Engineer, Alcatel Space Industrie. •

Christine Nora

e-mail:

christine.nora@admp6.jussieu.fr

ISRAEL

Membership Development

From the beginning of 1998 to March 1999 the number of active members increased from 1280 to 1609, nearly 26% in a little over a year. During this period about 140 members were nominated for Senior Members by the section. We currently have 230 senior members, about 14% of all IEEE members in Israel. This year 5 IEEE members were elected IEEE Fellows. Currently we have 45 Fellows, which is about 3% of the membership.

Major IEEE Conferences in Israel

- MELECON, May 1998.
- IEEE High Order Statistics Workshop, June 1999, Ceasarea.
- IEEE Mediterranean Conf. on Control and Automation, June 1999, Haifa.
- INFOCOM, March 2000.
- Conf. of Electrical and Electronics Eng. in Israel. April 2000.
- VTS CONFERENCE. March 2001.

Election Results

The term of the current Section Executive Committee will end on June 30, 1999. The new committee includes:

Prof. Ady Seidman - *Section Chair*,
Prof. Simon Litsyn - *Section Secretary*,
Dr. Ady Arie - *Section Treasurer*.

We wish them every success.

Miscellaneous

The May 1998 issue of Spectrum included 4 articles about the Hi-Tech industry in Israel. A project initiated by the Section.

The section is now using the efficient and inexpensive method of a list server to distribute information via electronic mail to its members.

The agreement between IEEE and the local engineers' organization (AEAI) was signed. The agreement provides, among other things, discount in membership fees for members of both organizations. ♦

Anthony J. Weiss, Chairman

email: ajw@eng.tau.ac.il

AJ.Weiss@ieee.org

Membership Development News

Plans are in hand to hold the 1999 Region 8 Membership Development Workshop in Cyprus in September. The suggested dates are Friday September 24 to Sunday September 26, 1999 in order to avoid overlapping with AFRICON (September 29 to October 1, 1999) and the IEEE Sections Congress in Minneapolis (October 8-11, 1999).

It is my sincere hope, that we can attract 10-12 MD representatives from Sections in the Mediterranean Area and the Middle East (Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Egypt, France, Germany, Kuwait, Poland, Rep. of Macedonia, Romania, South Africa, Saudi Arabia West, UAE, Ukraine).

The intention is to give the MD

Representatives, who did not have the opportunity within the last two years to meet with and to exchange experiences with colleagues from other sections to do so. In the agenda for the meeting will be included presentations on Membership Statistics, Recruitment, Retention, and Recovery, the advantages and disadvantages of the SAMIEEE Database - how to

use it and improve it, the GOLD program, and Electronic Communication.

Presentations will be given by Christian Borgert, Florian Haberey, Raul Vidal, and myself. Additionally, it is my intention to invite one representative from IEEE Headquarters (Staff Director Jill Berman Levy came to the 1998 MD workshop in Budapest).

Travel expenses will be paid by the Sections. I will reserve some funding for travel expenses for participants from "needy" Sections. ♦

Peer Martin Larsen
plarsen.ieee@get2net.dk

Society and Chapter News

Poland

A Control Systems Society Chapter of the Poland Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 18 May 1999. The Interim Chapter Chair is Prof. Lukasz Stettner, Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Mathematics, Sniadeckich 8, Warsaw 00-950 Poland.

Russia

In a recent Chapter status change, a Joint Chapter for Broadcast Technology and

Communications has been formed. The announcement date is 14 April 1999.

Dmitry A. Tkachenko
E-mail: ppdtkach@dux.ru
Web: <http://www-2net.stu.neva.ru/RADIOENG/tkachenko.html>

Address for correspondence:

Dmitry A. Tkachenko
Do vostrebovaniya
194017 St.Petersburg, Russia ♦

Region 8 Committee Meets in Berlin, Germany

The Germany Section played host to the Region 8 Committee Meeting in Berlin from 7-10 May 1999 at the Hotel Estrel, situated in what was until recently East Berlin. These twice-yearly meetings afford the various Section Chairs and appointed representatives the opportunity to bring the views of the members of our extensive and diverse Region to the attention of the Region 8 office bearers. They in turn bring matters to the attention of the IEEE executive members and the staff at IEEE Headquarters in Piscataway, as appropriate. In this way members can be assured that their opinions and concerns are noted, and where possible, acted upon.

As is customary at such meetings, several of the IEEE Office Bearers attended this meeting. This august group included Bruce Eisenstein, President-Elect of the IEEE, Dan Benigni, Vice-President, Regional Activities, Ted Hissey, Director Emeritus, Bill Gjertson, Division IV Director, Joel Snyder, Election Candidate and Career Activities Committee, Juan Miguez, Director Region 9, Tom Cain, Art Winston and Jerry Yeargan, Accreditation Workshop Presenters. Most of the group are old and valued friends of Region 8.

Because of the large amount of Region 8 business to be conducted at the twice-yearly meetings, committee members unfortunately have very little time to sight-

see. To make up for this, the Germany Section with the support of the *Berliner Elektrizitätswerke Aktiengesellschaft* (BEWAG), arranged a two hour bus tour of what used to be East and West Berlin for the late afternoon of 8 May 1999, followed by a cocktail party, held at the Power Station Moabit. Director Dr. Klaus Bechtold, a member of the BEWAG Board of Directors (*Mitglied des Vorstandes*), was our host on this auspicious occasion. He briefly sketched the history of BEWAG, and the roll that it was playing in the redevelopment of the newly united Berlin. The achievements to date have been most impressive. A poignant touch was the commemoration of the Berlin airlift at the same time as the Region 8 meeting. A major portion of the supplies airlifted in was coal for power stations to keep the electrical services intact for West Berlin. Director Rolf Remshardt thanked Dr. Bechtold and BEWAG for their gracious hospitality.

On Monday 10 May 1999, the Region 8 Committee members were invited to attend the meeting of the Germany Section. The enthusiasm and dedication that these volunteers, under the able guidance of Rolf Jansen, Chair of the Germany Section, brought to their IEEE activities were most gratifying to see.

This meeting was followed in turn by a workshop on Accreditation. The Accreditation Board for Engineering and



Dr. Klaus Bechtold of BEWAG welcomes Region 8 Committee to Berlin

Technology (ABET) model in the USA was used as an example for discussion purposes. The presenters were Arthur Winston, Jerry Yeargan, and Tom Cain.

With the scene set, Adolf Schwab described the experience of the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Karlsruhe, in applying for Accreditation. It is clear that engineering educators face new challenges with regards to the quality of education, and the manner in which they themselves will be assessed. More information on ABET can be found on the website <http://www.abet.org/>.

On behalf of the Region 8 Committee the R8News thanks the Germany Section, Herr Dr. Bechtold, and BEWAG for making its visit to Berlin, the traditional capital of Germany, such a memorable occasion. ♦

Awards

Awards presented at the Region 8 Committee Meeting in Berlin, May 1999.

At the recent Region 8 Committee Meeting in Berlin, a number of presentations of various IEEE awards were made to deserving colleagues. Unfortunately not all the colleagues were present. It was also announced that the Egypt Section was the winner of the Senior Member Contest launched by Maurice Papo (Past Director of Region 8 during 1998), and that the Turkey Section celebrates its 10th anniversary during 1999. A suitable function to mark the occasion is to be arranged by the Turkey Section.

- 1) Regional Activities Board (RAB) Achievement Awards were made to Zbigniew Ciok, and Zbigniew H. Czyz, both from the Poland Section. Details were published in the May 1999 issue of the Region 8 News.
- 2) The RAB Section Membership Growth award for 1998 was made to the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section. The award was presented to Roland Saam as Section Chair.
- 3) The RAB Sustained Section Growth



Charles Turner (right) after being awarded with Honorary Membership of the Russian Popov Society by Henrich Lantsberg (left), acting on behalf of the Society.

- Award for 1998 was made to the Russia Section, and received on its behalf by the Vice-Chair, Henrich Lantsberg.
- 4) A Certificate of Recognition was presented to G.H. (Mick) Byford for his 13 years as Editor of the Region 8 News, and for the improvements made to the Newsletter during this time.
- 5) Charles W. Turner was presented with a Diploma by Henrich Lantsberg to mark his election as an honorary member of the esteemed Popov Society in Russia.
- 6) The Larry K. Wilson Award was made to Ali Shahroki, the past student Chapter Chair at Teheran. The award was accepted on his behalf by Hassan Ghafoori-

Fard, the Chair of the Iran Section.

- 7) The Student Branch Award for 1998 was made to the University of Teheran Branch, and accepted on its behalf also by Hassan Ghafoori-Fard.
- 8) AT&T Awards were presented by Levent Onural to the Cairo University Student Branch, and the Madrid ETSIT Student Branch. The awards were accepted on behalf of the Student Branches by, A.Y. Bilal, Egypt Section Chair, and M. Salazar-Palma, Spain Section Chair, respectively.
- 9) The RAB Student Branch Membership Growth Award for 1998 was made to the University of Ljubljana. It was presented by the Vice-President of Regional Activities, Daniel R. Benigni, and accepted on behalf of the Student Branch by Baldomir Zajc.

Other Awards

Henrich Lantsberg, Vice-Chair of the Russia Section, was awarded a plaque by the IEEE Engineering Management Society in recognition and appreciation of valued services and contributions as organizer of the EMS Russia Chapter. ♦

Region 8 Student Branch Granted AT&T Awards

It is a great pleasure for me to tell you about one of the best outcomes of the outstanding student activities in our Region during this year:

For the first time ever, not only one but two of our Student Branches have secured two of the 1998-99 AT&T Labs Student Enterprise Awards (there were 4 additional winners, 1 from Region 4, 1 from Region 6, and also 2 from Region 9).

The AT&T Labs Award competition provides the opportunity for IEEE Student members to work as a team on an engineering project, and through this cooperative effort, to strengthen IEEE Student Branch programs. Topics may be of a technical or non-technical nature, ranging from research on state-of-the-art technology to community



Levent Onural (right) presents the AT&T Award to AY Bilal (Chair of the Egypt Section, left) for the Cairo University Student Branch while Gozde Bozdagi (centre) looks on.

service programs. The Award provides funding for the project, up to US\$1,000, and is sponsored by the AT&T Foundation. The judging criteria takes into account the report itself, the prior thought and research, the

subject being considered and its benefits.

The R8 Student Branches which qualified for the Awards are: Cairo University (Egypt), with a proposal entitled "CMOS Mixed Digital/Analog Current-Mode Self-Organizing Neural Pattern Classifier;" and ETSIT in the Technical University of Madrid (Spain), with a proposal entitled "Versatile and Autonomous Programmable Logic Training Board."

This is the kind of work that makes Region 8 proud to have student branches like ours. Students are our future, and they are showing how capable they are to handle it!

Keep up the great work, best things are still to come! ♦

*Javier Macias-Guarasa
j.macias@ieee.org*

Volunteer Service - "Apathy is not an option"

Note from the Editor: Many professional societies, including the IEEE, rely heavily on volunteer service. In fact it is the very lifeblood of a successful professional society. This timely note from Bill Gjertson, the Director of Division IV, reminds us how important this is. To quote my colleague, Ian Craig, "Apathy is not an option."

Many of us IEEE volunteers are always looking for ways to increase membership, and then also to increase the volunteer activities of the volunteers themselves. So often I find myself trying to devise some mechanism to encourage the participation in some activity or other by MORE volunteers. I guess that is natural. Today I wish that all of us would note and recognize the efforts of the many volunteers who are always doing more for the IEEE. Yes, there are many volunteers we encounter each day and at each meeting, who are giving their best to IEEE activities and its initiatives.

We should never overlook them and we don't in many ways as we give awards to a select number of them. The top IEEE example is the IEEE Awards Ceremony which was held here in Region 8 (London!) on June 12, 1999. Also most of our Sections, Chapters and Societies give awards and recognition to their volunteers.

This is all very necessary. But in so doing let us not forget that there are countless other volunteers that do not get awards who are really contributing to the IEEE and its members.

I was given an opportunity to see many of these dedicated members at work at the Region 8 meetings in Berlin on May 7-11, 1999. I attended the meetings as a TAB representative to the Region 8 and was very impressed to see the enthusiasm and camaraderie of such diverse engineers and individuals. The brainstorming and Focus Group activities preparing for the Sections Congress in Minneapolis in October and

the next Region 8 meetings was an unforgettable experience. To see these intelligent, educated and motivated IEEE volunteers at work for the IEEE was stimulating and should encourage us all to volunteer still more, but never to forget the efforts of the existing volunteers. We need to take 5 minutes, close our eyes and to repeat to ourselves the names of those volunteers, who we know who are really contributing. Then we need to tell them so the next time we see them.

Let us get more volunteers but let us never forget the volunteers who are there today making it happen for the IEEE, and for you, the members. I note that Region 8 has many such volunteers and is very proud of them. Keep it up. Thank you all for the opportunity to give my comments. ♦

*Bill Gjertson
Director, Division IV
w.gjertson@ieee.org*

The R8news - From Me to You

So just how does the R8News get from the southern tip of Africa to you, the Region 8 Member?

Long before my time as editor, the Region 8 Committee decided it needed some means of reaching its members in order to advise them of developments within IEEE, Region 8 itself, and to keep them up to date on activities of possible interest. I only know my predecessor, Mick Byford, who did a sterling job over many years in the face of ever increasing publication and distribution costs. Finally last year a window of opportunity presented itself. Investigations by our previous Director, Maurice Papo, suggested that substantial savings could be made, by having the R8News printed in the USA by IEEE, and having it distributed with the IEEE Spectrum.

After negotiations with IEEE, and some gentle arm twisting by Maurice Papo and Rolf Remshardt, the current Director, I was persuaded to take on the task as

Mick Byford's successor. Mick's legacy to me was some very valuable advice, and an almost complete set of material for the first R8News of the new series, which appeared, after foreshortening deadlines, in August 1998.

Material reaches me by fax, e-mail and ordinary mail. Fax and ordinary mail may require retyping, or occasionally I can scan the material in and use optical character recognition. E-mail is at once a blessing and a curse. A blessing because I receive the material in electronic form, which is relatively error free. Problems do sometimes arise with cutting and pasting during editing, however. A curse, because it leaves me wide open to some of the latest viruses. Hopefully that is in the past. After the disastrous episode with the Melissa virus, where it somehow entered my system at home and at work within 24 hours of the warning being issued by various companies working on Anti-Virus protection, I now regu-

larly download an update on my Anti-Virus programme.

In order to stay compatible with IEEE at Piscataway, I use MSWORD97 for word-processing. Yes, I know, WINDOWS!!! Generally it works pretty well, and I can pull in a fair range of different wordprocessor formats. Sometimes however the e-mail coding lands me with something, which is totally indecipherable, and I have to ask the author to send it to me again in ASCII. Now that has ALWAYS worked, and is my fallback option. So far, so good.

Around the deadline dates I get a flurry of e-mail. All of the material earmarked for a specific issue of the R8News, or the monthly electronic bulletin, is carefully filed ready for editing. Editing consists of sorting the material into appropriate batches, setting publication priorities, and tidying up the worst grammatical errors. I am loath to do too much in the grammar department as I

continued on page 8

The R8news *continued*

think one of the interesting things, from my point of view, is to see how members from different countries and different backgrounds bring their own special style to the material they submit. Photos are scanned in and stored in JPEG format.

Now comes the crunch. I wait for when I have a good connection for my dial-up modem, and then send all the edited material and photographs to Bob Smrek and Robin Edwards at IEEE Publications in Piscataway, New Jersey, USA by e-mail. This is where the real experts take over. They convert my edited material into the highly readable and pleasing format, which finally reaches you. As editor I of course get a chance to look at the draft, and one last chance to correct MY errors. Since the material is sent in electronic format, and processed electronically, the mistakes are mine, and mine alone. Once final approval is given for publication, the R8News is printed by IEEE and forwarded to the publishers for distribution with IEEE Spectrum.

There are of course a few problems with long leadtimes. However, Bob Smrek has been able to accommodate us by making last minute changes to the layout just before sending the R8News for publication, in order to include urgent material.

This is not the end of the story though. Bob Smrek supplies our Electronic Communications Coordinator, Christian Borgert, with a PDF version of the R8News for placing on the R8 Homepage, where it can be read by anyone with access to the internet, and an Acrobat reader.

However, once you visit the site, you will also find a monthly Electronic Bulletin. The preparation of this Bulletin is very similar to the preparation of the R8News itself, except that the files now get sent to Christian Borgert instead. He then places them on the Homepage for us.

Of course, there are certain things I have not told you. These relate to my own ineptness with MSWORD97 (yes, you guessed it). I have still not found any way

of turning off the hidden font instructions, or macros, which some people seem to use. Please, NO MACROS! They drive me almost as crazy as the fonts, which suddenly change to Greek or Cyrillic script, or the peculiar control characters, which come out of nowhere when I cut and paste.

Well, so there you have it. But remember that I am only the custodian of the R8News on your behalf. It belongs to you the members, and is intended to serve your interests. So please keep your contributions coming. I look forward to hearing from you, and I do genuinely try to acknowledge each and every bit of correspondence from you. Please also make use of your IEEE e-mail aliases. The IEEE server really does help to protect you from computer viruses. ♦

*Duncan Baker
Editor, R8News
duncan.baker@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.ieee.si/r8-conf.html>

CALLS FOR PAPERS

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON EC&E

Education in the Third Millennium (10-15 September 2000)

The subject of EE&C Engineering Education in the future is certainly one of the most important subjects that we - as Engineers and IEEE members - have to deal with, in order to prepare our students and peers for the future.

Therefore the United Engineering Foundation in the US and IEEE have agreed to co-sponsor a Conference on this important subject, to be held for a period of 4 1/2 days in Davos, Switzerland, on 10-15 September 2000. IEEE Region 8, the IEEE Education Board and several IEEE Societies

have already accepted to co-sponsor. We hope to get assistance from Industry and Services Companies worldwide.

The scope of the Conference includes identification of both foreseeable and unforeseen challenges and problems that will impact future EE&C Engineering Education and to propose agendas for finding solutions to these problems and challenges. By addressing all topics, ranging from technological to sociological through interdisciplinary means, this unique Conference will assuredly impact future Engineering Education.

The Conference Co-Chairs are Jacob Baal-Schem (Tel-Aviv University, Israel) and Arthur Winston (Tufts University, USA). M. Papo (France), A. Schwab (Germany) and G. Moschytz (Switzerland) as well as Region 8 Director R.Remshardt, are among the Organizing Committee members.

IEEE members interested in the subject are invited to prepare papers for presenta-

tion or subjects for discussion. A formal Call for Papers will be shortly published (also in the Region 8 Electronic Bulletin).

Additional information will be available on the Foundation website <http://www.uefoundation.org/> and on the Conference website, to be set-up soon.

*J. Baal-Schem - Conference
Co-Chair*

EUROEM 2000, EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

The Organizing Committee has great pleasure in inviting you to submit papers for the EUROEM 2000 conference being held in Edinburgh, Scotland from 30 May - 2 June 2000.

EUROEM 2000 continues the tradition of the EUROEM/AMEREM Conference Series, drawing together the 12th High Power Electromagnetics Conference, the 5th Ultra-Wideband Short Pulse Electromagnetics Conference and the 5th

Unexploded Ordnance Detection and Range Remediation Conference.

Papers are solicited which describe original work suitable for the three conferences comprising EUROEM 2000. The deadline for receipt of abstracts is Friday, 14 January 2000.

Authors are requested to submit a one page abstract, original plus 3 copies in camera-ready format by the deadline date to: EUROEM 2000, Concorde Services Ltd, Suite 325, Pentagon Business Centre, Washington Street, Glasgow G3 8AZ, Scotland, UK. You should specify at the time of submission whether your paper is for HPEM, UWB-SP or UXO and specify a topic (see the full list on the website).

For additional information, and details concerning the submission and publication format, please contact the Conference Secretariat, Concorde Services at (Tel) +44 (0)141 221 5411 or (Fax) +44 (0)141 221 2411 or visit our web site at : <http://www.mcs.dundee.ac.uk:8080/~euroem>

DRPT 2000

International Conference on Electric Utility Deregulation and Restructuring, and Power Technologies 2000 4 - 7 April 2000

Competitive Market and Emerging Technologies in Electricity Industry Service for the Next Millennium

Introduction

Many countries have begun or already have privatized their state-owned energy industry. Privatization involved the entire restructuring of the industry into a competitive market in generation, transmission and distribution and with customers eventually being able to choose between suppliers of electricity.

Owing to the restructuring and privatization of the electricity supply industry, the industry is going through a turbulent competitive, technological and regulatory changes which affect its planning, operation and interfaces to customers. These changes have already taken place in many countries in the world. It is important to identify the effects and impacts of these changes on the planning, cost and reliability of power systems. To this end, an Australian Research Council (ARC) sponsored Workshop on the Emerging Issues and Methods in the Restructuring of the Electric Power

Industry was held in July 1998 at the University of Western Australia.

The present conference DRPT 2000 is an outcome from the above Workshop. DRPT 2000 is organized by City University (London), co-sponsored by IEE (UK) and IEEE (UKRI Section) and financially supported by a number of power utilities and manufacturers, including Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Electricite de France and ABB.

Aims

The aim of this conference is to provide an international forum for the participants to share knowledge, experience and new ideas and future trends in the ongoing process of electric utility deregulation and restructuring. The conference will have a technical focus, 'power delivery technology for a new market', intended to highlight the technology behind the new market brought about by deregulation and restructuring.

Organizer

City University, London, UK

Co-sponsors

The Institution of Electrical Engineers, UK
The Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers Inc.
United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section

Mailing address for all communications

DRPT 2000
c/o Energy Systems Group
City University
Northampton Square
London EC1V 0HB, UK

*Loi Lei Lai
Conference Chairman
l.l.lai@city.ac.uk*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DSP Aspects of Speech Processing

A one-day seminar organized by the IEEE Benelux Signal Processing Chapter and Flanders Languages Valley Education will be held on December 8, 1999 at the Flanders Language Valley Campus, Ieper (Belgium).

Speech processing systems are now ubiquitous. They perform tasks such as speech recognition, speech synthesis,

speech coding, or speech enhancement in a wide variety of applications ranging from telecommunication networks to video games and from car navigation systems to hearing aids. Digital Signal Processing (DSP) techniques are at the heart of these speech processing systems. This one-day seminar is aimed at providing a sample of current DSP research activities in speech processing at universities as well as in industry. Special emphasis will be given to the following topics:

- ♦ speech coding for new communication channels
- ♦ speech processing for man-machine interaction,
- ♦ perceptually-motivated speech signal processing,
- ♦ DSP hardware issues for the implementation of speech processing systems.

In addition, an introduction to speech signal processing techniques will be given by Biing-Hwang Juang (Lucent Technologies Bell Labs), 1999 IEEE Distinguished Lecturer, one of the leading experts in the field.

The seminar will be held on Flanders Language Valley Campus, near Ieper, Belgium, on December 8, 1999.

More detailed information can be found on the seminar web site:

<http://www.esat.kuleuven.ac.be/~moonen/IEEEspeech/>

Inquiries about the seminar should be directed to:
Christophe Couvreur or Filiep Vanpoucke Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products
Koning Albert I laan 64
B-1780 Wommel (BELGIUM)
Tel. +32-2-456.05.00
Fax. +32-2-460.01.72
E-mail: Christophe.Couvreur@lhs.be or Filiep.Vanpoucke@lhs.be

EVENTS DIARY

AFRICON'99

Electrotechnological Services for Africa.

This IEEE Region 8 Conference will be held in Cape Town South Africa from 29

continued on page 10

held in Cape Town South Africa from 29 September 1999 to 1 October 1999. The main sponsors are the IEEE Region 8, the IEEE South Africa Section, the SAIEE, the Cape Technilon, and the FRD.

For more details contact the AFRICON'99 Secretariat:

Tel: (+27 21) 460 3657

Fax: (+27 21) 465 4940

E-mail: africon@norton.ctech.ac.za

MINE'99

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

Conference Chair: Prof. Leonardo Masotti
e-mail: masotti@ingfil.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

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

GNSS

The Third European Symposium on Global Navigation Satellite Systems will be held in Genova, Italy, from 5 to 8 October 1999; see the first announcement and call for papers, with registration form, at <http://iin.doit.it>

PATMOS' 99

The 9th International Workshop on Power and Timing Modeling, Optimization and Simulation.

6-8 October, 1999 is to be held on Kos Island, Greece. Visit our website: <http://www.vlsi.ee.duth.gr/patmos> for details.

TELSIKS'99

The 4th International Conference on Telecommunications in Modern Satellite, Cable and Broadcasting Services TELSISIKS'99 will be held from October 13 through 15 1999, at the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, University of Nis, Yugoslavia. In addition, an exhibition and a workshop

will be organized during the Conference.

Prof. Bratislav Milovanovic

Faculty of Electronic Engineering

Beogradska 14, 18 000 Nis, Yugoslavia

phone: +381 18 529 320

fax: +381 18 46 180

e-mail: bata@elfak.ni.ac.yu

e-mail: info@telsiks.org.yu

Conference web page:

<http://www.telsiks.org.yu/>

EDMO'99

The 7th IEEE International Workshop on High Performance Electron Devices for Microwave & Optoelectronic Applications will be held from 22-23 November 1999, in London, United Kingdom.

Web site: <http://www.eee.kcl.ac.uk/COE/edmo99.html>

ABSTRACT AND PAPER

SUBMISSIONS:

Abstract Due: 10th September 1999

Final Paper Due: 18th October 1999

ORGANISER: The workshop is jointly organised by King's College London and the IEEE UKRI Microwave Theory & Techniques Society, Electron Devices Society, Antennas & Propagation Society and Lasers and Electro-Optics Society (MTT/ED/AP/LEO) Joint Chapter.

It has technical co-sponsorship from the Electron Devices Society, and financial support from the Antennas & Propagation Society and the Lasers and Electro-Optics Society

POWER PLANTS AND POWER SYSTEMS CONTROL 2000

This symposium is the fourth in the continuing series of IFAC sponsored, CIGRE co-sponsored conferences dedicated to the presentation of new developments in the

practical application of methods and advanced technologies for the control of Power Systems and Power Plants. It is to be held in Brussels from 26 April to 29 April 2000. For information contact:

IBRA.BIRA FEDERATION

Rue Ravensteinstraat 3

B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel/Fax: +(32 2) 511 70 04

E-mail: ifac2000@skynet.be

<http://www.fpms.ac.be/~ibra/>

PESC 2000

PESC '00, the 31st IEEE Power Electronics Specialists conference sponsored by the Power Electronics Society, will be held June 18-23, 2000, at the National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland. The deadline for submission of abstracts is September 14, 1999. The call for papers and further information is available at the conference website: <http://pesc00.nuigalway.ie>

ICSD 2001

The IEEE International Conference on Solid Dielectrics (ICSD) will be held in Eindhoven in the Netherlands in 2001. This is a DEIS (Dielectrics and Electrical Insulation Society) sponsored conference.

The chairman and vice-chairman will be respectively Dr. R. Ross and Ir. M.G.M. Megens. Both are employed by KEMA, unit TDP, P.O.Box 9035, 6800 ET Arnhem, The Netherlands.

The likely date of venue will be 25-29 June 2001.

DEADLINES

Material to reach me by the following date:

November 1999 issue -
6 September 1999

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



Editor:

Prof. Duncan C. Baker

PO Box 33406

0010, Glenstantia

Pretoria, South Africa

Tel.: (+27) 12 420 2775;

Fax: (+27) 12 348 5314

E-mail: duncan.baker@ieee.org

LATE CONFERENCE NEWS

The following items were received too late for inclusion in the regular Events Diary:

IMAPS

The IMAPS Nordic 36th Annual Conference Helsinki, Finland 19 - 22 September 1999
<http://www.imapsnordic.a.se/imaps.html>

PEP'99

The Second International IEEE Symposium on Polymeric Electronics Packaging
Gothenburg, Sweden 24 - 28 October 1999
<http://www.ivf.se/elektronik/Ep/Aktivitetsskalender/PEP'99.htm>

ICASSP 2000

ICASSP (International Conference on Acoustic Speech and Signal Processing) will be in Region 8 in year 2000. This flagship conference, sponsored by the IEEE Signal Processing Society will take place in Istanbul, Turkey from Monday, June 5 through Friday, June 9, 2000.

Istanbul-Hilton, the venue for ICASSP2000, and the selected conference hotels are conveniently located in the European part of Istanbul with a view of the Bosphorus, ornamented with palaces, museums, bridges,

boats, countless houses of worship, and other scenic and architectural gems.

Please visit our website frequently for updates and new information: <http://icas-sp2000.sdsu.edu>.

Hüseyin Abut and Levent Onural, General Co-Chairs, ICASSP2000

Deadlines:

Submission of full paper, to be received by - November 12, 1999

Notification of Acceptance - January 24, 2000:

Minimum one author per accepted paper (required) and Early Registration Deadline - February 11, 2000

Last day for Advanced Registration - March 24, 2000

Last day for Guaranteed Room Reservation - March 24, 2000

LATE CHAPTER NEWS

POLAND

The Control Systems Society Chapter of the Poland Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 18 May 1999.

The Acting Chair is:

Prof. Lukasz Stettner
Polish Academy of Sciences
Institute of Mathematics

Sniadeckich 8
Warsaw 00-950 Poland

RUSSIA

The Electron Devices/Microwave Theory and Techniques/Communications/Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology Society joint Chapter of the Russia Section (Novosibirsk) has changed status to include the Solid State Circuits Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 28 June 1999.

The Acting Chair is:

Dr. Boris Y Kapilevich
Urtskogo St.
No. 35 Apt. 29
Novosibirsk 630004 Russia

The Antennas and Propagation/Electron Devices/Microwave Theory and Techniques/Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology Society joint Chapter of the Russia Section (Nizhny Novgorod) has changed status to include the Solid State Circuits Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 28 June 1999.

The Acting Chair is:

Dr. Yuri I. Belov
Radio Physics Res. Inst.
Bol' Shaya Pecherskaya 25
Nizhny Novgorod 603600 Russia ♦

Nominating an IEEE Fellow

Editor's Note: There are many colleagues in Region 8 who are worthy of nomination as Fellow of the IEEE. The nomination process is time consuming. Accordingly I take the liberty of reminding you to start considering nominations by the end of September at the very latest. The deadline of the end of March 2000 is quite strict. If you need guidance, or have any queries, please contact Hans Peek, our Awards and Recognition Coordinator. He may be contacted by e-mail at h.peek@ieee.org, or by mail at Hans B. Peek, Dennenlaan 10, Nuenen 5671 BX, Netherlands. Fax: +31 40 274 4675.

The material is based on an article in IEEE's *THE INSTITUTE*, dated January/February 1994, and information on the IEEE's website.

The IEEE's annual Fellow election process begins in early spring (Northern hemisphere). Any Senior Member is eligible for nomination. The process is begun by the nominator, who fills out the nomination form with details of the candidate's qualifications and achievements. The nominator is also responsible for identifying the candidate's outstanding achievements, the Fellows best qualified to judge the candidate's work, and the Society best able to support the nomination.

Any member, either alone or assisted by others, may nominate a candidate. Candidates must have been members of IEEE in any grade for at least five years before the one in which the election is to take place, but must be Senior Members at the time of election as Fellows. There are

exceptions, as when a Section has been formed only recently; these are specified in the nomination information package. A Senior Member Kit is available from IEEE by sending an email to application.request@ieee.org.

Candidates may come from any field, including academia, government, and industry. Whatever their careers, candidates must have made an outstanding contribution to the electrical and electronics engineering profession. The IEEE Fellow Committee and the IEEE Board of Directors also seek to recognize practitioners whose work cannot be published because of its proprietary nature, but has tangible results in the form of products,

continued on page 12

Nominating an IEEE Fellow *continued*

systems, and their applications, facilities, or services created.

Upon completing the nomination form, the nominator must contact at least five references capable of assessing the candidate's contributions. The references must be IEEE Fellows, except in Regions 8, 9, and 10, where they may be Senior Members. The references cannot be members of the IEEE's Board of Directors, the Fellow Committee, the Society evaluating committee, or the headquarters staff.

The nominator's final task is to choose one Society in the IEEE whose evaluating committee will assess the candidate's technical qualifications and contributions. This choice should closely reflect the expertise of the candidate, who, however, need not be a member of the evaluating Society. The Society evaluating committee ranks each candidate as: Extraordinarily Qualified, Highly Qualified, Qualified, Marginally Qualified, or Not Yet Qualified.

All material is then forwarded in confidence to the Fellow Committee. This committee consists of 25 members plus a Chair, all of whom are IEEE Fellows and selected so as to represent each of the 10 Institute Regions and to have expertise in the technical areas represented by the IEEE Societies. Members are appointed by the Board of Directors for one-year terms, with each member normally serving three successive terms. Appointments are staggered, so that one-third of the members are replaced each year.

The main task of the Fellow Committee is to recommend candidates to the Board of Directors, in accordance with the following criteria:

- ♦ Individual contributions as engineer-scientist originator, technical leader, or educator.
- ♦ Evaluation by the Society selected by the nominator.
- ♦ Evidence of technical accomplish-

ment, such as publications (including internal company reports), patents, and peer recognition.

- ♦ Confidential opinions of references.
- ♦ Service to other professional engineering societies.
- ♦ Total years in the profession.

Each candidate is rated numerically on the basis of these criteria. The numerical scores are computationally normalized, and candidates are then ranked. Using these rankings, and subject to Bylaw limitations on the number of members that may be elected Fellows in any one year, the Committee prepares its final list of candidates for submission to the Board of Directors in late fall. The Board acts upon those recommendations at its year-end meeting.

If you would like to request a hard copy of the Fellow Nomination Kit, please call +1 732 562 3840, or email: fellow-kit@ieee.org. ♦

Electrical Engineering Milestones

The mission of the IEEE History Center is to preserve, research and promote the history of information and electrical technologies. The Center maintains many useful resources for those interested in the development of electrical engineering in its broadest sense. One of the activities it uses to bring the historical developments to the attention of the community at large, is the declaration of Electrical Engineering Milestones. This initiative started in 1983, and through it the IEEE hopes to:

- ♦ Foster an awareness among electrical engineers of their professional history;
- ♦ Increase public understanding of the development and implications of electrical engineering;
- ♦ Encourage the preservation of the physical remains of these achievements through Milestone site dedications;
- ♦ Document these achievements by collecting historical and current information for use by engineers, students,

and professional historians;

- ♦ Promote the inclusion of such achievements in guidebooks and maps for use by the general public.

There are many potential Milestones in Region 8 worthy of nomination. Recent examples include:

- ♦ The Poulsen-Arc Radio Transmitter. This Milestone was declared at Lyngby Radio in Denmark during May 1994, and commemorates the invention of a continuous-wave generator for radio signals in 1902;
- ♦ The First Operational use of Wireless Telegraphy by an army in the field (R8News, Nov. 1998). Plaques commemorating this event a hundred years ago are to be presented during the social functions for IEEE Region 8's AFRICON'99 meeting in Cape Town 29 September to 1 October 1999;
- ♦ Volta's invention of the battery (IEEE Leadership Wire, 25 June 1999). This

proposal was made by the North Italy Section, and presentation of plaques are intended to form part of the celebrations in Pavia and Como in Italy in September 1999 to mark the invention of the battery by Alessandro Volta (1745-1827). For more information see the website www.cilea.it/volta99/.

If you would like to link the declaration of an Historical Milestone with a Commemorative event, keep in mind that the process of evaluation and validation of a nomination typically takes two or more years. For more information contact the Region 8 Vice-Chair for Technical Activities, Kurt Richter (k.richter@ieee.org), or IEEE History Center Rutgers - The State University 39 Union Street New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8538 USA Fax: +1 732 932 1193 E-mail: history@ieee.org http://www.ieee.org/history_center ♦



EDITORIAL

Hi folks,

As you might know, the Region 8 Student Activities committee has recently been expanded, and we had some very productive meetings during the last months. A short report on what has happened can be found in Gozde's article in this issue.

More great news is in the main part of this Region 8 News: two branches from Region 8 have been able to win one of the AT&T Labs Awards. This is even more impressive taking into account that the awards are going to Region 8 for the first time ever. I'd like to encourage all branches to benefit from the experiences gained in Madrid and Cairo to come up with even more proposals next year.

Another great news comes from the Technical Activities Board: they finally approved a proposal to include up to 8 additional transactions into the All Magazine Package thus allowing branches from poorer countries to serve their members with the basic publications for their fields of interest. Thank you, TAB (and, of course, Levent Onural as SAC Chair)! For more details, see also Gozde's article.

Once again, I'd like to thank all contributors for their articles (all of exceptionally high quality)!

Looking forward to the next issue,

Jens

NEWS FROM THE R8 SAC

Based on the number of student members, Region 8 is the second largest region in the world and this number is continuously increasing. By the end of March 99, the number was 10,634 which is close to 20% of the overall student members. In Region 8, not only are students increasing in numbers but also the activities they perform and student specific programs are increasing.

This year, for the first time, two branches from Region 8 were awarded AT&T awards. Congratulations to Cairo and Madrid student branches for winning this prestigious award. You can find detailed information about this award at <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/rab/RABARC-Manual/Sect03-1.html>.

Going through the specific programs for students in Region 8, first I would like to overview existing ones. Students can get use of the voucher up to \$30 to be used for their 2000 membership renewal if, i) they are residing in Region 8, ii) they have attended a conference where IEEE is involved and actually paid conference registration fee. To receive the voucher, the member's name, membership no, mailing address, the proof of payment of the conference registration fee and brief descriptive information about the conference, the proof of attendance (such as badge, attendee list, etc.), must be mailed to IEEE R8 Vice Chair, Student Activities, Gozde Bozdagi, Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department, Baskent University, Ankara TR-06530 Turkey.

If you give a hand to start an IEEE student branch at a school nearby you, you are eligible to receive US\$200 for you own branch, after the new branch is officially recognized. You should apply to IEEE R8 Vice-Chair, Student Activities, with a brief description of your help, to receive this grant.

IEEE Region 8 allocates funds for financial support to the student activities in the region. If you have plans for some activities, and if you need additional funds to make it

happen, you should get in touch with me in advance and visit the web site <http://www.baskent.edu.tr/~bozdagi/grants.html> to get details about it.

An already existing program for region 1-6 is extended to R8 this year. The name of the program is IEEE Student Branch Centers of Excellence. The objective of the program is to enhance the learning experiences of engineering students at universities. Grants up to \$5000, which have been provided by the IEEE Foundation are available for IEEE student branches to establish SB Centers of Excellence. The application deadline is August 15. You can find detailed information at

<http://www.sandbox.ieee.org/ieee/grants.html>.

The IEEE foundation is also interested in receiving proposals with requests for funds to support new educational and scientific initiatives in Region 8, 9 and 10. For additional information you can contact Ted Hissey from IEEE Foundation (t.hissey@ieee.org).

For 1999, IEEE Student Branch Magazine package has been extended to include 8 journals or transactions at low student rates in addition to 32 IEEE magazines.

Student Professional Awareness Conferences (SAPCs) are also another vehicle for you to explore non-technical subjects that effects your career like professional ethics, self-management etc. Detailed information about this program can be found at: http://www.ieeeusa.org/COMMITTEES/SPAC/general_info.html.

If we go through the contests through our region we can mention the WEB site contest and the Regional Student Paper contest. The deadline of the Student Paper Contest is December 15 each year and the deadline for the WEB site contest is announced separately.

I tried to overview the student specific programs in Region 8 in this issue. As R8 SAC committee, we are continuously working on to initiate new programs on behalf of

students. I would like to encourage you all to get use of these programs and if you have ideas about new programs, please drop us an e-mail.

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

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

You deserve them. Go for them!

One of the greatest benefits of being an IEEE Student Member is the eligibility to participate in the many awards and recognition programs available, both in the Regional and Institute-wide levels.

Unfortunately, too few or even no nominations are received for some of them.

One of the main goals the Student Activities Committee has in its priority list is increasing the overall level of participation.

We have prepared several specific actions to reach this goal. First of all, by increasing the student awareness of these programs, mainly through an improved information dissemination campaign we will make sure you all know of them. Secondly, letting the general public know of the outstanding individuals and branches we have in our region, publicize the awarded ones in the corresponding section of the new (soon-to-come) IEEE R8 SAC web pages. Thirdly, making all the actually awarded proposals and forms available also on the web, so that all of you can learn by example from those who got every award and how they did it.

An active awards program within a branch is important for at least three reasons: 1. By recognizing our outstanding student members, we offer them encouragement for even greater accomplishments in the future. 2. The individuals we spotlight are models of technical, managerial and service distinction, which motivates other student members to strive for excellence themselves. 3. The awards we present are reminders to the public of the contributions made by future engineers to the success of their corresponding branches, sections, regions and the IEEE in general. So, we would like you to think on the idea of having an 'Awards Branch officer', responsible for the search of candidates,

for watching the deadlines connected to a nomination and for ensuring the forms are filled in and sent in time.

There are hundreds of highly-qualified individuals among us who deserve recognition and plenty of activities being held in our student branches, making the Region 8 one of the most active regions in the world. So, don't be shy! We want you all to apply for every award available and we will make sure to let the world know of the great accomplishments you achieved!

I'm not going to describe every award, as the list is really long, just stay tuned and you'll receive further information well in advance. If you need additional details, please do not hesitate to contact me at j.macias@ieee.org

ELECTRONIC CAD TOOLS AND METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP

The IEEE student branch of the University of Tehran held a CAD tools and methodology workshop, to introduce both CAD methods and CAD software. The workshop was held from May 4 to May 6, and included topics ranging from a general overview of CAD tools to VLSI design tools and methods.

At the opening ceremony, Hossein Sheini, chair of the student branch, spoke about the branch's activities. Then, Dr. Mahmoud Kamarei, the head of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, welcomed the attendees, and Dr. Kermanshah, Vice Minister of Industry, spoke about the relation between educational centers and industry. Afterwards, Dr. Zainalabedin Navabi presented a general overview of CAD Tools. For the conventional design methods portion, expert engineers from four major companies that are involved in the use of CAD tools spoke about the ways in which they use these tools for electronic design. Finally, Dr. Navabi gave a four-hour lecture on HDLs (hardware description languages), and gave a general overview of VHDL.

On the second day, the major segment was in regards to synthesis, and was presented by Mr. Mohammad Reza Movahedin and Mr. Maghsoud Abbaspur. Mr. Movahedin spoke about the concept of synthesis using Verilog HDL, and Mr.

Abbaspur presented logic synthesis algorithms. Finally, for the last part of this day, Dr. Shaahin Hessabi introduced digital system test methods.

The third day of the workshop focused on the electronic side of CAD, including VLSI and FPGA. First, Mr. Saeed Safari spoke about the architecture of available FPGAs, and Mr. Abbas Khalili presented FPGA design tools. For the last portion of this day, Dr. S. Mehdi Fakhraei presented VLSI design tools and methods.

The workshop had 300 participants, most of whom were computer and electronics engineering students.

Soheil Ebadian
Workshop Chair
Email: soheil@ieee.org

GOLD NEWS



After your studies, you deserve gold!

You most probably already know what GOLD is (besides a very expensive metal). If not, this is the perfect chance to learn about it.

GOLD stands for Graduates Of the Last Decade. It is the group within IEEE that helps you through your first 10 years of "professional life", whether that is in a university or in industry. It gives you the opportunity to share common experiences or concerns with other young engineers.

But GOLD is still relatively new and we can use a lot of your enthusiasm. If you want to stay on top of IEEE activity after you graduate and you want to expand your professional skills through IEEE, then don't hesitate to contact me. I can help you start or expand a GOLD program in your Section, show you where to find funding and bring you in touch with the necessary contacts.

For more information, please send an e-mail to w.watte@ieee.org or click on <http://www.ieee.org/gold>

William Watté
Region 8 GOLD Representative

STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

EGYPT

Higher Technological Institute

We, the IEEE Students at Higher Technological Institute Student Branch, have been doing our best in order to increase and enhance our branch activities. Since the branch was recently founded (less than a year ago), activities are still at the rank of small, but it is increasing with strong steps forward. We all have great ideas about what kind of activities we should have in our branch, and how to increase the students' eagerness to gain knowledge and to take part in the branch activities. So, our major activity is holding seminars about various scientific and ethical subjects that concern most of the students. We bring important personalities to speak in these seminars so that we can benefit from their opinions and experience in their fields and in life too.

Of course as members of the IEEE, we have a wonderful source of knowledge gained from the IEEE publications we receive. So, we came up with an idea, the main aim of it is to increase the benefit we gain from these publications. The idea is to form working groups in the various fields and gather every week to study an item in these publications. We read it and point out its outlines and then let a member of our teaching staff discussing it with us. This will help us in enriching our knowledge in different fields, and also we might find many interesting fields of study from doing this. But the main benefit in my opinion is that we will get used to the environment of teamwork and get closer with the teaching staff, a thing that will help increasing the efficiency of the teaching process and make IEEE Student Membership more beneficial.

Mahmoud M.EL Gaafary

Vice chair,

SB Higher Technological Institute

10th of Ramadan City

EGYPT

IRAN

University of Tehran

Signal Processing Workshop

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of IEEE Signal Processing establishment,

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- also the secretary of the workshop. Conducted 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 work to do. But very soon, we understood that in order to succeed, we had to act as a unit, not individuals.

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

Azad Shademan,

University of Tehran,

E-mail: shademan@ieee.org

THE NETHERLANDS

Eindhoven

Symposium on Human Interfacing

On May 20th IEEE SB Eindhoven organized their 10th annual symposium "Human Interfacing, Man & Machine: the cooperation of the future". Human interfaces are more and more important in all kinds of technical and non-technical disciplines. Student and employees of universities all over the Netherlands, with backgrounds varying from electrotechni-

cal engineering and mathematics to biomedical engineering and user system interaction studies, joined this on-day event. The morning program started off with a lecture by a famous Dutch TV personality: Chriet Titulaer, who gave an overview on the history of Human Interfacing (HI) and what to expect for the future. The next lecture demonstrated how the combination of speech recognition, speaker recognition and speech synthesis is used to get information by phone without using long DTMF codes. "Ubiquitous computing in the home", the last lecture in the morning program, made clear that multidisciplinary teams, with knowledge varying from elec. engineering to behavior research, from science to art is indispensable.

After lunch the participants could choose between two parallel sessions. One covered general applications, such as user centered design, used to develop copier machines interfaces and virtual reality interfaces that make team work on design projects for buildings more easy.

The other session gave an overview of some medical application. Research done on prostheses to help people without (working) arms or legs showed how readily technology is accepted by people, when the usefulness is obvious. Prof. Van der Laan of the Eindhoven University of Technology gave his view on the (un)necessary anxieties that technology brings along: the influence of electromagnetic radiation. Not only anxieties but also non-acceptance can be a problem to use HI, as illustrated by prof. Hasman. Patient/hospital data systems are not always welcomed by doctors. Big brother is watching you, the machine is taking over, are just some of the expressions (not only used by doctors) that represent the problems that have to be taken into account when researching and developing new human interfaces.

The forum discussion and closing lecture emphasized the importance and the research that has to be done on user system interaction, where all aspects, not only the technical ones, are of equal importance. Cooperation, not only between man & machine, but between all

kinds of expertise is the key factor with this popular subject.

More information on this symposium and how to order proceedings, can be found on the website:

<http://www.ele.tue.nl/ieeesb/symposium>.

Iris Haubrich

Chair IEEE SBE 97/98

TURKEY

METU SB Organized Conference and Exhibition - BTIE'99

The second Conference and Exhibition on Education with Informatics (Bilisim Teknolojileri Isiginda Egitim) organized by IEEE METU SB and TBD (Turkish Informatics Association) ended up very successfully.

The exhibition and fair was at the METU Cultural and Convention Center during 13-15 May. The opening was made by the Turkish Minister of Education Metin Bostancioglu, watched also at Eskisehir Anadolu University and Ahmet Yesevi University at Turkistan, Kazakhstan by videoconferencing.

The aim for organizing event could be expressed as 'Education is the solution to most of our problems. But what is the solution to problems concerning education?'

with this year's theme as 'A Person of InformationAge and Education'.

Since the Ministry of Education is planning to spend over 7 billion USD in the short term on computer aided education projects, the conference and exhibition was a very good opportunity for major computing and IT firms to exhibit their products and services. Representative firms included, but were not limited to, 3M, Apple (main sponsor), HP, IBM, Microsoft, Motorola, Oracle, Sun and Unisys. Also research institutions such as METU Informatics Institute and TUBITAK Bilten demonstrated their results.

To give some numbers from BTIE'99, the exhibition was visited by 20 000 persons. The seminar and workshops were held with 2,000 participants. The event was sponsored by the major computing press, and some general press. We were given considerable coverage in the following weeks and month in these publications.

The event is considered to be one of the largest events of the subject in Turkey, giving us the opportunity to present IEEE not only to technical and academic community at METU but also to whole Turkey.

To publicize ourselves, the IEEE METU SB, also had a very well located stand at the exhibition. We distributed

leaflets about IEEE, our SB and forthcoming projects and our monthly newsletter. Demand for both student and professional membership was much more than we had expected and we got many contacts.

IEEE METU SB is one of the most active SB's in Region 8, with more than 220 members and is the winner for 'Outstanding Student Branch in R8' award in 1998.

For further information on BTIE'99, forthcoming BTIE 2000 and IEEE METU SB, please feel free to contact me.

Bora Gungoren,

IEEE METU SB,

Vice-Chair.

b.gungoren@ieee.org

STUDENT BRANCH CONGRESS 2000

The second IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Congress will be organized in Eindhoven (the Netherlands) from 15 till 20 May 2000. All Student Branch chairs of Region 8 will be invited to join this event. We welcome all branches to email/write us with suggestions, ideas and questions so we can prepare a full and complete program where all ideas can be discussed. Especially everyone who joined the SB Congress in Istanbul last year, is invited to send his/her comments on the issues that should or shouldn't be covered next year for the future board members.

Are you a Student Branch chair in Region 8? Please contact us as soon as possible with your full name, branch address, email address and the name and address of the counselor.

IEEE Student Branch Eindhoven

Attn. Maurice Stassen

Den Dolech 2, EH 6.29

NL-5612 AZ Eindhoven

The Netherlands

ieeesb@ele.tue.nl

<http://www.ele.tue.nl/ieeesb> ♦

DEADLINES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 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). |
| October 8 | Sections' Congress '99 in Minneapolis, MN until October 11 http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/sc/ |

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