

Other



region8news

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

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From the Regional Director

February Board Meeting

- ♦ The Regional Activities Board (RAB) recommended and the Board of Directors (BoD) approved a discounted multi-year IEEE membership (2-3 years) offer beginning in 2001 for full dues paying members.
- ♦ RAB also endorsed for BoD approval the establishment of a permanent membership, i.e. one payment of about \$ 2000 (in Region 8) for a lifelong IEEE membership. This could be of interest for younger members.
- ♦ It was announced that all recipients of the "IEEE Millennium Medal" received a personal letter of congratulation from the IEEE President Bruce Eisenstein. The nominating entity has to arrange for the presentation of the medal. Region 8 will have a little ceremony at the R8 Committee Meeting in Oslo. Our past Director M. Papo is one of the five recipients who received a medal from RAB.



The outstanding joint efforts of our R8 Chapter Coordinators with the IEEE Technical Activities Chapter Formation project yielded more than 25 new society chapters in R8 during last year. This is a unique record in IEEE and deserves our congratulations.

News from the Region

I am pleased to announce that we have established a new position in the R8 Committee, the "Section 99 Coordinator." This strange name comes from the IEEE database, which assigns all members living in R8 countries without a section to "Section 99." The new Coordinator therefore represents all members without a section in the R8 Committee.

Those members do not receive all the benefits of a member within an active section. The Section 99 Chair might help to solve various problems and try to link them to neighboring sections with IEEE activities, a Newsletter, conferences, chapters, and student branches. They can become "contiguous members" belonging to another section.

The new Coordinator is supposed to help those members to form a chapter, branch or a sub- or full section. Each group of 20 active members can petition for a subsection of a neighbor section and start its own activities until it has reached the size of 50 members to form a full section. He is also supposed to get in touch with members of delinquent sections, who want to rejuvenate and reactivate the section and need advice and support.

It is my pleasure to announce that I have appointed Mr. Jaafar Al-Ibrahim, the Saudi Arabia Treasurer, as Section 99 Coordinator for 2000. Jaafar volunteered for this job, since he sees a great advantage living close to many potential candidates.

Due to the long list of "Section 99 members" who had previously contacted me from various parts of our region, we need a "Team of Section 99 Volunteers" from different areas of our large region. I am glad to report that three volunteers are already serving in Jaafar's team:

- ♦ Gerhard Hancke, Chair of South Africa Section (g.hancke@ieee.org) who had already started a project with Zimbabwe, is responsible for the middle and southern part of Africa.
- ♦ Ayhan Altintas of Turkey (a.altintas@ieee.org), who is already serving on the Help Desk is responsible

continued on page 2

INSIDE

Guest Editorial	2
News from the Sections ..	3
Society and Chapter News	4
The IEEE Milestone Program	5
IEEE Member Conduct Committee	6
Obituary	7
Help Desk Members	7
Conferences	9
Calendar of Events	9
Circuits and Systems Society	10
Student News	11
News from IEEE	16

IEEE Membership Statistics

The IEEE membership reached a new high of over 359 230 including 128 500 or over 35% non-US members in January 2000. The leaders are presently Regions 9 and 10 with an annual increase of 15 and 19% respectively. R8 fell back to the third level with 10.5%, which is still high in comparison to the US average increase of 2 %.

The IEEE student membership reached a record of 57 400 members including 32 570 or 56% non-US students. The major part comes again from Regions 9 and 10 with an outstanding 27 and 25% annual increase. Region 8 is third with about 13 %.

The above figures prove the still increasing activities in non-US regions as well as the need for more MD efforts in R8.

Regional Director *continued*

for the north-east part of the Mediterranean Sea as well as for the former Soviet Union countries in the Balkan area.

- ♦ Iiro Hartimo, Finland Section chair (iiro.hartimo@hut.fi), who is also known from the Help Desk, will be responsible for the northern part of our region.
- ♦ Jaafar Al-Ibrahim (ibrahijm@aramco.com.sa) himself is responsible for his neighbor countries in the Near and Middle East as well as for the northern part of Africa. (see photo)

All activities are of course supported by IEEE staff, and the Brussels Office with IEEE database information and all kinds of IEEE documentation.

The team has successfully started with contacts and new activities. Discussions on new sub- full section formations are going on in Iceland, Bahrain, the Sultanates of Qatar and Oman, Tunisia, Lebanon and Zimbabwe. Contacts are also available with Kenya and Nigeria for rejuvenation of the sections. I am convinced that many others might be interested in these activities and need help and advice.



Miscellaneous Meetings

By the time most of you receive this newsletter, the oral presentations of our "R8 Student Paper Contest will be about to take place jointly with the R8 Conference MELECON 2000 in Limassol, Cyprus from May 29-31.

The Div IX R8 Chapter Meeting with the SP Society as a major sponsor is organised in Istanbul on June 4, 2000, one day before ICASSP 2000. This is a new R8 initiative, similar to the Div I + IV R8 Chapter meeting, which will be in Paris on October 1, 2000. R8 is inviting all R8 Chapter chairs or representatives from Div IX

societies to attend. Limited support and detailed information is available from Prof. A Davies and Dr. G. Mollova.

R8 Help Desk

May I remind you of the R8 Help Desk which I announced last year in the November issue of our Region 8 News. If you run into any administrative or other problems with IEEE, please contact the Brussels Office (IEEE European Center) or any Help Desk member close to your area. Contact information is given elsewhere in this issue.

New IEEE Products

IEEE has launched IEEEExplore, the new online delivery system in the first quarter of 2000.

It is a new platform for Web access, which replaces EPIC and OPeRA (Online Periodicals and Research Area). With IEEEExplore users can browse tables of contents, search and view abstracts & citation records for all IEEE publications since 1988. You can also view full text of personal subscriptions formerly provided by OpeRA. Everybody can view articles from Spectrum and The Institute. For details see www.ieee.org/ieeexplore.

You may also wish to visit the new IEEE Online Catalogue & Store at www.ieee.org/ieeestore. It shows IEEE's full range of products for purchase on the web.

Finally I would like to remind you to have a look at our R8 Home Page for the monthly R8 Bulletin and the R8 Conference Calendar at www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/. ♦

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Guest Editorial

TECHNOLOGICAL LITERACY

Arthur W. Winston, LF

2000 Vice Chair,

Educational Activities

1998 – 1999 VP,

Educational Activities



The Constitution of the IEEE states that, "The IEEE shall strive to enhance the quality of life for all people throughout the world through the constructive application of technology in its fields of competence. It shall endeavor to promote understanding of the influence of such technology on the public welfare." Education is listed in the Constitution as one of IEEE's purposes. Though education is conducted in all entities throughout the IEEE, the Educational Activities Board and Department (EAB) have been assigned the specific roles of rec-

ommending educational policy and to be a major player in its implementation. To this end, the EAB has led in conducting a workshop known as Technological Literacy Counts and in conducting other projects in this area. These activities have been documented elsewhere and will also be reported at the 2000 ASEE Annual Meeting.

It is well known that a university student will not take courses nor pursue a career in a technical area if that person has not had some exposure and encouragement to technology education in the earlier years. More than creating future engineers and scientists, it is necessary that the public have a better appreciation and understanding of technology because it will affect and influ-

ence their lives. The public should also be more technologically literate so that it may make better-informed decisions. According to the International Technology Education Association, the teaching of science and technology "provides the basic knowledge and technical skills needed to participate in society. It increases the economic capacity of nations and allows students to understand and apply advanced technologies so they will be prepared for either post-secondary education or entering the workforce." (www.itea.org)

Technological literacy has become the single most reliable precursor of social and economic advancement in the world. Trade, investment, and industry are now global. Developed and developing countries have the

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common problem of providing and maintaining a skilled workforce. Countries that can provide a technologically literate workforce will be the ones to join the fast lane to fully developed nation status. At the same time, the developed countries must maintain their workforce or risk falling into decline.

Technological literacy, is no longer a luxury. In just one decade it has advanced to a position just behind food and shelter as a basic necessity for any country. It isn't a question of which comes first. If a country wants to survive in the 21st century, it must not only feed and clothe its children; it must also educate them to live in a technological world.

Recent world events proved that even the United States is not immune to the problem of lagging technological literacy. At the time of Tiananmen Square, the President of the US authorized visa extensions for Chinese students studying in the US. Concern was expressed as to the future availability of Chinese students to study within the US. The disproportionate ratio of Non-US to US students in graduate technical areas very clearly exposed the decline of US students enrolled in US Engineering Schools and also the viability of US graduate education. Meanwhile, the US Federal Government has estimated that there will be a shortage of 1.4 million technical workers by the year 2003. And that is in the US alone. IEEE members are aware of the increase in H-1B visas issued in the US. Further, not withstanding the volatility of the investment market place, the US NASDAQ exchange, where most technology stocks are listed, recently rose to record heights.

"Science and technology based industry should be identified as a major source of economic growth and a means of addressing

important social problems as well." (1995 Frontiers in Education Conference, "Role of Education, Science and Technology in Developing countries," by A. Bilsel and O. Oral, North Cyprus)

The rise of Japan, Korea, and Germany as global competitors was due to the complete restructuring of their educational systems and their recognition of the role technology would play in global competitiveness. In an effort to do the same, The Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 has mandated that the subject Technology & Design be compulsory for all pupils 4-14 years (www.seelb-eurotecnet.demon.co.uk; article by Cyril King). At this time Northern Ireland is "networking with the United States of America, Canada, France, Republic of Ireland, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia in Technology Education, for support and sharing of ideas." (ibid)

Historically many developing countries have begun their economic ascent by importing technology and have evolved into developing their own. This has been true in Korea with consumer appliances, in Brazil in the area of fiber optics, and in Ireland and Spain with telecommunications.

Education has often followed industry rather than anticipating its needs. This is especially true in technical subject matter. Two examples of organizations trying to change this "just-in-time" factor are the African Virtual University (AVU) and Botswana Polytechnic. Even these though, only address post-secondary education.

AVU, a project of the World Bank, is piloting the delivery of education to sub-Saharan Africa by interactive-instructional telecommunication. The courses are being

delivered by satellite until WWW infrastructure is able to handle a speedy transfer of data. In its upcoming operational phase, the AVU will offer Computer Science, Computer Engineering, and Electrical Engineering degrees.

Botswana, with the economic advantage of a profitable diamond industry, decided in 1989 that granting engineering degrees was a priority and has revitalized Botswana Polytechnic. In 1994, after Polytechnic instituted a practical approach with applied research, it began granting degrees in Electrical and Electronics Engineering. It has since allied with The University of Botswana as a Faculty of Technology.

Technological literacy is now among the three criteria a country needs to succeed in the new global economy. But its benefit is not simply economic. There is a social component that can be far reaching.

Technologically literate workers know the valuable contributions they are making to the community, the country, and to their own family's future. They are invested in the success of the community, this leads to greater social stability. The stability of a workforce and the readiness to undergo continuous worker retraining, are essential assets when soliciting multinational industry investment. Industry investment is crucial to on-going economic development. Thus technological literacy is a key component of success for nations at all steps on the development ladder. ♦

(I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Barbara Stoler and Lynn Murison of Educational Activities staff in the preparation of this article.)

News from the Sections

GREECE

The IEEE Greece Section in cooperation with the Greek Power Chapter organized its annual public, social meeting on the 16th February 2000 at the National Technical University of Athens. The meeting gave the opportunity to advocate the aims of the IEEE and to improve communication among the section members. All Chapter chairs attended the meeting and gave a presentation of their planned activities for the

coming year. A presentation entitled "The Development of the National Power System from 1950 up to today" was delivered by Mr. Armandos Rigos. He was also nominated by the Greek Power Chapter for the 1999 Outstanding Engineer Award. Following the award to Mr. Rigos, a social event with food and light drinks was organized. The meeting was a great success with more than 150 participants, both IEEE members and guests from the National Technical University of



Mr. Armandos Rigos receives the 1999 Outstanding Engineer Award from the Greek Power Chapter Chair Prof. Nikos Hatzigiorgiouris during the social meeting chaired by Prof. George Contaxis, Chair of the IEEE Greece Section.

continued on page 4

News from the Sections *continued*

Athens, the Greek Power Utility (PPC), engineers from the Industry, other Educational Institutions, etc. The meeting was also attended by the Chairman of the Greek National Committee of CIGRE, the Technical Chamber of Greece, and the Secretary of the IEE.

*Nikos Hatzigargyriou
nh@power.ece.ntua.gr*

MACEDONIA

The Republic of Macedonia Section, established in 1997 is one of the younger IEEE Sections in Region 8. In the last three years it had a good number of activities establishing itself as an important engineering association in the country. Among other activities, it organised visits and lectures from the 1996 and 1997 IEEE Presidents Wally Read and Charles Alexander. It also arranged a number of presentations for attracting new members, educational lectures by the distinguished lecturers Dr. Piero Maranesi (Italy) and Dr. Vladimir Katic (Yugoslavia), a professional lecture by the Bulgaria Section President Dr. Jordan Kolev, a students' visit to the Student Branch in Varna, Bulgaria, etc. The Section has also been registered according to the national law.

The Section has four chapters: Power Engineering, Computers, Communications and a joint Signal Processing Chapter with the Bulgaria Section. The Section had a total of 127 active members in 1999, which is a relatively good number considering the size of the country and its industrial development. Five of them are senior members, 60 members, 14 affiliates and 48 student members. Of the members, more than 90 % are academic or research staff and students, and the rest are from industry. In order to increase the number of members from industry, presentations at the major companies were held recently. This resulted in 17 new members for the year 2000 from the National Power Company alone!

A new Executive Board was chosen at the last Assembly meeting in December 1999. The current Section officers are Prof. Dr. Lubomir Nikoloski (Chair), Dr. Lupco Kardzinov (Vice-Chair), Mr. Vladimir Dimcev (Secretary) and Dr. Vesna Borozan (Treasurer). Other voting members of the EB at the moment are Mr. Dean Gorgevik (Student Activities), Dr. Goce Arsov (Past Chair) and Dr. Liljana Gavrilovska (Communications Chapter Chair). The new board is about to establish an office at the premises of the Faculty of Electrical

Engineers in Skopje, the country capital, where the most members come from, and is looking forward to organizing many new activities in its two years mandate.

*Dr. Lupco Karadzinov
Section Vice-Chair
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IRAN

News from the Iran Section shows that members are actively engaged in reviving activities within this Section. The recently held IMSEE Conference was a great success. It was a fabulous opportunity for distinguished Iranian scientists and engineers living outside Iran to meet with students, professors, and authorities living inside Iran (some had not been to Iran for more than 20 years). Many fundamental issues concerning the future of technology in Iran were discussed. Perhaps many important decisions, which might affect the future of Iran dramatically, will be made soon. The lectures were impressive and attended by hundreds of students and professors, mostly Iranians, though. Many thanks to the IEEE for its support. ♦

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Society and Chapter News

GREECE

The CAS-04 Chapter of the Greece Section has added the Solid State Circuits Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 20 December 1999. The interim Chair is Dr. Athanassio Skodras (E-mail: *skodras@cti.gr*).

The Signal Processing Society Chapter of the Greece Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 22 December 1999. The interim Chair is Dr. Athanasios G Stouraitis (E-mail: *thanos@ee.upatras.gr*).

The Vehicular Technology Society Chapter of the Greece Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 22 December 1999. The interim Chair is Dr. Fontini-Niovi Pavlidou (E-mail: *niovi@vergina.eng.auth.gr*).

VTS-GREEK CHAPTER

The chapter organized in collaboration with

the Institute of Telematics and Informatics a one-day Symposium on "Advanced Telematics Technologies for Transport Traffic Control and Accidents Avoidance" on 7 March 2000 in Thessaloniki. The event was sponsored by the National Telecommunications Organization (OTE).

About 50 delegates from Ministries, Police authorities, Prefectures, Universities and Private Companies dealing with road construction and telematics applications attended the symposium. After some short presentations on the basic technologies, the current status in Greece and the problems that must be solved until the organization of Olympic Games in 2004, they led a very fruitful discussion referring to the activities of private and public sector for telematics application on the main highways all over the country. The event resulted in the organization of a Task Force for the homoge-

neous supervision of these activities aiming to a cost effective and safe transport system.

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FRANCE

The French section has two new chapters. These are:

CS chapter chaired by Romeo ORTEGA from Supelec, and
SMC chapter chaired by Pierre BORNE from Centrale Lille.

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RUSSIA

The Antennas and Propagation/Electron Devices/Microwave Theory and Techniques/

Communications/ Electromagnetic Compatibility Society joint Chapter of the Russia Section (Tomsk) has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 28 December 1999. The interim Chair is Dr. Oleg V. Stoukatch (ird@tusur.ru)

The Power Electronics Society Chapter of the Russia Section has changed status to include the Industrial Electronics and Power Engineering Societies. The effective date of this Chapter change is 28 December 1999. The interim Chair is Professor Yuriy Rozanov (y.rozanov@mtu-net.ru).

SAUDI ARABIA

The Computer Society Chapter of the Saudi Arabia Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 28 December 1999. The interim Chair is Dr. Khalid M Al-Tawil (khalid@ccse.kfupm.edu.sa).

UKRAINE

The Antennas and Propagation/Electron Devices/Microwave Theory and Techniques/Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology Society joint Chapter of the Ukraine Section has changed status to include the Solid State Circuits Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 29 December 1999. The interim Chair is Nikolai N. Voitovich (voi@iapmm.lviv.ua).

UK&RI

The UK&RI Communications Chapter benefited from a Communications Society membership initiative, which offered free half-year membership of the Society to existing IEEE members, adding over 700 new members in 1999. A majority of these new members continued their ComSoc membership into 2000.

The Communications Chapter responded to a recent initiative on "failed members", i.e. those persons who did not renew their membership in 1999. This was less successful, owing to over 50% of the e-mail addresses supplied being obsolete. Please remember to send changes of address to the IEEE when you renew your membership.

The Communications Chapter is currently supporting the IEE International Conference on 3G 2000 Mobile Communication Technologies, 27-29 March, Hilton London Metropole Hotel, London, UK, and the 11th International Symposium on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communication (PIMRC 2000), 18-21 September 2000, London, UK.

The Chapter has given financial support to PIMRC and therefore will receive a share of any surplus generated. The IEEE Communications Society is also co-sponsoring this event.

The Chapter holds occasional lectures such as the recent lecture on "DSP Techniques for Digital Radio Design" given at King's College London on Monday 20th September 1999 by professor fred harris (sic) of San Diego State University. Proposals for other lectures are welcome, especially if these can be arranged at locations outside London. Announcements of forthcoming events are shown at <http://crg.eee.kcl.ac.uk/events/comevent.html>.

The Communications Chapter has awarded a prize to the best final-year undergraduate telecommunications project in a number of university departments for the past 2 years and will do so again in the summer of 2000. A list of successful students can be found at <http://crg.eee.kcl.ac.uk/comchap/proprize.html>.

The Chapter also provides a few travel prizes to assist full-time students to travel

to conferences or symposia in order to present their own papers. The conferences are specified in advance by the Chapter and are those in which the Chapter participates as a sponsor or cosponsor. For a description of the prizes and the conditions that apply, see <http://crg.eee.kcl.ac.uk/comchap/i3eprize.html>.

Finally, a new membership drive to undergraduates in the UK and Republic of Ireland will shortly be announced.

Student Membership of the IEEE is mostly at postgraduate level within the UK and Ireland. However, this means that our students are ineligible for incentive IEEE membership dues over the first few years of their professional life as they should be student members at the point of gaining their first degree.

The UK&RI Comms Chapter proposes to offer free Communications Society membership to final-year UK (and Republic of Ireland) undergraduates in specified university departments who take half-year IEEE membership in 2000.

The students will pay the half-year IEEE student member dues of \$7 and the Chapter will contribute \$6 for the ComSoc membership. This scheme will be restricted to undergraduate students in their final year only and will be implemented by a voucher system so that the student completes the IEEE student membership form in the normal way. The pilot scheme will be reviewed at the end of 2000 for its effectiveness and ease of administration. ♦

Professor Trevor Clarkson
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The IEEE Milestone Program

The IEEE Milestone program was established more than 15 years ago and, is conducted by the IEEE History Committee through the IEEE History Center in order to honor significant achievements in electrical, electronic, and computer engineering. After approval by the IEEE, a bronze plaque commemorating the achievement is placed at an appropriate site.

The purpose of this program is to foster an awareness among electrical engineers of their professional history, to increase public understanding of electrical engineering, to encourage the preservation of historically important materials and sites, and to collect documentation of significant historical events and to make the information widely available.

In general the suggestion for a nomination will be brought forward to the chairman

of the IEEE Section where the milestone should be established, who will forward the proposal to the IEEE History Center. After an initial screening, the History Center will invite a full nomination from the Section. The IEEE Section then nominates an achievement and provides documentation of its historical significance. After the nomina-

continued on page 6

Milestone Program *continued*

tion is approved by the IEEE History Committee and the IEEE Executive Committee, a plaque is cast and the Section conducts a dedication ceremony. The Milestones Proposal Form can be downloaded from (http://www.ieee.org/organizations/history_center/milestones_proposal_form.htm)

The value of a Milestone for the Section is the increasing awareness, both by the Section members and the public at large, of local heritage. Also, the documentation of the achievement helps to separate fact from local myth, and the Milestone process opens up channels of communication between the Section and other civic organizations, typically a local historical society.

During the last few years the IEEE History Committee and the IEEE History Center tried to involve Technical Societies, Society Chapters, and Student Branches — it is, after all, particular technical achievements which are honored — in the nomination process. Another recent effort has been to make the program more completely transnational. There was some success here. Of the 25 Milestones that were approved during the first ten years or so of the program, only five were outside the United States, but just in 1999, milestones have been placed in South Africa and Italy. Reports on the respective ceremonies were published in the February 2000 issue of the IEEE Region 8 News. For the moment there

are new Milestones pending in Ireland and Japan.

More information on the milestone program can be found on the homepage of the IEEE History Center (http://www.ieee.org/organizations/history_center/) or by contacting one of the authors. ♦

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IEEE Member Conduct Committee

Members in Region 8 might not be aware of the ethical support that IEEE offers to engineers who experience problems in their workplace or in their involvement in learned society activities. The help available to members is restricted by the special status of IEEE as a not-for-profit organisation incorporated in the State of New York, and also by practical considerations such as the possibility that very large financial resources would be needed to engage in litigation.

Nevertheless IEEE members who believe that they have been wronged by the conduct of other IEEE members, whether in employment matters, or in professional or learned society activities, can apply to the Member Conduct Committee (MCC) for support. If it is determined that improper conduct occurred, the MCC can make recommendations to the IEEE Board of Directors for effective action to be taken.


The cornerstone of this procedure is the IEEE Code of Ethics distributed with the renewal pack to members each year. It follows therefore that disputes involving non-members do not fall within the guidelines laid down in the IEEE Bylaws for the Institute to be able to act. In these cases IEEE action is limited to a restatement of the ethical precepts that members are expected to follow. In other words IEEE can

exert, by virtue of its international standing as the world's largest and most prestigious learned society, strong moral pressure on the interested parties to rectify wrongs visited on IEEE members.

Where both parties to a dispute are members then IEEE can intervene. The obvious question that arises for members in Region 8 is the extent to which IEEE's writ would

be respected outside the USA, where IEEE has no legal standing and where normally the local national society would be expected to act in cases of unethical conduct by professional engineers.

There is no simple answer to such a question, given that we have nearly 40 Sections in Region 8. The key point surely is that IEEE members should not only take



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Ethics, but should also be willing to draw the attention of the relevant authorities to unethical behaviour in the workplace. In most cases "whistleblowing," as it is known, involves some risks, such as demotion or even dismissal. IEEE members placed in this position might expect to be able to call upon the Institute for assistance.

The purpose of this article has been to alert members in Region 8 to the need for the development of a regional policy on engineering ethics that would be compatible with the legal status of IEEE in the USA.

Any comments or suggestions on this topic would be welcomed. ♦

(The views expressed are entirely those of the author, who is currently a member of the IEEE Member Conduct Committee)

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Obituary

Robert Williams - Region 8 Pioneer

Robert Williams, IEEE Fellow, died on 26 March 2000 near his home in Guildford, Surrey, England. He was 93 years old. A graduate of the Imperial College of Science and Technology of the University of London, he worked for Murphy Radio, North American Philips and finally during 1948-69 he was Chief Engineer of Philips Electronics, and Associated Industries in the UK.

Robert Williams had an outstanding ability to question group thinking and to detect the effect of past events on the present, and of present events on the future. He displayed a shrewd knowledge of people, their hidden motives and their most likely reaction to new concepts and to new

events. On the formation of the transnational IEEE in 1963 he realised that the success of a Section in the UK hung on the support of senior engineers and became Founder Chairman of the UK and Republic of Ireland Section with a committee which included past and future Presidents of the (British) Institution of Electrical Engineers. In 1967 he became the third Director of Region 8 and, realising the importance of binding together members in the Region's then 11 Sections situated in different countries, he became Founder Editor of the Region 8 Newsletter.

He brought new technology into practice, and was among the earliest to realise

its importance for mass communication. In 1962 he was the first to propose remote learning through a "Televarsity" an idea which now flourishes in the UK as the Open University. He saw the possibilities of cable television, and was a leader in making Guildford one of the first to be wired. He published a number of papers, chaired committee TC74 of the International Electrotechnical Commission as well as numerous international conference committees, and received many awards in recognition of his pioneering farsightedness. His wife predeceased him, and he leaves a daughter, Fiona. ♦



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DEADLINES

Material to reach me by the following dates:

May 2000 - 13 March 2000

August 2000 - 12 June 2000

November 2000 - 8 September 2000

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IEEE Region 8 EUROCON'2001 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRENDS IN COMMUNICATIONS

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Telecommunication Management
Multimedia Telecommunications Services

This list is not exhaustive; papers on any other relevant topic will be considered. You are invited to send an extended abstract of about 500 - 1000 words to: eurocon@ktl.elf.stuba.sk

SCHEDULE

- Submission of Extended abstract or Full paper already November 15, 2000
- Submission of Full Paper - max. 4 side A4 (if) not sent before) January 31, 2001
- Acceptance/Reject notification to author(s) after reviewing April 1, 2001
- Obligatory fee payment before printing Proceedings May 1, 2001
- Program and registration details available on www June 1, 2001

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Conferences

The Region 8 Homepage list of R8 Conferences and Technically Co-sponsored events is regularly updated. Visit our Website at <http://www.ieee.si/r8-conf.html>

SAFE2000

29 – 30 November 2000 Veldhoven, Netherlands

The workshop on **Semiconductor Advances for Future Electronics** (SAFE2000) will be held in Veldhoven, The Netherlands, 29-30 November 2000. SAFE2000 focuses on recent developments of semiconductor research: IC manufacturing technology, semiconductor materials and device technology.

One of the objectives of this third SAFE workshop is to bring together researchers from universities, research institutes and industry to discuss the latest advances in research in their field. The workshop will consist of (invited) oral presentations by senior researchers and poster sessions. Especially the latter offers young PhD. students the opportunity to present their work to their peers and discuss the results.

The annual SAFE workshop is part of a three-day event organized by the Dutch Technology Foundation, STW on Semiconductor Research. **ProRISC** (November 30, December 1, 2000) focuses on circuit- and system design and signal

processing, **SeSens** (December 1, 2000) is about semiconductor sensor and actuator technology.

The deadline for submission of poster abstracts is August 1, 2000. Full details on the workshop are given on the web-site <http://www.stw.nl/safe>. The contributions of the workshop will be published in the proceedings (on CD-ROM), abstracts will be collected in a book of abstracts. Exhibition desks can be made available during the workshop for companies and organizations that wish to promote their products and services. ♦

Cor Claeys
Cor.claeys@imec.be

Calendar of Events

INFORMATION SCIENCE INNOVATIONS (ISI'2001)

17 – 21 March 2001 Dubai, UAE

The International NAISO Congress on Information Science Innovations is to be held at the American University in Dubai.

For more information visit the website:
<http://www.icsc.ab.ca/isi2001.htm>

WTC 2000 (incorporating ISS2000)

XVII World Telecommunications Congress

7 - 12 May 2000 International Convention Centre, Birmingham, UK

For more information visit the website:
<http://www.wtc2000.org/>

IGTE 2000 and TEAM WORKSHOP Ninth International IGTE Symposium on Numerical Field Calculation in Electrical Engineering

11 – 14 September 2000 Graz, Austria

For more details see the website:
<http://www-igte.tu-graz.ac.at/symp2000>

OPTIMIZATION AND INVERSE PROBLEMS IN ELECTROMAGNETICS

25 – 27 September 2000 Torino, Italy

The 6th International Workshop on Optimization and Inverse Problems in Electromagnetism is to be held in Torino, Italy. More information is available on the conference website: <http://www.polito.it/~gregiom/OIPE2000>.

PSP 2000

27 - 29 September 2000 Bled, Slovenia

The 12th International Conference on Power System Protection is organized by the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and co-organized by Slovenian IEEE PES Chapter. The aim of the conference is to exchange new ideas and practical experience between the power engineers and academia in the field of protective relays and its integration into local control and automation concepts.

The call for papers and more information can be found at: <http://lddees.fer.uni-lj.si/conference/psp2000.html> or contact:
Ms. Tadeja Babnik

Faculty of Electrical Engineering
Trzaska 25
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
Fax: +386 61 1264 651
E-mail: conferen@streln.fe.uni-lj.si

MED POWER 2000

13 - 15 November 2000 Dan Acadia Hotel, Herzlia, Israel

The 2nd Mediterranean Conference on Power Engineering: Generation, Transmission, Distribution and Energy Conversion.

For further information please contact the technical program organizers:

Association of Engineers and
Architects in Israel,
200 Dizengoff St.,
P.O. Box 3082,
Tel Aviv 61030
Israel.
Tel.: +972-3-523-5901,
Fax: +03-524-4618,
E-mail: aeai@netvision.net.il ♦

Dr. Gady Golan
gady@oumail.openu.ac.il

Circuits and Systems Society

Planned year 2000 Conference activity in Region 8 follows. Most are associated with IEEE, and are mainly of interest to Circuits and Systems Community. The list is not complete.

ISSE2000, 23rd Spring Seminar on Electronics Technology (Networking Electronics Packaging Education), 6-10 May 2000, Balatonfured, Hungary (<http://www.ett.bme.hu/isse>)

MIKON 2000 (XIII International Conference on Microwaves, Radar, and Wireless Communications) Wroclaw, Poland, 22-24 May 2000. Sponsored by Poland AP/AES/MTT/ED Chapters and MTT and AES Societies. (<http://www.pit.edu.pl/MIKON-2000>)

Non-linear Dynamics of Electronic Systems, NDES'2000, 18-20 May 2000, University of Catania, Italy. (<http://www.chaos.cc/ndes2000>) Supported by IEEE CAS Society

Cellular Neural Networks and their Applications, CNNA'2000, University of Catania, Italy, 23-25 May 2000 (<http://www.cdc.unict.it/~cnna2000>), supported by IEEE CAS Society.

10th Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference, Cyprus, 29-31 May 2000 (MELECON) (<http://www.cs.ucv.ac.cy/melecon2000/home/index.html>)

International Symposium on Circuits and Systems, ISCAS'2000, 28-31 May 2000 in Geneva, Switzerland. Sponsored by IEEE CAS Society (<http://iscas.efpl.ch>)

Conference on Neural Networks, (NC'2000) at the Technical University of Berlin, May 23-26, 2000 (<http://www.icsc.ab.ca/nc2000.htm>)

IEEE Nordic Signal Processing Symposium, Norsig '2000 13-15 June 2000 in Kolmarden Sweden (<http://www.es.isy.liu.se/norsig2000>)

The Turkey CAS Chapter is a co-sponsor of the conference 'Balkan Conference on Signal Processing, Communications, Circuits, and Systems' to be held during the week before ICAS-SP'2000

International Conferences on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing, ICASSP'2000 in Istanbul, Turkey, 5-9 June 2000 (<http://icassp2000.sdsu.edu>)

VIPromCom-2000 (2nd Workshop on Video Processing and Multimedia Communications, Zadar, Croatia, 28-30 June 2000 (<http://grgicnt.cc.fer.hr/vip2000/>)

Asynchronous Interfaces: tools, techniques and implementations, AINT'2000, TU Delft, Netherlands, 19-20 July 2000 - Supported

by IEEE CAS Society, IEEE UKRI CAS Chapter, IEEE Benelux CAS Chapter (www.eee.kcl.ac.uk/~comfort/AINT2000.html)

International Symposium on Low-Power Electronics and Design (ISLPED). ISLPED'00 will take place 25-27 July 2000, in Rapallo on the Portofino Coast in Italy (<http://eda.polito.it/islped-00/>)

15th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PATTERN RECOGNITION, Hotel Barcelo Sants, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain, 3-8 September 2000, (<http://www.cvc.uab.es/ICPR2000>)

12th International Conference on Microelectronics, 30 Oct. - 2 Nov., 2000, in Tehran. Technically co-sponsored by IEEE Electron Devices Society, (<http://ICM2000.ut.ac.ir>)

PATMOS 2000: international workshop on Power, Modelling, Optimization and Simulation. Technical cosponsorship with the IEEE CAS Society. (<http://patmos2000.uni-hannover.de>)

ASync 2000 Sixth IEEE International Symposium on Advanced Research in Asynchronous Circuits and Systems Co-Sponsored by IEEE, Intel Corporation, Technion — Israel Institute of Technology, Eilat, Israel, April 4-6, 2000 (<http://atlantis.technion.ac.il/Async2000>)

ESSDERC'2000 (the 30th) will be 11-13 September 2000, Cork, Ireland. Sponsored by IEEE ED Society (<http://www.essderc.org>)

3rd European DSP Education and Research Conference (Texas Instruments), 20-21 Sept 2000, Paris, France.

International Workshop on Symbolic Methods and Applications in Circuit Design (SMACD'2000), Lisbon, Portugal, 11-13 October 2000. (<http://gcsi0.ist.utl.pt/SMACD2000/>)

Design of Circuits and Integrated Systems, DCIS'2000, November in Montpellier (France) DCIS 2000 is sponsored by the French IEEE CAS chapter (DCIS'1999 was sponsored by the Spain chapter last year).

ICECS'2K in Lebanon (17-20 December 2000) (<http://www.icecs2k.polymtl.ca>). Supported by IEEE CAS Society

So you really will have no time to return home even if you come to Region 8 just to attend conferences. If you stay to experience the culture as well, perhaps a one-way plane-ticket is advisable. ♦

News supplied by:
Tony Davies
tonydavies@ieee.org

EDITORIAL

Hi folks,

As you can see from the article in this issue, we have a new Student Activities Chair, Javier, as Gozde has been promoted to the Regional Activities Board Vice-Chair for Student Activities. That happened to her predecessor Levent, too, who now is Region 8 Director Elect. Does this mean we'll soon have our first female Regional Director? Well, more important for us is that, with the RAB Student Activities Chair still coming from Region 8, we will continue to have a very strong voice in IEEE as a whole, especially when it comes to globalization of our Institute. One of the great achievements in recent years is that the number of contests and awards in Region 1-6 which are open to all students continues to increase. It's now up to you to take part in these events to show that non-US branches clearly are as competitive as their American counterparts. One occasion to do so is the Myron Zucker Design Award. For more information, have a look at the deadlines section.

I'd like to clarify some misunderstanding that arose from an error in the header of the Student News. In the past issues, I still was listed as the Student Representative instead of Student News Editor. Student Rep, of course, is Jorge (j.s.ponz@ieee.org), so anything related to student branch operations like reports and the like should be directed towards him instead of me. Sorry for the error, which should have been corrected already in the last issue.

Once again, I'd like to thank all contributors to this issue, especially the METU branch with its incredible range of activities. If the amount of articles keeps increasing like this, the Student News will soon make up most of the Region 8 News.

Jens

Message from the New Student Activities Chair

It is a great pleasure for me to be appointed as the new SAC Chair of IEEE Region 8. First of all I would like to thank Gozde Bozdagi, my predecessor, for her outstanding work since 1998. She has recently being elected RAB Student Activities Vice-Chair, where she will reach even higher levels of success on behalf of the IEEE student community worldwide. My main objectives from now on will be centered in continuing the currently running programs and establishing new strategies to help all student members in our Region so that we continue being one of the most active in the world. I am keeping the Student Activities Committee structure that Gozde created and we are in the process of selecting a new coordinator for Awards & Recognition (which was my duty till now).

I have some ideas on the future but I'll talk to you about them in a next occasion as I'm rather new in this position and I still have to settle down a bit. I'm particularly concerned with increasing student membership in our region, increasing the level of activity and participation of our students in the IEEE awards and recognition programs and improving electronic communication among our student branches.

The most exciting event for students I can talk to you about is the second R8 Student Branch Congress (SBC) which will take place in Eindhoven, The Netherlands from 14th to 19th of May this year. The organizing committee is doing a fantastic job and I would like to thank them for it. The previous SBC took place in 1998 in Turkey and it was an extremely successful event. The four days length of the Turkey SBC has turned into six days this year. During these days there will be leadership training sessions, discussions and forums about problems student branches have, tutorials on different topics, company visits,



etc., along with the possibility of attending local events such as the egg-drop contest and the IEEE SBE Symposium. Amazing, isn't it? Over 60 people have already registered for the Congress and 6 of them are from outside R8! I hope to meet some of you there.

The results of the written finals of the 2000 R8 Student Paper Contest are ready and Martin Bastiaans, the SPC coordinator will talk to you about it in an accompanying article.

I would also like to mention the success of the International Millennium Seminar on Electrical Engineering, organized by the Sharif University SB, with astonishing levels of participation (over 2000 attendants) and the special sponsorship of Ken Laker, 1999 IEEE president, and Rolf Remshardt, Region 8 Director. Great work!

Well, I think this is enough for my first message as R8 SAC and I would like to finish asking you to tell me about your ideas, comments and suggestions on anything you consider important for improving the student activities in our region.

Once again, it is really exciting for me to face this new stage and I promise you I will work hard to help you in any way regarding IEEE student activities from now on. You can reach me at:

Javier Macías-Guarasa
ETSI Telecomunicación
Ciudad Universitaria s/n
28040-MADRID, SPAIN
E-mail: j.macias@ieee.org ♦

STUDENT PAPER CONTEST 2000

The IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest 2000 attracted 20 papers.

A jury consisting of Jordan Kolev (Varna, Bulgaria), Javier Macias-Guarasa (Madrid, Spain), Gregory Malliotis (Cyprus), Kurt Richter (Graz, Austria) and chaired by Martin Bastiaans (Eindhoven, Netherlands) has

continued on page 12

selected the following six papers (in alphabetical order of the author) for the oral finals:

- ♦ Ahmed Nabil Mohamed Al-Zeftawi, Khaled Mahmoud Abd El-Fattah, Hyman Nabil Hussien Shanan, Tarek Salah Eddeen Mohammad Kamel (Cairo), "CMOS mixed digital/analog reconfigurable neural network with Gaussian synapses"
- ♦ Ales Bardorfer (Ljubljana), "Connecting haptic interface with a robot"
- ♦ Alfons W. Bogalecki (Pretoria), "Design of a waveguide-based opto-electronic integrated circuit in silicon CMOS technology"
- ♦ Christian Günselmann (Bochum), "A contribution to the modeling of short channel MOSFETs for HF circuit simulations"
- ♦ Nader Motee (Tehran - Sharif) "Design parameters selection in the multimodel adaptive control"
- ♦ Allert van Zelst (Eindhoven) "Extending the capacity of wireless LANs using space division multiplexing combined with OFDM"

The oral finals will take place on 30 May 2000, in conjunction with Melecon '2000, the 10th Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference, Cyprus, 29-31 May 2000. ♦

Martin Bastiaans,
IEEE Region 8 Student
Paper Contest Co-ordinator

First Year of SB NIS, Yugoslavia

Hi everybody!

The University of Nis SB was formed in March 1999 as the first SB in the Yugoslavia Section. Our activities are mostly taking place at the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, with more than 1500 undergraduate and 150 graduate students. Our SB currently has one branch chapter, sponsored by ED and SSC Societies. The previous one year period was very turbulent here in

Yugoslavia, as you probably have been watching on TV and reading in newspapers. Honestly, I was a bit afraid that IEEE would not survive in Yugoslavia. I'm now sure I was wrong and am very happy about it. IEEE in general and our IEEE projects survived owing to understanding of the people in Piscataway and, particularly, in the Region 8. Of course, the efforts of dedicated volunteers from here played at least some role.

During the first year of branch existence, we have held several meetings with invited speakers and video tape projections. All the meetings were accompanied by interesting social gatherings (we students especially like such events, don't we?). Are we satisfied with the level of our SB activities? Not completely. Will we do our best to do better in the future? Sure. We have plans for promotion of IEEE at the university, computer courses, a small workshop, some tours and picnics... Maybe the other branches could help us. Please tell us about your experience, new ideas and proposals for eventual joint projects. The E-mail of our SB is:

ieee_sb@elfak.ni.ac.yu. ♦

Aleksandar Jaksic
Chairman, University of Nis SB
jaksa@elfak.ni.ac.yu

METU SB, Turkey Reports

Editor-in-Chief's Note: The Student Branch of the Middle-East Technical University in Turkey has been particularly active. Due to space limitations, some of their news can only be published in the August 2000 issue of the R8 News.

BTIE2000 Conference and Exhibit

The Education with Information Technologies Conference and Exhibit 2000 (BTIE2000) will be held on 15-17 May 2000, at the Middle-East Technical University (METU) Cultural and Convention Center. The opening will be made by the President of Turkey, Suleyman Demirel and the Minister of Education,

Metin Bostancioglu. The main sponsor of the conference is Turkcell, one of the major GSM operators in Europe.

This year's themes are Globalization and Its Effects on Education, Institutional Education and Internet Based Education. Also of significant importance are activities focusing on Mathematics Education using computers. The exhibit will be hosting the global big players of IT. A few to list will be Apple, IBM, Microsoft, Oracle, and Sun. Major software companies specializing in education products will also present their work. There will be booths for academic and research institutions in Turkey also. These form the backbone of all work presented, because without proper background all IT solutions in the education sector are just nice toys.

We are expecting an attendance of at least 3,000 to the workshops and at least 30,000 to the exhibition. In fact there will be a free bus service for the METU campus from major locations in Ankara to back up the attendance.

We have also contacted the IEEE Eindhoven SB to establish a videoconferencing link between BTIE2000 and the Student Congress to be held there at the same dates. We are both exploring technical and financial possibilities of this co-operation at the moment.

If you are curious about this event, please feel free to contact me. ♦

Salim Ismail
IEEE METU SB
Fair Committee Chairman and Secretary
s.ismail@ieee.org

Computer Society Chapter Organizes Workshop on Operating Systems

The IEEE Computer Society METU Branch Chapter (yet waiting for official approval as of March 2000) is going to organize a workshop on Operating Systems in 23 May 2000 (tentative), at the METU Cultural and Convention Center.

Representatives of the major operating system players, namely Microsoft, Sun, Apple and the Linux Community and an academic speaker will be participating in the workshop. They will discuss technical issues like security, stability, user friendliness, network performance, application and hardware support. There will be two sessions and a cocktail.

The procedure of the first session will be as follows. For each topic, a specialist on the subject will give a brief outline and present the major problems. Then each representative will show how their OS copes with these problems. After all presentations of the topic, a world-wide known OS expert will tell whether he is satisfied or not and if possible declare the winner. (We are still contacting people so this name is kept secret at the moment.) The second session will be a Q&A session where all sorts of questions are welcome. However we will definitely not tolerate any attacks to any party.

If you want to have more information about this event, please contact us. ♦

*Omer Emre Tokel
Vice-Chairperson (Interim)
IEEE Computer Society
METU Branch Chapter
oemre@ieee.metu.edu.tr*

Region 8: A Mirror in Which to look at Ourselves

In this month of May, we are onto a good thing. We celebrate the second occasion of the Student Branch Congress in Eindhoven (Netherlands). The first Congress was in Istanbul two years ago. It looks that it has been a long time since then, but it has been too short for all those volunteers who have devoted and still devote their time and efforts to the fact that the SBC is confirmed and consolidated as something firm and solid in the IEEE.

Many people from other Regions have inquired for the things which we are doing in Region 8 and there will be many students

from those other Regions of the IEEE in Eindhoven to observe what is obtained, with the intention of copying it in their respective Regions. Therefore, we must put more effort, if it is possible, into such events, so they may have the greatest success to point out our presence in the bosom of the IEEE.

In this way, the international distribution of the magazine *Buran* in the Region 9 has been a success. A local initiative of the Student Branch of Barcelona (Spain) has obtained, in just a few years, an international projection and recognition that constitutes an example to follow.

Also we should consider the enormous efforts of the dynamic student branches from the Middle East, especially from Iran, that with great shortage of means, manage to captivate and to mobilize a great number of students. They carry out various activities and events to seek the continuous and updated training of the IEEE members, as an essential concomitant to the university education. Another success to be proud of.

And the examples are multiplied everywhere. The force of the students of the IEEE in Region 8 is tremendous and boundless, and it only needs your ideas and efforts to carry them through. The IEEE students of Region 8 are on the right track, leading the rest of IEEE students. Thus, we are a mirror in which we and others may look to see ourselves.

Keep on doing so well! We continue on this way, exporting our ideas and "recipes" of success to the Regions of the IEEE. Thank you all very much! ♦

*Jorge-Luis Sanchez-Ponz
Region 8 Student Representative
j.s.ponz@ieee.org*

International Millennium Seminar on Electrical Engineering

The International Millennium Seminar on Electrical Engineering was organized by the IEEE Student Branch at the Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran during 1-3

March 2000, with the general theme to celebrate the eve of the new millennium.

Initial ideas were put forward by the officers of the Branch in May 1999. The meeting was intended to present a global introduction to Electrical Engineering by discussing past achievements, present status and the future of major fields in Electrical Engineering. Such a meeting should consist only of invited talks by leading authorities and of course could have a wide range of audience from BS to expert levels.

After doing preliminary discussions with the faculty at the Department of Electrical Engineering, the Branch started to establish the Organizing Committee. Led by Mr. Ali Niazi (3rd year BS student) as the Executive Director/Co-chair, Mr. Amir Farajidana as the Vice-Chair of the meeting and Ms. Laleh Sahhafi as the Seminar's Secretary, the Organizing Committee invited the following students responsible for the Head positions of the Committees:

- ♦ Ms. Maryam Hemmati, Advertisements Committee
- ♦ Ms. Sanaz Adl, Communications Committee
- ♦ Ms. Isar Nejadgholi, Coordinations Committee
- ♦ Mr. Ali Bahrani-Sharif, Finance Committee
- ♦ Mr. Kaveh Vahdat, Industrial Affairs Committee
- ♦ Mr. Babak Kaveh, International Affairs Committee
- ♦ Mr. Saeed Chehrizi, Software Committee
- ♦ Mr. Behnam Analui, Technical Committee

The Organizing Committee started communications with 1999 IEEE Region 8 Director, Dr. Rolf Remshardt, and 1999 IEEE President, Prof. Kenneth Laker in order to collect greeting messages for inclusion into the Seminar's welcome brochure.

continued on page 14

Meanwhile, the Technical Committee generated a detailed listing of 400 well-known lecturers around the world, consisting of more than 300 IEEE Distinguished Lecturers. A Scientific Advisory Board including 20 faculty members helped the students to select about 60 lecturers for sending invitation letters.

Soon the first release of the Seminar's web page was installed on both one of the University servers and a mirror on a fast connection. The web page was able to serve the visitors by a guest book, online registration, and useful information about the Sharif University of Technology and Iran.

In mid-September the invitation packages including the Welcome Brochure and two tourist guides to Iran were posted. Thanks to the sponsorship of 1999 IEEE President, Prof. Laker, the seminar's Organizing Committee was able to receive 27 guest lecturers from local universities and research centers and 31 guest lecturers from Australia, Austria, England, France, Germany, India, Italy, Russia, and the United States.

The opening ceremony was attended by the President of Sharif University of Technology and the Minister of Telecommunications, Professor Aref, and a number of ambassadors on behalf of their countries of mission.

A total of 58 lecturers presented more than 72 talks each being 75 or 45 minutes long including discussions. Two roundtable discussions on the situation of national telecommunication and power systems and one national session under the title "Opportunities in Micro-electronics for Developing Countries," were arranged in parallel to other activities. The latter session was attended by the Minister of Industries. There was a total of 9 parallel running sessions, two out of which were devoted to 8 short courses.

The Industrial Affairs Committee coordinated an attractive exhibition in which 24 active national firms and producing companies in different fields of Electrical Engineering participated.

Thanks to the effective 24 hours per day work of more than 180 BS students, 15 MS students and 5 PhD students, and assisted by about 1200 students of Electrical Engineering, 350 faculty members, and 450 specially invited attendees, the International Millennium Seminar on Electrical Engineering commenced on March 1 morning and ended on the evening of March 3 in a friendly atmosphere.

A two day post-seminar tour to the historic cities of Iran was arranged on March 4-5 and was attended by 28 persons including several guest lecturers and a number of students from the Organizing Committee. The tour included visits to several places of interests in Shiraz and Isfahan.

In this context it is our pleasure to express our gratitude for the effective cooperation of IEEE Presidency, Region 8 Officers, IEEE Headquarters, Department of Electrical Engineering at Sharif University of Technology, Iranian Presidential Office, Iranian Government, and all our sponsors who assisted us in organizing a successful meeting.

"The IEEE International Millennium Seminar on Electrical Engineering is a glowing example of outstanding IEEE Student Branch initiative." (quoted from the Welcome message by 1999 IEEE President, Professor Kenneth R. Laker)

"This will be an excellent basis for increased student activities, which will guarantee a brilliant future for Engineering, for the benefit of humanity and technological progress in Iran." (quoted from the Welcome message by 1999 IEEE Region 8 Director, Dr. Rolf Remshardt) ♦

*Sina Khorasani
s.khorasani@ieee.org*

ISCEE'99 In Tehran

The second Iranian Student Conference on Electrical Engineering (ISCEE'99), from 24-26 Nov. at Amir Kabir University (Tehran Polytechnics), Tehran, Iran, was a great opportunity to introduce IEEE/GOLD and provide services to the future Iranian engineers.

More than 3000 students, from different Iranian Universities, attended this 3-day conference, which included a total of 1000 lectures on different disciplines of electrical engineering.

During the conference, the University of Tehran IEEE Student Branch did its best to make students more familiar with IEEE and the vast benefits one can get through it. Our branch desk was one of the most popular desks at the conference exhibition. We had the honor to explain to the visitors the advantages of being an IEEE member, how to establish an SB in their universities and how to shape their future career and insure their professional life through GOLD programs. We let them know more about our Branch activities by distributing a free special issue of our branch newsletter.

During the second day, a gathering was held among all student branches in Iran. As the winner of Region 8 exemplary student branch award in 1998, Azad Shadman & Vahid M. Giahi, chair and vice chair of UT SB, provided information about Branch past & present activities as well as the future plans and programs. We also took advantage of this meeting and provided student branch representatives with more details about extending GOLDen team's capabilities in Iran section.

Since most of them knew very little about GOLD, the lecture on GOLD was commenced by an introduction to the idea behind 'Graduates Of the Last Decade' program and attempts made so far to form an official committee in Iran.

At the end of this meeting all branch representatives approved to form a committee, including one representative from each IEEE SB in Iran, in order to have joint IEEE programs more effectively, and I think this goal is not very far from being reached. ♦

*Mahnaz Maddah
Iranian GOLD Executive Chair
University of Tehran IEEE Student Branch
m.maddah@ieee.org*

The Net to the Student (Not Vice Versa)

The Padova (Italy) Student Branch Reports:

We want to build a wireless internet infrastructure in the Engineering Department of the University of Padova, Italy.

We've got a domain, ir3dei.ampr.org and once a week we meet to discuss new ideas and networking experiences.

This is one of the goals of Laras (Radio Laboratory for Students), a work group born within the local Student Branch.

Other goals: we will soon start analyzing signals of a satellite uplink that will connect our university to others and also approach satellite communications. We can count on the experience of the amateur radio groups in Italy and in the surrounding countries: they are establishing digital-radio standards all around and we are trying to keep up with them.

If someone else out there is interested, let us know we could start a useful cooperation.

Contact us or check us out:

<http://www.dei.unipd.it/~laras/> ♦

Marco Tassinari (taffi@ieee.org)

Student Branch

University of Padova

ieeesb@dei.unipd.it

Deadlines and Upcoming Events

- | | |
|------------|--|
| May 15-20 | Second Student Branch Congress in Eindhoven, The Netherlands. See this issue for more information. |
| May 15-17 | BTIE2000 at the Middle-East Technical University (METU), Turkey. See also the article in this issue |
| May 23 | Workshop on Operating Systems at METU. See also the article in this issue |
| May 19 | Deadline for the 2000 Myron Zucker Industry Applications Design Awards. For more information, have a look at http://www.electrostandards.com/zucker.htm |
| May 30 | Oral finals of the Region 8 Student Paper Contest held at Melecon '2000, the 10th Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference, Cyprus, May 29-31 |
| June 25-26 | Web Workshop of the IEEE Student Branch Passau, Germany. For details, see http://ieee.students.uni-passau.de |
| 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 E-mail.

News from IEEE *continued*

IEEE Power Engineering Society Winter Meeting held 23 - 27 Jan in Singapore, Exhibits recruited 20 New members and brought in US\$21 400 in revenue. IEEE Press products accounted for 53 percent of the sales.

Exhibits attributes much of the show's success to the IEEE's Singapore-based Asian Pacific Operations Center staff, who provided invaluable assistance both at the show and in the planning stages.

For more information, contact Linda Riley, IEEE Sales & Marketing, l.riley@ieee.org.

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
25 Feb 2000
Vol. V, No. 4

Redesigned IEEE Spectrum Online Site Goes Live

As of 1 March, members can benefit from the completely redesigned IEEE Spectrum Online Web site, at <http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/>.

The improved site uses the capabilities of the Web to deliver content beyond what is available in print. New features exclusive to Spectrum Online include:

- ♦ "Daily Science and Technology News" provided by Reuters, the international news service. News is archived for 30 days.
- ♦ "Weekly Web Sights" reports on new, compelling Web sites of special interest to the science and technology communities.
- ♦ "Weekly Newslog" identifies and summarizes key science and technology events for the prior week.

The full text of each "IEEE Spectrum" issue is available online to IEEE members on the first of every month at <http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/>. The site will continue to provide an archive of "Spectrum" issues from 1996 onward, indexes of issues from 1990 forward, and a dedicated search engine.

IEEE Spectrum Online was available free to the general public for a six-week trial until 12 April 2000.

For more information, contact Steve Cherry, IEEE Publications, at s.cherry@ieee.org.

THE IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
10 March 2000
Vol. V, No. 5 ♦

News from IEEE

IEEE And Stevens Institute Partner To Offer Online Courses

The IEEE, together with Stevens Institute of Technology, will offer IEEE members graduate credit and a graduate certificate in Wireless Communications after successful completion of four online courses. Classes begin later this month and run through May. IEEE members will receive a 10 percent discount.

Courses include:

- ✦ Wireless Systems Overview: will explore the physics of wave generation, propagation and reception, continuing onto circuits and components.
- ✦ Signal/Data Processing in Wireless Communication Systems: provides in-depth treatment of signal and data processing in wireless communication systems.
- ✦ Physical Design of Wireless Communication: will extend the understanding of physical design of wireless communication systems, emphasizing transmitter and receiver sections.
- ✦ High-Level Design of Wireless Communication Systems: will help students understand high-level definition and the operation of today's wireless systems.

The courses are offered over the Internet on <http://www.WebCampus.Stevens.edu>, a distance-learning environment managed by The Graduate School at Stevens Institute of Technology. WebCampus.Stevens online classes permit students to take Stevens Graduate School courses from office or home PCs anywhere in the world, and at any time.

Requirements for admission are the same as those for conventional classroom courses. Credits are earned from The Graduate School and can be applied to a master's degree.

For more information, contact Alan Trembly, IEEE Educational Activities, at a.trembly@ieee.org.

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
14 Jan 2000
Vol. V, No. 1

IEEE/IEE Electronic Library Sets New Records

The IEEE/IEE Electronic Library (IEL) ended 1999 with US\$10.6 million in sales - its most successful year ever. IEL is the world's largest database of current electrical engineering and computer science literature.

New customers in December included QUALCOMM, Arizona State University, and university consortia in Korea (20 members) and Italy (10 members). More than 300 of the world's leading corporations, government agencies and universities subscribe to IEL.

Additionally, December sales reached an all-time monthly high, eclipsing the previous monthly record set in November 1999 by 30 percent.

For more information, log on to the IEL site at <http://www.ieee.org/iel/> or contact Karen Hawkins, IEEE Sales & Marketing, k.hawkins@ieee.org.

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
28 Jan 2000
Vol. V No. 2

List Of Standards Projects Posted Online

The updated list of new, revised and withdrawn standards projects that was recently approved by the IEEE-SA Standards Board can be found at <http://standards.ieee.org/board/nas/100nesrecs.html>.

For more information, contact Jodi Haasz, IEEE Standards Association, at j.haasz@ieee.org.

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
25 Feb 2000
Vol. V, No. 4

Society Chapter Web Pages

Chapter Chairs - bookmark this web page! www.ieee.org/organizations/tab/ciaservices.html. On this site you will find tools for Chapter development and a variety of Chapter services such as lists, labels, subsidy processing services and Chapter mailing services. We are sure this is a page that you will want to come back to again and again.

Another web page that is likely to be of interest to Society volunteers is www.ieee.org/organizations/tab/ciasoclist.html. Selecting your Society from this site will open a PDF file that can be saved to your hard drive for convenience. You will find a list of your Society's Chapters listed by Section within Region as well as the number of Society members in each Section. Blue lettering indicates an existing Chapter and those in red are areas, which are ripe with possibility for Chapter formation. The information on this site is updated twice per year. Contact Linda

Pellis, l.pellis@ieee.org, of the IEEE Technical Activities Department with any questions or comments.

IEEE SCOOP
February 2000

IEEE First

On any printed material, whenever referring to your Society or Chapter, please remember to put IEEE first. For example, if you are publishing a brochure for a Magnetics Society event, it should always be printed as the "IEEE Magnetics Society". This is a must for all Technical and Geographic entities. Don't leave room for doubt!

IEEE SCOOP
February 2000

IEEE History Center Wins Encyclopedia Britannica Award

The IEEE History Center's Web site has been honored with an award from Encyclopedia Britannica - the Britannica Internet Guide Award. The site was chosen for its quality, accuracy and usability in the presentation of historical material.

For more information, go to http://www.ieee.org/organizations/history_center/website_awards.html.

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
25 Feb 2000
Vol. V, No. 4

Sections Congress '99 Recommendations Receive Assignment

The 40 recommendations developed and prioritized at IEEE Sections Congress '99 were reviewed by the IEEE Board of Directors at its meeting in November and assigned to the various boards and committees for action. To find out how the recommendations were assigned, visit <http://www.ieee.org/sc>.

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
14 Jan 2000
Vol. V, No. 1

Exhibits Has Most Successful International Show Ever

The Exhibits group in IEEE Sales & Marketing recently returned from its most successful international show. At the 2000

continued on page 15