http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/   http://www.ieee.org/regional/r8/

From the Regional Director

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW REGIONAL DIRECTOR

One of our bi-annual routine tasks is the transfer of the top-level regional duty to the new director. It is my great honor and pleasure to be the 2001-2002 Region 8 Director. Greetings...

Historically, the profile of IEEE members in our region is strongly technical: the average society membership among the Region 8 members is significantly higher than the general IEEE average. Therefore, the main focus in the Region during my two-year term is going to be on technical activities. We also have a new Technical Activities Vice Chair in Region 8: Tony Davies will be in charge of our conferences, educational activities and chapter coordination. One of the key issues, among his concerns, will be that of accreditation of engineering education programs in our region and the role that IEEE might play through its ABET involvement.

The prestigious Larry K Wilson Award, for accomplishments in fulfilling transnation-al objectives of the Regional Activities Board and/or its Vice President, was presented to Nahel M Amirah by the IEEE president, Bruce Eisenstein. In addition, several awards were presented to students who had excelled at the Egyptian Student Paper Contest.

We have enjoyed a growing interest by IEEE in Region 8, especially during the past few years. However, there is an even larger potential. Presentation of IEEE member benefits to our potential members, and guiding the IEEE operations towards the needs of our members are the main task of our new Region 8 Membership Activities Vice Chair

Region 8 Administration

Editor's Note: In order to provide members with a clearer picture as to the workings of the Region 8 Committee, it is intended to publish short articles on the responsibilities of various members of the Executive Committee. It is believed that this will contribute to the transparency with which Region 8 conducts its business.

The Secretary

With over 350.000 members worldwide in more than 100 countries it is clearly very difficult for IEEE to operate truly effectively from a single central office based in the USA. The 10 Regions of IEEE are the geographical units that were created to devolve the governance down to the local level, where it is primarily the responsibility of unpaid volunteers. The Regional Secretary's job is to ensure that the administration of the Region's business is carried out efficiently, to maximize the return from the efforts of over 500 volunteers.

The Secretary organizes the two meetings each year held to co-ordinate the activity of the Sections, Chapters and Student Branches in Europe, Africa, Russia and the Middle East. These meetings are attended by about 60 volunteers, including the Chairs of the 37 Sections, and take place in different countries in the Region (recent meetings have been held in Oslo and Cairo, and the next meeting in March 2001 will be in Seville). The records or minutes of these meetings are maintained in the regional archives. Items requiring follow-up action are dealt with through the various Region 8 sub-committees, such as education, conferences, chapter co-ordination, etc.

The executive committee for Region 8, OPCOM, acts as the planning and policy implementation group, comprising the Director, Director-elect, Treasurer, Secretary and 4 Vice Chairs. The appointment of the Secretary is done strictly in accordance with the Region 8 by-laws.

The Secretary is also responsible for ensuring that close liaison is maintained with the Headquarters Office in Piscataway,

Gerhard Hancke. As usual, electronic communication issues and the continuation of this Region 8 Newsletter will be among his primary interests. Paying closer attention to the needs of newly graduated engineers, and putting together special programs to satisfy their particular needs will also be important issues through our GOLD program.

Region 8 is well known for its support to its student members and student branches. Our new Vice-Chair for student activities is Christian Borgert, and this support will grow under his guidance.

During my term, a new initiative will be to boost the activities of the IEEE Standards Association in our region. There will be a new appointment to our committee along this direction. The expected benefits are twofold: better introduction of a prominent standards body (IEEE SA) to our region, and to give a better chance to our members in Region 8 to get directly involved in standard development activities of IEEE SA. These activities will also significantly improve our relations with industry in Region 8.

As you may know, IEEE is mainly a volunteer driven organization. Almost all of its activities in our region are conducted by its volunteer members. Such activities are demanding, but equally rewarding. I strongly encourage you, the member, to get involved in IEEE activities through your local Sections and Chapters. You may initiate local IEEE programs and activities; probably you are the best person to know what the needs are and how to conduct such activities in your area. You can do so also through Region 8, or through IEEE Societies. If you need help, please get in touch with me.

My sincere thanks go to Rolf Remshardt, Past Region 8 Director, and Kurt Richter, Adolf Schwab and Gozde Bozdagi who were the past Vice-chairs. They devoted significant amounts of their time to create a better IEEE in Region 8, and they succeeded. I am sure their support will continue and we will all benefit from that.

Best regards...

Levent Onural
Director Region 8
l.onural@ieee.org

New Jersey, as well as with the main IEEE Boards (such as Regional Activities, Technical Activities and Educational Activities) that have a regional dimension.

The Secretary has a primary responsibility to the local entities, especially the Sections and the Student Branches, to provide help and support to enable them to function effectively. Individual members can also call on the Secretary for help with membership issues, information and advice about IEEE meetings, relations with National Societies, formation of new entities, bylaw issues, or simply establishing contact with other volunteers.

If members have any problems that they feel might be resolved with the assistance of the Secretary, send an e-mail to: c.turner@ieee.org

Charles Turner
Secretary IEEE Region 8

The Treasurer

Usually one says "about money one should not talk, one should have it." Although fortunately we have some, I still would like to talk about it, "non olet" — as Latin people said, "it does not smell." In fact we are in a quite healthy financial situation, and I think it is worthwhile to give a short report, where the money comes from, how we spend it, and what problems arise in the financial field.

Speaking about the Region, we receive a certain share for each member in Region 8, from student members and "life members" (like me) zero. With about 45 000+ members in the Region, we receive as yearly "assessment" of around 315 kUS$, i.e. an average of about 7US$ /person. In addition, a general allocation is made to the Region of 73, 6 kUS$/year, and with interests on investments of about 20 kUS$ and voluntary contributions made by our members also of about 20 kU$ it adds up to around 425 kUS$/year.

In general we also spend this money, sometimes a little less, sometimes more (e.g this past year 2000!) by drawing on reserves which have accumulated over the years. For income and expenses a yearly "Budget" is proposed, based on anticipated tasks and voted on by the Committee in its fall meeting — and if changes are necessary again in spring. Financial controls are strictly applied.

All expenses of course are geared to member services one way or the other. Significant expenses occur for example for the R8 Newsletters, about 60kUS$/year, with 4 issues, and given our membership this means less than 35 US cents/copy, including printing, mailing etc. I suppose you will certainly find this a good bargain!

The Regional Committee, i.e. all Section Chairs and R8 Officers meet twice a year, travel and lodging involving around 160 kUS$ depending on the choice of venue, which varies through the Sections. Important decisions are taken, information about activities is exchanged, and new aspects discussed in "focus groups." Other funds of around 30 kU$ were dedicated in 2000 to "Chapter Support" and coordination by Tony Davies and his group of volunteers acting with the various Divisions and Societies. Also during year 2000 a "Chapter Chair Meeting" took place in Istanbul with an extra budget of 15 kUS$ from Region 8 and additional funds from the SP-Society. A large effort is devoted to Student Branches and Student Members, also to the tune of 30 kUS$/year. Again during 2000 the successful "Student Branch Conference" in Eindhoven added expenses of 70 kUS$ for the 125 + participants.

Other expenses concern "conferences," their setup and support - besides the R8 Conferences AFRICON, MELECON (and coming in 2001 EUROCON) numerous other IEEE Conferences need help in organization and finances, altogether around 20 kUS$. The function of the Vice Chair

Region 8 Administration *continued*

Technical Activities includes support for additional workshops and educational programs, for which around 10 kUS$ are allocated. A major aspect of regional policy concerns "membership activities," including enhanced services to members - from information, e-mail aliases, Gold-Programs etc. and efforts to enhance membership in general, e.g. by information stands at conferences, visits to Universities, awards and recognition programs etc. A special activity aims at helping formation of new Sections – recently Jordan and Iceland, with several more coming up in the near future - which in general require some priming money to set up office.

Another important item concerns the "Voluntary Contributions Fund", which is dedicated to help in all cases which cannot be covered by local funds, e.g. for countries with low income for participation at conferences, publications for University libraries etc. Grants were coordinated in 2000 by Zbynek Skvor, who should be contacted in case of need. It is the expressed intention of Region 8 to double, if possible, the voluntary contributions by adding normal funds.

To coordinate all these affairs - Region 8 formed an "Operating Committee" headed this past year by our 1999/2000 Director Rolf Remshardt, which meets a few times a year on a budget of about 20 k$.

Secretary Charles Turner and the Treasurer together use another 13 k$ for office and necessary travel. As many of the activities of Volunteers are associated with travel - sometimes over vast distances - compliance with the IEEE's "rules for travel by volunteers" must be strictly observed.

In view of the above it should come as no surprise that much of the Treasurer's daily responsibilities are in fact related to travel claims, budget development and oversight, annual reports, investment oversight, money transfers, etc.

Hans Schmitt
Region 8 Treasurer

Egypt Section Hosts Region 8 Committee

The Egypt Section was the gracious and generous host of the Region 8 Committee during its 14-15 October 2000 meeting. In this Millennium year they of course had an unfair advantage – their history stretches back over many millennia and is quite overwhelming.

As is customary at these meetings, the Host Section is able to address the committee on specific issues. These presentations are often on technical matters. In this case, however, the theme was a blend of technical and social issues. Dr. Rafat Gadwan, Chair of the IDSC in Cairo, spoke about the creation of a Social Economic Information Technology Data Base for Egypt. He referred to the extensive database development necessary in Egypt's socio-economic sphere. This affects schools, the legal system, various functions of government and also extends to include a photographic database of Egypt's rich and historic cultural heritage. Indeed, the issues he raised are of overriding importance to any developing society striving to bridge the technological divide. One of the interesting aspects was that of the conversion of Arabic speech to written text. Here it transpired that the fastest typist in Egypt is a blind person. A number of special and

Dr. R Gadwan addresses the R8 Committee members.

Nahel M Amirah (centre) holds the prestigious Larry K Wilson Award presented by the IEEE president, Bruce Eisenstein (left) with the Region 8 Director for 1999/2000 Rolf Remshardt (right) in attendance.

student presentations were made, including the prestigious Larry K Wilson Award, which recognizes accomplishments in fulfilling transnational objectives of the Regional Activities Board and/or its Vice President, to Nahel M Amirah by the IEEE president, Bruce Eisenstein

The Egypt Section organized two social events for the Region 8 Committee. These were a sound and light show at the Sphinx followed by dinner on Saturday 14 October, and a dinner cruise on the Nile on Sunday 15 October. The sound and light

show, with the overwhelming presence of the pyramids as backdrop, was breathtaking in its execution and historic reach.

This is the first time that the Region 8 Committee has held a meeting outside Europe. If the experience is anything to go by, it will not be the last.

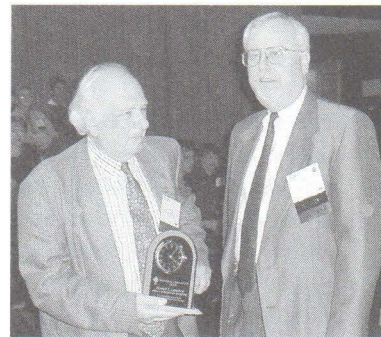*Duncan Baker*
R8 News Editor
duncan.baker@ieee.or

IEEE Professional Communications Society Honours Henrich Lantsberg

It is with great pleasure that we congratulate our esteemed friend and colleague Henrich Lantsberg who has been honoured with the IEEE Professional Communication Society's Emily K. Schlesinger Award for the year 2000. Henrich is the current Vice-Chair of the Russia Section. The award was presented during the International Professional Communication Conference held on September 25, 2000 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Prof. George Hayhoe, President of the IEEE Professional Communication Society presented the award.

The citation of the award is as follows: "For outstanding service to the IEEE PCS".

The award is given in recognition of Henrich's work in establishing the IEEE PCS chapter in Russia and for the many opportunities for professional exchange with colleagues in Eastern Europe that he helped to make possible during the past decade.

Duncan Baker
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Henrich Lantsberg (left) with George Hayhoe, President of the Professional Communication Society (photograph courtesy of Luke Maki, a member of PCS).

IEEE Electrical Engineering Milestone

County Kerry Transatlantic Cable Stations

On 13th July 2000, in County Kerry, Ireland, three IEEE plaques were unveiled at Waterville, Ballinskelligs and Valentia on the sites of the original County Kerry Transatlantic Cable Stations, to mark yet another IEEE Engineering Milestone. This Milestone Ceremony, which took place on the 134th anniversary to the very day of the departure from Valentia Harbour of the cable-laying ship, the Great Eastern, recognized the starting point for that famous transatlantic voyage, and the contribution County Kerry and its people have made to faster communication links between the continents of the world.
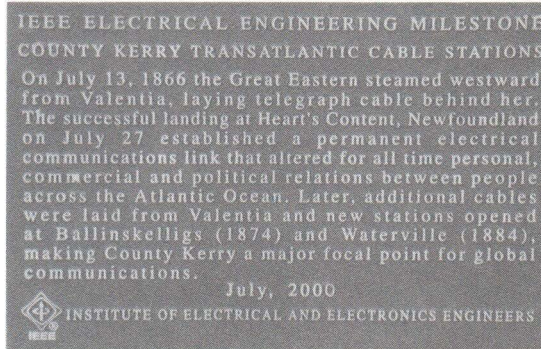
The message on each plaque reads:

"On July 13, 1866 the Great Eastern steamed westward from Valentia, laying telegraph cable behind her. The successful landing at Heart's Content, Newfoundland on July 27 established a permanent electrical communications link that altered for all time personal, commercial and political relations between people across the Atlantic Ocean. Later, additional cables were laid from Valentia and new stations opened at Ballinskelligs (1874) and Waterville (1884), making County Kerry a major focal point for global communications."

In 1985, a similar Milestone Ceremony was held to dedicate a plaque at Heart's Content, Newfoundland, Canada to mark the landing of the 1866 communications cable in North America.

At the main Ceremony on Valentia Island the IEEE President, Dr. Bruce Eisenstein and the Irish Government Minister for Justice and local Member of Parliament, Mr.John O'Donoghue took part in the Milestone Ceremony. Wally Read, a past IEEE President and member of the IEEE History Committee, brought greetings from

One of plaques unveiled at Milestone Ceremonies.

the Premier of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Honourable Brian Tobin.

In his remarks, Dr. Eisenstein praised this unprecedented technological accomplishment and the instantaneous impact it had for all of the peoples of the world.

Minister O'Donoghue then brought greetings from the Government of Ireland and thanked the IEEE for this recognition and sent his best wishes to the United States, Canada and especially to the Premier of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. He closed his remarks with a special presentation to President Eisenstein of a piece of the original 1866 cable.

Tom Hammons
Chair, UKRI Section

Irish Government Minister for Justice and local Member of Parliament, Mr. John O'Donoghue (left), presents a piece of the original 1866 cable to IEEE president, Dr. Bruce Eisenstein.

IEEE Elections

The results of the IEEE Elections for President-Elect and other positions, and those of various Boards for 2001 were announced in November 2000. Two of our colleagues, Maurice Papo and Adolf Schwab, have been elected to Regional Activities Board positions. We congratulate all of those elected. The results of interest to most members in Region 8 are:

IEEE President-Elect:
   Raymond D. Findlay
IEEE Secretary:
   Hugo Maria Fernandez-Verstegen
IEEE Treasurer:
   Dale C. Caston

Regional Activities: Vice President -
   Maurice Papo
RAB Treasurer:
   George Dean
   (Re-elected)

RAB Vice Chairs:
   ✦ Region, Section, Chapter Activities:
      Adolf Schwab
   ✦ Member Activities: Louis Luceri
   ✦ Strategic Planning:
      Harry D. Bostic (Re-elected)
   ✦ Student Activities: J. Patrick Donohoe

Educational Activities: Vice President -
   Lyle D. Feisel
Publications Activities: Vice President -
   James M. Tien

Region 8 Elections and Appointments

The results for the elections of Region 8 Vice-Chairs for 2001 — 2002 are as follows:

✦ Gerhard Hancke – VC Membership Activities, assisted by:
   Jeremy Newberry, Elecronics
      Communication Coordinator
   Jorge-Luis Sanchez-Ponz,
      GOLD Chair
   Iiro Hartimo,
      Membership Development
   Duncan Baker, Region 8 News Editor

✦ Tony Davies – VC Technical Activities, assisted by:

Prof. Jozef Modelski, Chair of Chapter Coordination
Prof. Tariq Durrani, Chair of the Conference Committee
Prof. Tuncay Birand, Chair of the Educational Activities Committee

✦ Christian Borgert – VC Student Activities, assisted by:
   Giorgia German, Student Representative
   Gozde Bozdagi, Past Vice Chair Student Activities
   Martin Bastiaans, Coordinator Student Paper Contest
   Javier Macias Guarasa, Awards and Recognitions Officer

Jens Hannemann, Student News Editor

The outgoing Director, Rolf Remshardt, also becomes, in terms of the Region 8 by-laws, the Chair of the Nominations and Appointments Committee. He will be assisted by Margaretha Eriksson and Ambelal Bilal.

In addition, again in terms of the bylaws, Rolf Remshardt will also serve as VC Strategic Planning.

In future issues the R8News will publish more information concerning the Vice Chairs' planned activities.

Duncan Baker
R8News Editor

Section and Chapter News

AUSTRIA
The Microwave Theory and Techniques/Communications Society joint Chapter of the Austria Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 2 November 2000. The interim Chair is Dr. Christoph F. Strnadl (*c.strnadl@ieee.org*).

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
The Circuits and Systems/ Communications Society joint Chapter of the Czechoslovakia Section has changed status to include the Signal Processing Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 5 October 2000. The interim Chair is Miloslav Splichal (*miloslav.splichal@army.cz*).

FRANCE
The Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology Society Chapter of the France Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 7 November 2000. Professor SmailTedjini is the interim Chair (*tedjini@tedjini.com* or *smail.tedjini@esisar.inpg.fr*).

The Solid State Circuits Society Chapter of the France Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 7 November 2000. Dr. Laurent Fesquet is the interim Chair (*laurent.fesquet@imag.fr*).

GERMANY
On June 26, 2000 the German chapter of IEEE PES awarded the prize for the best

diploma thesis for the first time. The price winner is Mr. Th. Kumm who studied electrical engineering at the Technical University of Berlin from 1990 until 1999. He wrote his thesis at the institute of high voltage engineering directed by Prof. Dr.-Ing. W. Kalkner. The title of his excellent diploma thesis was: "Comparative Examinations of Electrical Treeing in Medium Voltage Cables with Different Test Voltages Considering Characteristic Measured Quantities for Partial Discharge Phenomena". This prize was sponsored by ABB Germany. The award took place at ABB Dresden, with Mr. Stadler, member of the ABB Germany board attending. The prize will again be awarded in 2001 when both ABB and Siemens sponsor a prize

The photo shows from left to right: Prof. Dr. E. Handschin, Prof. Dr. W. Kalkner, Dr. W. Hauschild, Prof. Dr. J. Kindersberger, Dipl.-Ing. Th. Kumm, Dipl.-Ing. M. Stadler, Dr. F. Aschmoneit, Prof. Dr. W.-D. Schuppe.

each. The prize includes DM 5000, - which is expected to be spent for a visit to the IEEE Summer meeting. Potential candidates are invited to contact Prof. Kindersberger (email: *kindersb@ehhn1.et.tu-dresden.de*) for further information.

ICELAND

The Signal Processing/Circuits and Systems Society Chapter of the Iceland Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 1 December 2000. The interim Chair is Jon A Benediktsson (*benedikt@hi.is*).

ITALY

The Circuits and Systems Society Chapter of the Central & South Italy Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 16 October 2000. The interim Chair is Professor Luigi Fortuna (*lfortuna@dees.unict.it*).

NORTH ITALY

Meeting of the IEEE-North Italy Section Executive Committee.

Last 27 September 2000 the first meeting of the IEEE-North Italy Section Executive Committee has been held in Milan - Italy. This meeting is the first one that followed the election of Section Officers on 4 July 2000.

From the agenda the most important items discussed were the update of Chapters and Standing Committees. Also discussed

was the liaison with AEI and the presentation of a new volume dedicated to Alessandro Volta.

Updating of the Chapters

The Chapter Officer list has been updated. The most prominent changes are:

+ Professor Lo Storto informs that, following the proposal of 18 members, a new Chapter, EM014 (Jt. Central & So Italy/No) is in the process of formation.
+ Professor Negrini informs that Chapter C16 Officers are being renewed. The elections will be organized in connection of a next Chapter event or meeting.

Updating of the Standing Committees

The Section Roster has been updated in the following positions:

Educational Activities: the focus should be on life-long and continuing education to support the career and profession of engineers employed in companies. Professor Riccò will check the availability of Professor Vincenzo Pozzolo (Polytechnic of Turin) for this task.

Student Activities: Professor Riccò will investigate the availability of Professor Tenti (Counselor of the Student Branch of the University of Padova) to act as Senior Chair for this Committee. Ms. Tambosso will contact a student of the University of Pavia for the role of Junior Chair.

Newsletter Editor: Mr. Valle is appointed new Officer for this task, with a specific mandate to develop the Newsletter in electronic format on the AEI Website and feed the Region 8 Newsletter with Section-related news.

IEEE-AEI Memorandum of Understanding

It is agreed to pursue more than in the past opportunities for scientific cooperation between the IEEE and AEI (Associazione Elettrotecnica ed Elettronica Italiana). For this purpose, Mr. Lucchini, Vice Secretary-General, AEI, kindly accepts to be appointed Officer of the new Standing Committee "Liaison with AEI".

Also information from the Italian Section will be hosted on the AEI Web page.

Other matters discussed

Professor Dadda informs all those present on the preparation of a volume (with an enclosed CD-ROM) for Alessandro Volta's celebrations. The help of volunteers to translate Voltian texts into English will be welcome. The Secretary reminds all the participants that one of the objectives of the IEEE History Center (*http://www.ieee.org/organizations/history_center/*) is to honor significant achievements in electrical, electronic, and computer engineering.

Mario Valle
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avs@avs.it

SPAIN

The Industry Applications Society Chapter of the Spain Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 10 October 2000. The acting Chair is Jose A. Sanchez (*he02@dumbo.caminos.upm.es*).

The Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Chapter of the Spain Section has been formed. The effective date of this Chapter formation is 9 November 2000. The interim Chair is Dr. Adriano Camps (*camps@tsu.upc.es*).

SWEDEN

IEEE Sweden Section co-hosted the Nobel Laureates for luncheon and symposium December 13 and 15, 2000 at the Royal Institute of Technology in Kista, Stockholm.

The Swedish section is very proud of this event, and invited all IEEE members to attend the two open symposiums with Dr Kilby on December 13 (on Key innovations for Microelectronics) and Prof Alferov, Friday 15 (on Ioffe Institute: Past, Present and Future).

The Sweden Chair Margaretha Eriksson and Chapter Chairs Jens Zander and Mikael Östling attended honorary luncheons with Dr Kilby and Prof Alferov.

Margaretha Eriksson
irbiskonsult@swipnet.se

TURKEY

The Antennas and Propagation/Electron Devices/Microwave Theory and Techniques Society joint Chapter of the Turkey Section has changed status to include the Electromagnetic Compatibility Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 9 November 2000. The interim Chair is Professor Levant Gurel (*lgurel@ee.bilkent.edu.tr*).

UKRAINE

The Electron Devices/Microwave Theory and Techniques/Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology Society/Solid State Circuits joint Chapter of the Ukraine Section (Kiev) has changed status to include the Communications Society. The effective date of this Chapter change is 10 November 2000. The interim Chair is Professor Yuri M. Poplavko (*poplav@inec.kiev.ua*).

SYSTEMS ON A CHIP ACTIVITIES

It has been recognized by IEEE for a few years that there are newly-developing technical areas which cover the legitimate area of several IEEE Societies, as a result of which they may not be adequately supported by any part of IEEE. Recent examples are MEMS, Nanotechnology and "Systems on a Chip." Notice too that IEEE has no experience of merging IEEE Societies or of closing down IEEE Societies, it only has a history of forming new Societies!

In such cases, there is currently no satisfactory mechanism to form a Chapter on such a new or developing technical area unless one or more Societies support the Chapter. If they do support its formation, then all the Society members who live in the geographical area of the Chapter are obliged to become members of this new Chapter, whether or not they are interested in the new topic. Although such 'Thematic Chapters' have been under discussion in IEEE for several years, no clear mechanism to form and operate them has yet emerged.

The UKRI Section has decided to move the process forward in the case of 'Systems on a Chip' by considering the formation of a 'Sub-Chapter for Systems on a Chip'. All those Chapters in the UKRI Section which could have some interests in some aspect of Systems on a Chip are being invited to consider supporting this Joint Sub-Chapter. Since the concept of a Sub-Chapter does not exist in the IEEE bylaws, there is no specified mechanism (such as a petition) required to form one and subject to the agreement of a sufficient number of the existing UKRI Chapters to support it, there is therefore no obstacle to its establishment.

Invitations are going to the UKRI Chapters on Circuits and Systems, Communications, Computer, Electromagnetic Compatibility, Solid State Circuits (one in Ireland and one in Scotland) and Electron Devices to ask them to become 'parents' of this Sub-Chapter, which, once established with some financial support, will be able to initiate lectures and workshops on the topic, and associate itself with various Systems on a Chip Workshops and Conferences which are being planned. The Circuits and Systems Chapter is intended to take the lead role in co-ordinating this activity.

It is hoped that by this means, various events can be linked together to provide a stronger focus, and that additional activities will be encouraged.

Some of the events in R8 with a 'Systems on a Chip' theme for which plans are already in progress are:

- 2nd Int. Conf. on Application of Concurrency to System Design (ICACSD'2001) - support by IEEE CAS Society, held concurrently with 22nd Int. Conf on Applications and Theory of Petri Nets (ICATPN'2001), 25-29 June, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. *http://www.cs.ncl.ac.uk/events/ conferences/ccc/* and *http://www.daimi.aau.dk/PetriNets/ annce/index.html#PetriNets*
- ASOC, 2-3 August 2001, Edinburgh, Scotland, contact "D.K. Arvind" *dka@dcs.ed.ac.uk*
- European Conference on Circuit Theory and Design (ECCTD'2001), Espoo, Finland, 28-31 August 2001, European Circuits Society and IEEE CAS Society. Papers due 31 January 2001. *http://www.aplac.hut.fi/ECCTD01*. This conference is planning a special session for Systems on a Chip.

Additionally during 2001, IEEE CAS Society is planning a 'Systems on a Chip' workshop in France.

Anyone interested in this topic and wishing to contribute to this development is invited to contact prof. Anthony C Davies, IEEE CAS Society Vice President for Region 8, *tonydavies@ieee.org*

Prof. AC Davies
tonydavies@ieee.org

Conference News: Every effort is made to update the Calls for Papers and the Schedule of Events. Unfortunately space limitations make it impossible to provide a complete list in each issue. The Conference Coordinator maintains an updated list of Region 8 Conferences and Technically co-sponsored events on the Region 8 Conference website *http://www.ieee.si/r8-conf.html*.

CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE INELASTIC MEAN FREE PATH OF ELECTRONS

January 27-29, 2000
Budapest, Hungary

The workshop was organized by the Res. Inst. Technical Phys. and Materials Sci. of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (RITMS), the Roland Eotvos Physical Society (ELFT) and by the IEEE Hungary Section, Joint Chapter Electron Devices. The workshop was held in RITPS, KFKI Campus, Budapest.

Thirty participants from Austria, Belgium, Check Republic, China, Denmark, France, Hungary, Japan, Poland, Russia and USA presented 9 invited papers, 6 contributed papers, 6 posters and 4 software demonstrations. The workshop was opened by J. Gyulai (Director of RIPTMS and President of ELFT) and by T. Berceli (Chairman IEEE Hungary, ED Chapter). It was closed by a round table discussion, Moderator C.J. Powell (Nat.Inst.Standards and Technology (NIST), USA). The workshop was a summit of scientists working in the field.

The IMFP is a fundamental physical material parameter, applied by surface-, and thin film quantitative analysis with electron spectroscopy and microscopy (AES Auger, SAM microscopy, XPS, EELS). They are widely used by the technology, research and failure hunting in microelectronics, semiconductor electronic components, thin film structures, vacuum techniques etc. A center of IMFP research is the NIST. C.J. Powell presented data bases on calculated and experimental IMFP data, scattering cross-sections etc.

Invited papers have been delivered by C.J. Powell, S. Tougaard (Odense), V.I. Nefedov (Moscow), B. Gruzza (Clermont-Ferrand), W.S. Werner (Vienna), K. Goto et al. (Nagoya), A. Jablonski (Warsaw), A. Dubus (Bruxelles), C.M. Kwei et al. (Hsinchu), Z.J. Ding et al. (Hefei), M. Menyhard et al. (Budapest). Theoretical calculations, experiments and their evalutaion using Monte Carlo and transport methods, data processing, surface excitation problems, presentation and applications of IMFP results were the topics of the workshop.

A booklet containing the extended abstracts was published (Ed: G. Gergely, M. Menyhard, RITPS).

Results achieved by the EU COPERNICUS ERBIC 15CT96800 Project and cooperation of 5 countries have been presented.

The workshop was sponsored by Hungarian Committee for Technical Development (OMFB), Paks Nuclear Power Plant Co (Hungary), and IEEE Electron Devices Society.

Gyorgy Gergely
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ICM 2000

12th International Conference on Microelectronics

The 12th International Conference on Microelectronics (ICM 2000) was held Oct. 31 - Nov. 2, 2000 in Tehran, Iran. This conference was organized by the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, University of Tehran, and technically co-sponsored by IEEE EDS. The conference had more than 550 attendees, and 69 contributed papers from 19 countries were accepted from more than 120 submitted papers. Six invited papers were also presented. These included: Prof. Meindl of Georgia Institute of Technology on "Advanced Interconnect Technology"; Dr. Shahidi of IBM on "Challenges of CMOS Scaling at below 0.1m" (presented by Dr. Assaderaghi); Prof. Elmasry of the University of Waterloo on "Low Power VLSI CMOS Circuit Design"; Dr. Assaderaghi of IBM on "DTMOS: Its Derivatives and Variations, and Their Potential Applications"; and Prof. Nathan of the University of Waterloo on "Thin Film Imaging Technology on Glass and Plastic". While we regret that Prof. Mertens could not attend the conference and present his invited talk on "Research in the Field of System-in-a-Package at the Interuniversity Microelectronics Center (IMEC)", this talk was replaced by Dr. Mohajerzadeh's lecture on "Research on Microsensor Technology at Thin Film Laboratory of the University of Tehran". Reporting the rapid progress of the laboratory since its establishment in 1997, Dr. Mohajerzadeh emphasized that the main factors are outstanding students and novel ideas and not necessarily sophisticated facilities.

One of the main features of this year's conference, was the spectacular participation of the students. More than 300 students attended, while 30 of them were authors or co-authors. Also a group of 35 University of Tehran IEEE Student Branch members contrib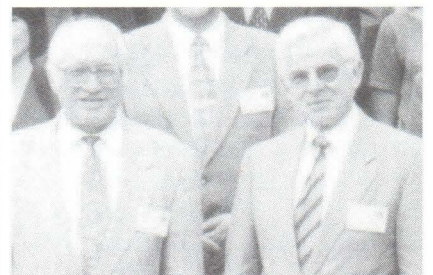uted in organizing the conference. During the conference, a great deal of effort was done to promote IEEE and EDS membership. Having proposed to establish the EDS student chapter at the University of Tehran, this idea was warmly supported by Prof. Nathan. We are looking forward to participating more in the EDS activities in the near future.

On October 30th, a day before the conference, Prof. Meindl graciously visited our department and delivered a tutorial on "XXI Century Opportunities for Giga Scale Integration." The tutorial covered fundamental, material, physical, circuit, and system limits on the theoretical and practical sides of the issue.

Ali Khakifirooz
Electrical and Computer Eng. Dept.,
University of Tehran
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INTERNATIONAL POWER WORKSHOP IN IRKUTSK, RUSSIA

The German and the Russian Chapter of the PES together with the University of Dortmund and the Energy Systems Institute, Russian Academy of Science, Siberian Branch, have organised an international workshop titled "Liberalisation and Modernisation of Power Systems: Operation and Control Problems". The workshop took place in Irkutsk, Russia, from Aug. 1 until Aug. 4 2000 and has been supported by the Russian Foundation of Basic Researches.

The photo above shows Prof. N. I. Voropai (left), head of the Energy Systems Institute, Irkutsk, and Prof. Dr. E. Handschin (right), head of the Institute of Electric Energy Systems, University of Dortmund.

Many Russian researchers as well as well known researchers from Germany, Switzerland, Spain Slovenia, Poland and China participated in the workshop. A wide forum was offered. The following main topics have been discussed:

- Energy Markets Deregulation;
- Modelling and Simulation in the Energy Market Environments;
- Modern Information Technologies in the Energy Market Environment.

The participants performed an intensive exchange of experience concerning these topics within the different countries. Especially the planned process of liberalisation of the Russian and Chinese energy markets has been the focus of interest.

The workshop has made an important contribution to the transfer of knowledge and experience in the field of liberalisation from the European countries to Russia as a country whose industry offers a high potential of expansion. The European as well as the Russian participants joined the workshop with great interest and commonly agreed to a further co-operation, which is expected to be very fruitful.

Christian Becker
becker@zedo.fuedo.de

VOLTAGE QUALITY SEMINAR

Voltage Quality (third seminar) carried out in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia, October 2 to 4, 2000. Sponsored by the PES Chapter Grant program.

The PE Chapter of Republic of Macedonia Section organized a three day IEEE sponsored seminar of Voltage Quality for the Electric Power Engineers from the Electric Power Utility and Industry in the Republic of Macedonia. To the participants were exclusively Power Engineers from the Electric Power Utility and from Industry. A presentation of the benefits of the IEEE membership was made by the Membership development officer m-r. Vlatko Stoilkov.

The seminar was sponsored under the PES Chapter Grant program with $500. By the sponsoring of this seminar, from the PES Society, at the first place, the participation fee was sufficiently low for the participating Engineers, so that many participants came. Also the grant from the PE Society helped to cover part of expenses of the lecturers.

The vice Chair of the PE Chapter of Macedonian Section, m-r Vladimir Dimcev, was involved in securing the PE Society grant.

The Seminar of Voltage Quality was held from 2 to 4 October in hotel "Ohrid", Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. On the seminar there took part about 50 Engineers of the Power Engineering specialty, all from the Utility and Industry of the Macedonia. About 10 Engineers were from Industry factories and most of them, about 40 were from the Electric Power Company of Macedonia.

The lecturers were:
1. Prof. Ljubomir Nikoloski, member of the IEEE, Chair of the R. of Macedonia Section, from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Skopje
2. Prof. Jurgen Schlabbach also member of IEEE, from the Faculty of el. engineering from Bielefeld, Germany, and

3. Prof. Vladimir Katic, member of the IEEE, from the Faculty of technical sciences of Novi Sad, department for Energetic and Electronics (Originally name FTN Novi Sad).
4. Diplom. Eng. Venceslav Malinovski, Professional Engineer, Skopje

The participants were given seminar proceedings of about 200 pages, a conference bag, a pencil and writing paper. The Participants were polled about the Seminar, and their opinion was very good.

The seminar fee was: 50 US $ for non-IEEE members; 30 US $ for IEEE members (only one non-member took part).

The IEEE presentation was conducted by our membership development officer m-r Vlatko Stoilkov, helped by our vice chair d-r Ljupco Karadzinov. The presentation was made on 3 of October on the first working hour afternoon, from 16 to 17 hours. The participants have showed great interest, and after the presentation they were given a copy of IEEE application form for their consideration and eventually use. There was also a big table arranged with the IEEE periodicals, conference proceedings, books, and other. The participants were much animated and used the refreshment break to stay by the table and check the literature, and ask questions to tour IEEE Officers. We were astonished that most of the participants didn't know at all about the IEEE.

Prof. Ljubomir Nikoloski
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nljube@ieee.org

Call for Papers

ICECOM 2001
1 - 3 OCTOBER 2001
DUBROVNIK, CROATIA

16th International Conference on Applied Electromagnetics and Communications

ICECOM 2001 is organized by KoREMA, Croatian Society for Communications, Computing, Electronics, Measurement and Control and will be held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, October 1-3, 2001. The Conference is sponsored by IEEE Region 8, IEEE AP/MTT Croatia joint Chapter, and the University of Zagreb.

The scope of this biannual conference focuses on advancements and innovations in electromagnetics and communication technology. Invited are papers that will foster interactions among researchers and practitioners from academia and industry in antennas and propagation, microwaves, wireless and optical communications, and other related fields.

Detailed instructions can be downloaded from: http://www.rasip.fer.hr/korema/icecom2001/

Venue: Dubrovnik is situated on the Adriatic coast in the southernmost part of the Republic of Croatia. It has preserved the beauty of a medieval town, and its outstanding cultural and historical monuments have earned it a place on UNESCO's World Heritage List. As a famous tourist resort Dubrovnik has 250 sunny days a year.

Deadline for submission of full-length papers (four pages) is April 5, 2001

Conference Information:
Dr. Davor Bonefacic (Secretary)
University of Zagreb, FER
Unska 3, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia
Tel: +385 1 6129 727;
Fax: +385 1 6129 717
E-mail: *davor.bonefacic@fer.hr*

Calendar of Events

PREP 2001
9 - 11 April 2001
Keele University, Staffordshire

Following the great success of the previous two PREP events, the next in the series of student-centered conferences will take place on 9 - 11 April 2001 at Keele University, Staffordshire.

The remit of PREP 2001 has been expanded to include Software Technologies, so providing greater scope for extending contacts and interchanging ideas. A number of top-level speakers are expected to attend, including an opening keynote address from Professor John Taylor, Chairman of EPSRC. The first day, and half the second day will be devoted to oral presentations from students on the fruits of their research work. The afternoon of the second day and final day will focus on and industry exhibition and forum, the latter of which has the working title "Information Explosion - A Blessing or a Curse."

At the end of two hard days work, participants can relax by taking part in two social events. The first night will give delegates the chance to become a "Millionaire by Midnight" (great fun at no risk). The Conference dinner on 10 April will include a karaoke, a disco, and possibly a surprise show from one of pop music's current maestros (well, nearly).

Full details will be posted on the website *www.epsrc.ac.uk/prep2001* as they are finalized, which also includes a registration form. Also contact Dave Godfrey. E-mail: *d.godfrey@epsrc.ac.uk*

Prof AC Davies
tonydavies@ieee.org

SAIEE EDUTECH 2001
7 - 8 May 2001
Midrand, South Africa

A major initiative by the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE), supported by leading local and international institutes including the US based Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and the UK based Institution of Electrical Engineers (IEE), is looking for answers to issues of technical education and training, which impact on the future sustainability of the regional economy.

The SAIEE Edutech 2001 conference and exhibition, to be held at the Eskom Conference and Training centre in Midrand on 7 and 8 May 2001, will face head-on the many critical issues in this field, which are perceived to be the key to the door of the 21st century.

The conference will be opened by the president of the SAIEE, and the keynote address will be given by Dr. Kadar Asmal, minister of Education and Training.

The conference will bring together decision makers from government, industry and academia to address a range of issues impacting on education and training, which are in some cases unique to Africa, often relating to past inequalities, but also to rapidly changing technologies. Surprisingly there is a strong parallel between this situation and that of minorities in many first world countries.

It is important to note that the issues being addressed cut across the traditional engineering boundaries, and are equally applicable to electrical, electronic, computer and information engineering, mechanical, chemical and civil engineering, and indeed to engineering, science and technology in its widest context.

For further information on the SAIEE Edutech 2001 conference and exhibition please contact:
Babette van Gessel or Emma Sayers
Global Pacific and Partners
babette@global.co.za
emmas@global.co.za
or
John Gosling or Mike Crouch
The SA Institute of Electrical Engineers
P O Box 93541, Yoeville, 2143
Tel: +27 11 487-3003
Fax: +27 11 487-3002
john.gosling@eskom.co.ca
crouchm@saiee.org.za

CIMA'2001
Computational Intelligence, Methods and Applications
19 – 22 June 2001
University of Wales in Bangor, U.K.

http://www.icsc.ab.ca/cima2001.htm
Some topics of interest:
+ Fuzzy Logic and Applications FLA 2001
  (http://www.icsc.ab.ca/171-info.htm)
+ Advances in Intelligent Data Analysis (AIDA 2001)
  (http://www.icsc.ab.ca/172-info.htm)
+ Advanced Computing in Bio Medicine (ACBM 2001)
  (http://www.icsc.ab.ca/173-info.htm)
+ Advanced Computing in the Financial Market (ACFM 2001)
  (http://www.icsc.ab.ca/174-info.htm)
+ Granular Computing Workshop (GcC 2001)
  (http://www.icsc.ab.ca/175-info.htm)

Nadine Gisler
nadine@wtc.ab.ca

NDES2001
21 - 23 June 2001
Delft, the Netherlands

The ninth workshop on Nonlinear Dynamics of Electronic Systems

This workshop gives the opportunity to communicate new insights in nonlinear dynamic systems ranging from a mathematical point of view to a circuit and system design point of view.

Fields of interest include (but are not limited to):
+ Nonlinear circuit and system theory
+ Modeling of nonlinear circuits/systems
+ Design of nonlinear circuits/systems
+ Nonlinear signal processing
+ Applications of nonlinear circuits
  For further information contact:
Dr. A. van Staveren
NDES2001 / Electronics Research Lab
Faculty for Information, Technology and Systems
Delft University of Techology
Mekelweg 4, 2628 CD Delft
The Netherlands
e-mail: *ndes2001@duteela.et.tudelft.nl*
http://www.ndes2001.tudelft.nl

SOCO/ISFI 2001
26 - 29 June 2001
Paisley, Scotland, U.K.

Fourth International ICSC Symposia on Soft Computing and Intelligent Systems for Industry

The twin conferences, Soft Computing (SOCO 2001) and Intelligent Systems for Industry (ISFI 2001) are intended to cover the field of "soft computing" from pure blue-sky research (SOCO) to prototypes and applications of soft computing. Soft

computing has become a term embracing artificial neural networks, evolutionary algorithms, belief networks, fuzzy sets and logics, etc.

For further information contact:
ICSC International Computer Science
   Conventions
5101C - 50 Street, Wetaskiwin, Alberta
   T9A 1K1 / Canada
E-mail: *operating@icsc.ab.ca* or
   planning@icsc.ab.ca
Phone: +1-780-352-1912 /
   Fax: +1-780-352-1913

ICPC 2001 – Extended Deadline
15 - 16 August 2001
Suzdal, Russia

International Colloquium Professional Communication: Problems, Technology and Services

Be part of a unique gathering of scientists, engineers and professional technical communicators as they gather from around the world to discuss the current and future status of communication. They will particularly explore the problems with and trends of modern professional communication. Participants will include representatives from research institutes, information centers and libraries, educational institutions and industry.

The organizing committee is suggesting the following topics:
- ◆ Information Resources
- ◆ Information Systems and Databases
- ◆ Teaching of Technical Communication
- ◆ Technical and Business Communication
- ◆ The Art of Communication
- ◆ Education in Professional Communication
- ◆ Internet: Technology and Services
- ◆ Technology and Services of Electronic Libraries
- ◆ Web development
- ◆ Information Design
- ◆ Opportunities for Inter-Society cooperation.
- ◆ Interaction and Collaboration between the IEEE and Russia.
Proposals are due by 31 January 2001.

For more information about the program or to submit a proposal contact:
Dr. Henrich S. Lantsberg (Russia)
Phone: (7095) 203 4985
Fax (7095) 203 8414
E-mail: *h.lantsberg@ieee.org*

Dr.Lantsberg is a Member of the Executive Board of the Russian Popov Society, Vice-Chair of the IEEE Russia Section and Chair of the IEEE PCS Russia Chapter.

ECCTD'01
28 - 31 August 2001
Espoo, Finland

The 15th European Conference on Circuit Theory and Design will be held at the Helsinki University of Technology.

ECCTD is the most prominent scientific conference organized in Europe in the field of Electrical and Electronic Circuit theory and technique. The conference program consists of several sessions with scientific contents: plenary sessions (invited), special sessions (invited), tutorials, and regular sessions.

Schedule:
Submission deadline: January 31, 2001
Notification of acceptance: April 30, 2001
Submission of Final paper: May 25, 2001

For more information, please consult the web site:
   http://ecctd01.hut.fi
   or contact
Timo Veijola
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Tel: +358 9 4512293
Fax: +358 9 4514818
E-mail: *ecctd01@hut.fi*

News from IEEE

SEARCH ONLINE FOR DETAILS ON HUNDREDS OF IEEE CONFERENCES

A new, online IEEE Conference Database Search allows visitors to retrieve information on hundreds of IEEE meetings in the Conference Database (formerly TAG) from "*http://www.ieee.org/conferencesearch/*."

Users may select one or more fields such as month; year; location keyword in title, city, state, or country; IEEE Region; and sponsor or organizer. Individual conference information also includes contact information and a link to the conference URL (if available).

The site contains all the meetings listed in the IEEE Conference Database. In addition, the search can look at meetings held within the past year.

The search function has the ability to identify all meetings being sponsored by specific IEEE Societies, and can identify those that include exhibits.

To ensure your meetings are included in the IEEE Conference Database Search, the Conference Information Schedule form must be submitted to IEEE Conference Services. The forms are available at "*http://www.ieee.org/organizations/tab/conflink.html*".

For more information about the site, contact Rosemary Tennis, IEEE Technical Activities, at MailTo: "*r.tennis@ieee.org*".

For additional information on IEEE Conference Services, contact Mary Ann DeWald, IEEE Technical Activities, MailTo: "*m.dewald@ieee.org*".

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
13 October 2000
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IEEE PRESS ISSUES TITLES IN CIRCUITS DESIGN FIELD

This month, IEEE Press will release two new titles in the fast-moving field of circuits design.

"Design of High-Performance Microprocessor Circuits," presents the entire circuit design methodology in one volume.

For more information on this title, visit "*http://shop.ieee.org/store/product.asp?prodno=PC5836*".

The "DRAM Circuit Design: A Tutorial" was released on 10 Oct. DRAM (Dynamic Random Access Memory) circuits are the most frequently manufactured integrated circuits today. This easy-to-read tutorial will be a valuable introduction for electrical and computer engineering practitioners, students and academics.

Learn more about the book at "*http://shop.ieee.org/store/product.asp?prodno=PC5863*".

UNITED STATES INCREASES HIGH-TECH GUESTWORKER VISAS

On 17 Oct., President Clinton signed into law the American Competitiveness in the 21st Century Act along with a related measure that increases the fees charged to employers who petition to employ H-1B non-immigrant workers from US$500 to US$1,000 per application.

The bill will:

+ Increase the cap on H-1B visas to 195,000 a year through 2003.

+ Exempt guest workers employed at universities and research institutions or holding graduate degrees and earning at least US$40,000 from the visa cap.

+ Modify the allocation of visa sponsorship fees to fund job training and education programs at the Department of Labor and the National Science Foundation.

STANDARDS ANNOUNCES WEB SITE ENHANCEMENT

IEEE Standards recently added new areas to its Web site at "*http://www.standards.ieee.org*" so members and customers can connect quickly to the most current information and news about Standards topics and activities.

The IEEE Wireless Standards Zone at "*http://standards.ieee.org/wireless*" and the IEEE Color Books Zone at "*http://standards.ieee.org/colorbooks/index.html*" serve as one-stop resource centers for the wireless, industrial and power systems, and Color Books audiences.

Standards also has unveiled the IEEE Standards Bearer Online at "*http://standards.ieee.org/bearer*", an online news service covering IEEE Standards activities that impact the IEEE Standards process.

Frequently updated, the site also provides the latest information on events and standards working group and committee developments. Included in the IEEE Standards Bearer Online is an email alert service that informs subscribers that news has been added to the site.

To subscribe to this alert service, send an e-mail message to "MailTo:"*majordomo@majordomo.ieee.org*". Type "*subscribe bearer@ieee.org*" in the body of the message.

For more information, contact Karen McCabe, IEEE Standards, at MailTo:"*k.mccabe@ieee.org*".

IEEE PRESS PUBLISHES THE FIRST MRI TEXTBOOK

A new IEEE Press book, "Principles of Magnetic Resonance Imaging," by Dr. Paul C. Lauterbur and Dr. Zhi-Pei Liang, is the first engineering textbook on the topic. This textbook provides biomedical engineers, biomedical imaging scientists, radiologists and electrical engineers with an in-depth understanding of the revolutionary technique of MRI.

For more information, visit the IEEE Catalog and Store at "*http://shop.ieee.org/store/product.asp?prodno=PC5769*".

CONFERENCE TUTORIALS

Do you offer tutorials or short courses at any of your conferences? IEEE Educational Activities is compiling a list of links to educational offerings available through Societies' Conferences. Positioned in the IEEE Professional Development Institute (IEEE PDI), the list will publicize Conferences to those outside the Societies who may be interested in enhancing their careers. It will draw members to your website and conference sites with one easy click.

Please submit your links to MailTo: *education-services@ieee.org*. For additional information, contact Lynn Murison, IEEE Educational Activities, telephone +1 732 562 6526; MailTo: *l.murison@ieee.org*.

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING OFFER NEW MEMBERSHIP OPTION FOR 2001

IEEE WIE (Women in Engineering) is a new membership option dedicated to important issues for women engineers. Annual dues are US$25. WIE promotes member grade advancement, advocates women in leadership roles in IEEE governance, and provides assistance with the formation of new WIE chapters

WIE membership includes a WIE membership directory, electronic newsletter, jobs file and most importantly, an organized

HELP DESK MEMBERS

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(IEEE European Operations Center)
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News from IEEE *continued*

vehicle for locating and meeting other women of similar backgrounds and interests within the IEEE.

Learn more at "*http://www.ieee.org/women*".

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
8 December 2000
Vol. V, No. 23

SINGLE BEST RESOURCE FOR BLUETOOTH TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE

A new book from the IEEE, "How to Find What You Need in the Bluetooth Spec," is specifically designed to streamline the process of finding information about the Bluetooth technology. The book provides helpful hints about the spec so readers have a fuller understanding of the technology and how it impacts them. Based on what you will be doing with the Bluetooth spec or your role in implementing the spec, it helps answer the question, "What do I really have to read and understand?" It tells you how to read the more than 1,600 page, two-volume specification that is comprised of multiple sections in an easy-to-read style and provides insight into the sequence in which to read the spec's sections.

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INTRODUCTION TO WIRELESS AND PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

"Introduction to Wireless and Personal Communications," an IEEE self-study course, is now available. The course focuses on information processing in wireless communications and explores the fundamentals of wireless mobile communications.

Dr. Vijay K. Garg designed this course to provide basic understanding of wireless and personal communications. It includes an overview of the basics of telecommunication systems and traffic engineering, an introduction to cellular/PCS systems and radio propagation, and the fundamentals of radio technology

The course package comes with a study guide, final exam, and the best-selling Prentice-Hall book by Dr. Garg and Joseph E. Wilkes, "Wireless & Personal

Communications Systems." Upon successful completion of the exam, students are eligible to receive eight IEEE Continuing Education Units

The member price is US$350. To order, use code HL5758-TCU, and contact IEEE Customer Service Department, 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, N.J., USA 08855-1331, USA; e-mail: *customer-service@ieee.org*; phone: +1 800 678 4333 (USA and Canada), +1 732 981 0060 (worldwide); Web at *http://shop.ieee.org/store*.

For a complete listing of educational products, see *www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/cathome.htm.*

The IEEE LEADERSHIP WIRE
8 December 2000
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New IEEE EAB Pre-College Educator Award Worth $1000

Were you inspired by a pre-college teacher to go into engineering? Is there a teacher that has made a difference in your child's education ? who has inspired an appreciation and understanding of technology and the engineering process? Is there a teacher in your IEEE Section who deserves recognition? Nominations are currently being accepted for the new IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB) Pre-College Educator Award.

In June 2000 the IEEE EAB established this award upon the recommendation of the IEEE EAB Pre-College Education Coordinating Committee. The EAB wants to recognize full time classroom teachers who succeed in making subjects like math, science, and technology come alive to their students. It is the first EAB award to go to a non-engineer.

The nominator must be an IEEE member. Student members and IEEE Sections are strongly encouraged to submit nominations. All nominees will receive a certificate of recognition. The winner will receive an engraved walnut and brass plaque and a $1000 honorarium at the IEEE Organizational Units meeting in November 2001. The winner, a companion, and the nominator will be the guests of the IEEE EAB for the trip and event.

This award will be given for the first time

in 2001. For full nomination and criteria requirements, see *www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/arc/awards/requirements.htm*

Completed nomination materials should be received no later than 30 April 2001 by Rae Toscano, Manager, EAB Administration, via e-mail, *r.toscano@ieee.org*, or post: IEEE Educational Activities, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ, USA, 08855-1331.

For more information email *r.toscano@ieee.org*, phone 732.562.5482, or fax 732.981.1686.

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DEADLINES

The deadlines for the remaining issues of the *Region 8 News* for 2001 are as follows:

May 2001 issue – 9 March 2001
Aug. 2001 issue – 4 June 2001
Nov. 2001 issue – 5 Sept. 2001

Only high priority items can be accommodated after the deadlines since the publication schedule is linked to the production and shipping schedule of *IEEE Spectrum.*

Duncan Baker
Region 8 News Editor
duncan.baker@ieee.org

region8student news

EDITORIAL

Hi folks,

This time I'd like to direct your attention to the report from Christian and Tanja of the Passau SB. They have participated in the Region 9 Student Branch Congress in Mexico, which has been inspired by the success of the two Congresses we had in Region 8 thus far. It's not only another good example of "Networking the World" but should also encourage you all to just apply for any of the resources that are available to support your branch. In this case, the Passau and Istanbul Technical University Branch both have been awarded a considerable amount of money by Region 8 to support their trip to Mexico.

Just remember: with a bit of enthusiasm and a good proposal, next time it could be you visiting an IEEE event somewhere in the world!

Jens

MESSAGE FROM THE PAST R8 SAC CHAIR

As you already discovered in the first article of this R8 Student News, Christian Borgert is taking over the Student Activities Committee Chair position in R8. During the last year I had the pleasure to serve in this position and I just wanted to thank you for all this time. I do hope I've been able to help you to carry out your activities and increase your participation in IEEE programs. Unfortunately, and due to personal and professional reasons, I had to quit this demanding position, although I'll go on working with Christian, the R8 Student Activities Committee and you all, so don't forget my address :-). Finally I'd like to encourage you to go on making our Region one of the most active in the world!

Warm regards from Madrid!

Javier Macias-Guarasa
2000 Region 8 Student Activities Committee
Chair
j.macias@ieee.org

SB MARIBOR ACTIVITIES

The year 2000 was a magical year for SB Maribor. We started numerous activities and I believe we were quite successful. We have attended the Student Branch Congress in Eindhoven, changed the look and feel of SB Maribor web pages, added a local electronic registration form, visited SB Passau, hosted the SB Eindhoven and SB Passau, provided local student members with 33 IEEE Magazines, participated in local Student Paper Contest, organized a symposium, and many more.

Our latest effort was the organization of the symposium "Extra Skills for Young Engineers." We decided to organize the symposium during the R8 Student Branch Congress in Eindhoven, Netherlands. The main objective was to present facts, ideas, and visions of an engineer in the next millennium to the group of international students. We managed to get invited speakers from industry, IEEE and academia. All of them are experts in their field of work. In addition to our efforts Theodore Hissey from the Board of Directors provided us with 80 copies of his article

"Education and Careers 2000".

We decided to demonstrate use of different video-conferencing equipment during the symposium. IP connection was made to our new rectorship building with the Center for Distance Education Development (CDED). Dr. Matjaz Debevc presented their activities and current projects. With the help of CDED we provided Internet coverage by a live broadcast of the symposium, so everybody was able to participate. There were two additional ISDN video-conferences with Esotech in Velenje (using 3 ISDN lines) and Faculty of EE in Ljubljana (using 1 ISDN line). Participants were able to see the difference in quality and form their own impression about video-conferencing requirements.

Special thanks go to our sponsors. We believe that they will lead the way to better cooperation between our university, students and industry. We would like to thank IEEE Region 8, IskraTEL d.o.o, Hermes SoftLab d.d., Faculty of EE & CS,

Slovenian IEEE Section, Esotech d.o.o., Institute "Jozef Stefan," Mobitel d.d., and Gaudeamus d.o.o - STUK.

I hope next year more companies will decide to join us and present their visions and needs to the international group of students. I would like to thank student organisations SOUM and SKD SOUM for all their help with the project.

We are very grateful for all the encouragement from Theodore Hissey, R8 director Rolf Remshardt, R8 SAC chair Javier Maricas-Guara, R8 SR Jorge-Luis Sanchez-Ponz, and many others.

More information about SB Maribor activities is available at *http://www.um.ieee.si/* - including pictures and video from the symposium.

See you next year!

Bostjan Vlaovic
Chair of IEEE SB Maribor

METU STUDENT BRANCH
C++/Advanced OOP Courses

Following our C++ course in summer we got such great positive response that we decided to organize a new course series. We organized separate two-week courses on C++ and also Advanced Object Oriented Programming. The first course (2 sections, 99 participants) started from the very primitives and passed on to classes, operator overloading and inheritance. In-class and homework programming assignments such as a token parser and an abstract window manager still kept the level high.

The second course (1 section, 14 participants) started with OOP basics, and passed onto polymorphism, C++ run-time support and internal transformations of an ANSI/ISO compliant compiler, design patterns (same approach as Gamma, et al.), modeling techniques, OMT and Booch diagrams. Again assignments and discussions on message-queuing systems, window managers, file systems, and real-time strategy games provided a real-world touch on some abstract subjects.

All participants were given a 170-page lecture notebook prepared for this course.

The book was in Turkish and made more use of diagrams and pictures compared to the old lecture notes. A new detailed version with more exercises, solutions, some case studies with modeling examples will be released in this year, most probably in early fall.

As expected, IEEE members paid half of the registration fee. In fact, any student member attending both courses has saved twice the amount he pays for member dues.

If you have any questions concerning the courses, want to receive copies of the lecture notes (although in Turkish), or want to organize similar events and want some tips contact us.

Ilkin Mekhrabov
Education Committee Chair
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Classical Guitar Festival

IEEE METU SB organized the 4th Middle East Classical Guitar Festival on 20-26th March 2000, at the Presidential Symphony Orchestra Concert Hall and the METU Cultural and Convention Center. The event was organized jointly with the METU Classical Guitar Society.

The event hosted 2 master classes and 4 concerts by 5 masters from all over the world. We helped the Classical Guitar Society in finding sponsorships, making business and media contacts. They were experienced in contacting art institutions and embassies but had not the slightest idea on contacting firms.

The festival was extensively covered in the media. NTV, the major news/economics channel in Turkey was the media sponsor, and we were on the screen in some more channels. Daily newspapers also covered the subject.

If you have any questions about the festival, please contact me.

Baran Erdogan
Social Activites Committee Chair
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Information Technologies & Technical Services Committee

IEEE METU SB Information Technologies and Technical Services Committee continues its activities with the power of its branch's approximately 300 members.

All of our members can get a reliable Linux account. The server functions as mail, news, web, and ftp server. For easy usage, we have a web gateway for mail and news services. In the news server a separate group is opened for each course as well as public interest groups such as music, movies, etc. People discuss course subjects, homework, exams etc. on these newsgroups. Our ftp server is one of the most popular ftp servers in Turkey. Our web site has a new look now. We have redesigned the web site. It includes lots of information about IEEE, IEEE METU SB and university related subjects. (The server is *http://lodos.ieee.metu.edu.tr*)

Furthermore, following the decisions that were made in Leadership Training Workshop we hosted in December 1999, the server is used for document sharing between IEEE Student Branches in the Turkey Section. Also with a NT box we have a small network in our office. By using this network, we train our committee members in network establishment, maintenance and linux maintenance issues.

Maybe the most remarkable activity of the Committee is the METU EE Projects Fair. Senior design projects of EE students will compete in a fair atmosphere. The fair will be organized by the METU SB IT&TS committee, Computer Soc. METU Branch Chapter, Communications Soc. Branch Chapter, Robotics & Automation Soc. METU Branch Chapter. The organization will be announced nationwide.

If you have any questions about how we apply groupware and ask for any aid please contact me.

Oguz Yilmaz,
IEEE METU SB.
IT&TS Committe Chair & SB Treasurer
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SB PASSAU GOES TO MEXICO

Between November 9 - 11, 2000 the Region 9 student branch meeting took place in Morelos, Mexico. This time, IEEE members from other regions had been invited.

As we received the invitation in August, we enthusiastically accepted the idea of attending the congress. Because of our very short term of office, we were very much looking forward to learning from others, and so we began contacting the organizers of the conference. Everything turned out all right, and therefore we traveled to Mexico, where we were welcomed most kindly.

At the congress we met lots of new friends, most of them from R9, but also some from R7 and the USA as well as Kerem from Turkey. The people from R9 were really nice and polite to us, and they were very interested in our culture (and especially in the German chocolate, the gingerbread from Nuremberg and other gifts we took with us ;-)

We had a great time and it presented itself as a very good chance to learn about other cultures and how people from Latin America lead their Student Branches. Most of the Branches seem to have the same problems like getting new members and making IEEE more popular. Therefore, we were able to exchange ideas with one another and to come up with solutions.

Yanith, the local chair and main organizer, and her team ran the conference very well. After a short time, the language barrier was broken, so we could contribute our part as well. Even now, when the conference is over, we remain in contact with several of the participants.

It was a great experience for us and now we know what "networking the world" really means. It was very impressive to arrive in a foreign country and become integrated into the community immediately. We hope to have such a possibility again.

Kind regards,
Tanja (fassnach@fmi.uni-passau.de) &
Christian (schmitz@ieee.org)

Tanja and Christian are chair and vice-chair of the SB in Passau, Germany

I love you, Melissa

On October 16, the IEEE Student Branch Passau arranged, in cooperation with the student representatives of the department of computer science, a great party in the department's main building.

The party's slogan was "I love you, Melissa", expressing the unique combination of computer science and party feeling.

More than 700 students danced on two floors until dawn. Special attractions included a large video screen showing Short Messages written by the party guests and sent via mobile phones, a Live Webcast using multiple cameras. The

"Mulled Wine for a kiss" special was another instant success, giving out a free drink to every couple for a public kiss.

These specials, the wide-spread use of high-tech and the great work done by the organizational team have left a lasting impression with the guests. Regarded as the best party during the winter term by many, this event has also had a very positive impact on the standing and reputation of the IEEE SB Branch Passau.

Gordob Bolduan
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THANKS TO THE "BACKROOM BOYS AND GIRLS"

You'd need to be living on another planet not to be aware of the value as to the role of IEEE Region 8 Students in the development and future of the IEEE. Just in case you missed the News reports and e-mails, hardly a day goes by without an IEEE Student Branch (IEEESB) activity, meeting, symposium, Student Branch Congress, or training. There is not space enough to print only the names in this R8 News; thus I will not go further on that. Such successes and achievements have led to Region 8 students gaining the admiration and respect of the IEEE and the whole society: "IEEE Region 8: A mirror in which to look at oneself". That IEEE Region 8 students do hold the number one position in the IEEE students' world is beyond question.

However, it is rare for stories about the IEEE SB's "backroom boys and girls" - the volunteers (the IEEE R8 students) - to get the same kind of attention. The volunteers, and not only the logos, the names, the members of the executive committees, or even the representatives, are the key factors. If history is anything to go by, these last years have been a complete and real success: different teams managing the same issues with the same enthusiasm for them and good results. As long as an IEEE student (you) is necessary for the activity of the IEEE he/she retains ultimate authority, responsibility, and reward. From the point where we are able to know our own potentials (working on the IEEE activities or whatever), and thereby determining our actions, we become very useful, not only for the IEEE but also for the community. Keep doing so well.

Of course, I hope this is not going to stop the leading "backroom boys and girls" acting as though the IEEE were their own. It is certainly something that I will be looking for in the future. Thanks, friends, for your work and help. Working with/for you has been a pleasure!

Take care and keep in touch (as usual).

Jorge-Luis Sanchez-Ponz
IEEE Region 8 Student Representative
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Deadlines and Upcoming Events

February 28 - Outstanding Counselor Award nominations due to Student Services

March 1 - Half-Year dues cycle begins

March 1 - Outstanding Student Award recipient should be named to Student Services. Allow 4 weeks for preparation of certificates (and additional time for mailing)

March 31 - Larry K. Wilson Award nominations deadline (send nomination to Region Student Activities Chair)

April 1 - Elections for new branch officers to be held. Inform Student Services about new Officers and counselor.

May 1 - Annual Report must be submitted to Student Services. A $1.10 per member rebate check will be issued only upon timely receipt of the Annual Report!

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