R10 Director's Message

As the IEEE Region 10 Director for 2015-16, I am delighted to share with you that IEEE Region 10 is celebrating its 50 years of formation. The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of this Significant Milestone are planned throughout the Region 10 during 2016-17 including at the Sections Congress in Sydney, Australia.

50 Years Mega Celebrations will be flagged off at Hotel Lalit Ashok, Bengaluru, India on 24th of August 2016 with the theme "*Technology – Global Change Agent*". It is expected that premier Indian Government Ministers/officials along with a 1000 plus pioneers/heads from Industry, Academic and Research Organizations across R10 may attend the gala inaugural banquet dinner.

This inaugural event is preceded by Global IEEE Women in Engineering Summit on the 24th August morning and followed by the Regional Young Professional, Student, Women in Engineering (WIE) and Life Members Congress on 25-27 Aug, 2015 at the same venue in Bengaluru.

I would like to encourage all Section Chairs to send delegates to the Regional Young Professional, Student, WIE and LM Congress and the inaugural carnival at Bengaluru, India. You may kindly confirm your delegates' participation to enable R10 to extend possible assistance in facilitating associated arrangements viz. hotel accomodation, local transport, visa, etc.

I look forward to have valuable presence of delegates from your Sections in sharing the great moments of joy and achievements of the vibrant IEEE Region10 in action for 50 years.

Ramakrishna Kappagantu
IEEE Region10 Director (2015-16)

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF IEEE REGION 10

CELEBRATIONS STARTS FROM AUGUST 2016

On 24 August 1966 The IEEE Board of Directors approved the formation of IEEE Region Ten or R10, also known as the Asia-Pacific Region, which led to the formation of Region 10 on 1st January 1967. For commemoration of this historic formation, the R10 Director Ramakrishna Kappagantu in consultation with R10 Director-Elect Kukjin Chun, has approved the 50th anniversary celebrations from 24th August 2016 and to continue in 2017 across the whole region.

R10 Celebration Planning Committee Chair Ravikiran will be issuing soon an outline for Sections to participate in the celebration activities.

Submit your articles to R10 Newsletter by email to r10-ecn@ieee.org

IEEE R10 News and Highlights

The Region 10 Executive Committee Meeting 2016
23rd January 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The R10 Executive Committee (EXCOM) met on 23 January 2016 in Kuala Lumpur to plan its activities for 2016. R10 Director Ramakrishna Kappagantu welcomed the EXCOM members and presented his views on the achievements of 2015 and his vision for 2016. He emphasized the need for one to one interaction between Section leadership and R10 EXCOM members regarding various IEEE activities and issues of concern to members. Ramakrishna informed that it has been decided to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of R10 starting from Aug 2016 till Aug 2017. The celebrations will start at Bangalore with WIE Global Leadership Summit, R10 Golden Jubilee celebration evening and R10 SYWL Congress. The Golden Jubilee celebrations will conclude at Sydney with IEEE Sections Congress 2017.

MGA Vice President Professor Lawrence Wong presented an update about the proposed changes in the IEEE constitution and a new governing structure for the IEEE to transform it into a nimble organisation ready for 2030 and beyond. He informed the proposed changes are planned to be voted by all IEEE members this year.

R10 Vice-Chairs Takatoshi Minami (Membership activities) MGPL Narayana (Professional activities) and Takao Onoye (Technical activities) gave overviews of the R10 activities. They were followed by individual coordinators presenting their 2016 goals and activity plans. The preliminary budget estimates for R10 activities were also discussed and prepared for presentation at the R10 Annual Meeting in Bangkok, from 5 – 6 March 2016.

Malaysia Section provide logistic support for the EXCOM meeting and hosted a dinner at the Kuala Lumpur tower, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Ravikiran
IEEE Region 10 Secretary (2015-2016)

2016 IEEE Region 10 Technical Seminar
Embracing Emerging Technological Advances

Taking advantage of EXCOM members' presence for the meeting in Kuala Lumpur, the R10 organised a technical seminar with the collaboration of IEEE Malaysia Section and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) on 22nd January 2016 at the UTM Kuala Lumpur campus. The seminar was attended by more than 30 participants including postgraduate student members.

The seminar begun with the inaugural session in which Professor Dr Awaludin, Dean of UTM Razak School, warmly welcomed the participants. This was followed by the introduction of IEEE Malaysia by Dr Zuhaina Zakaria, Chair of IEEE Malaysia Section. R10 Director Ramakrishna Kappagantu, also gave few opening remarks and thanked the organisers for their effort. The seminar was later officiated by Prof Durrishah Idrus, Director, UTM Kuala Lumpur Campus.

The first speaker, Mrs Pamela Kumar, R10 Industry Relations Coordinator 2016 & Vice President, Cloud Computing Innovation Council of India, gave a talk about the Cloud Computing for emerging markets. Dr Rajesh Ingle, R10 Student Activities Coordinator 2016, Dean, & Professor, PICT, Pune, as the 2nd speaker talked about the Internet of Things, Cyber Physical Systems and its application. The final speaker Dr Celia Shahnaz, R10 WIE Coordinator 2016 & Professor, BUET, Dhaka, Bangladesh, spoke about the advanced signal processing and its biomedical applications. The presentations by all three speakers led to healthy discussions and questions asked by the participants.

The closing remarks were given by, Dr. Sri Niwas Singh, R10 Conference and Technical Seminar Coordinator 2016 and Professor at IIT Kanpur India, followed by a word of thanks from Dr Mohammad Faizal, Vice Chair of IEEE Malaysia Section. Tokens of appreciation were presented to the distinguished

Attendees of the IEEE Region 10 Executive Committee meeting at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

speakers, R10 Director, R10 Conferences and Technical Seminar Coordinator and the co-organisers.

Speakers and organisers of the R10 sponsored technical seminar at the UTM Kuala Lumpur campus.

Professor Sri Niwas Singh
R10 Conference & Technical Seminar Coordinator 2016

R10 Plans for Enhancing Relations & Interactions with Industry

IEEE Board has identified industry relations as a major focus area. To execute the same IEEE Region 10 Industrial Relations committee is striving hard to incorporate industry members and cross pollinate industry activities among different Sections with the region.

R10 Industry Relations team 2015 led by Mr Annaswamy Ravikiran successfully executed Industry tracks at TENCON and TENSYMP with excellent engagement and industry support. SMART TECH workshop which was organized at Bangalore was a grand success. Apart from these Industry Webinar series also had a very good response.

IEEE Region 10 Industrial Relations committee 2016 is now headed by Mrs Pamela Kumar, (Vice President, Cloud Computing Innovation Council of India). Her experience at various industry includind Texas Instruments, IBM India, and Hewlett Packard provides the committee a strong and powerful boost to execute its missions.

The vision of the committee is to bring into notice the shift in technology in current world and how a new stack of technologies is being created which includes Nano, green, mobile, converged systems, cognitive computing, cloud computing, data science, web, social, IOT and Robotics.

Collaboration between government, professional community, industry and academia will be increased by focusing on open source and including open data, open innovation along with Standards development, Interoperability test beds, workshops, Design Challenges, internships and scholarships.

A huge focus will be made on "TECH" i.e. Training, Enhanced Events, Collaboration, Hi tech.

The primary objectives of the committee is to mobilize participation from industries with focus on entrepreneurship, new technologies such as IOT, Cloud Computing, Smart Cities, Smart Grid and increasing industries and academia collaboration. The committee will be executing enhanced events in major R10 events at TENCON in Singapore, TENSYMP in Bali and SMARTTECH in Sydney, Pune and China. Training sessions are planned with regular webinars and workshops on leading technologies around the Region. Other planned initiatives include Industry outreach programs.

IEEE R10 committee wishes to expand its network and reduce the communication gap between IR teams and various Sections by appointing IR coordinators for each Section and select domain specific IR coordinators from all the active Chapters/Societies in each Section in R10.

Members who are themselves working in industries and academic members can fill out the online form (at link given below) to represent their Section and enhance ties with the committee and Sections/Chapters/Societies.

http://ieee.fluidsurveys.com/s/JoinR10IRTeam/

Tushar Varshney
Convener and Program Coordinator,
IEEE Region 10 Industry Relations Committee

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Membership Development in Region 10

Overall, Region 10 achieved good results in the areas of retention, reinstatement and senior membership elevation for the membership cycle in 2015 that ended 31 Aug 2015. We attained 99.5% to the retention goal set by HQ, and our reinstatement and SM elevation rates were the highest among all the regions. Total R10 membership declined by 0.2% in the 2015 membership cycle, however the decline was the lowest amongst the 10 regions. We still have to work very hard on the recruitment of new members and control the wild fluctuation of student member numbers.

One of the important focus this year is to promote the elevation to Senior Members. We would like to request for all Sections to have an Elevation Committee to help with member's elevation to Senior Members. Another challenge to tackle is the 1st year retentions. It will be very much appreciated if all Section Chairs can do their part and contact members who have not renewed. By providing member value and benefits, we will be able to convince young professionals to continue with their IEEE membership.

The 2016 MD committee will roll out the R10 MD incentive grants for recruitment, retention and elevation. This is to support the top 3 Sections for their best MD plans and activities in the above 3 categories, in addition to achieving the 2016 MGA membership goals. Sections are requested to develop its membership development strategy and conduct a SWOT analysis, which is a useful technique for understanding the Section's Strengths and Weaknesses, and for identifying both its Opportunities and the Threats it will face.

We will also have joint promotions with other R10 coordinators to synergise our membership development efforts with their activities and calls for grants & project proposals.

Michael Ong
R10 Membership Development Coordinator

Please send your news items and articles to the R10 Newsletter Editor by email: r10-ecn@ieee.org

Please send photographs in JPEG format in separate files

The R10 Newsletter schedule for 2016

Publication Date	Submissions Deadline
June 2016	22 May 2016
September 2016	21 August 2016
December 2016	20 Nov 2016

IEEE R10 TENCON 2015

IEEE R10 TENCON 2015 was held from 1 to 4th November 2015 at Holiday Inn, Sands Cotai Central, Macao, China. TENCON 2015 was the 35th conference of the series since its inaugural in 1980. The conference theme was "Academic Research Industrial Collaboration: Challenges and Opportunities in Electrical, Electronics, Computer, Communication and Information Engineering". TENCON 2015 had 13 technical sessions, 4 plenary sessions and 2 workshops. The 4 plenary speakers were: Prof Wei Zhao, Rector of the University of Macau, Prof Vladimiro Miranda, President of INESC P&D Brazil; Prof Franco Maloberti, Electronic Department, University of Pavia and Prof Vincent W. S. Chan, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science and Aeronautics of MIT. There were eight invited speakers in industrial sessions and 47 invited speakers in different technical sessions other than authors. Apart from these, there were three IEEE R10 tracks: Young Professional Track organized by Mr Ranjeet Nair, Professional Activities Track organized by Prof Jianguo Huang, IEEE R10 Section/Chapter formation Track organized by Dr Elmer. Out of 634 accepted papers for TENCON2015, 487 were presented at the conference. The total attendees were 451 in the conference.

2016 IEEE President-elect Ms Karen Bartleson, R10 Director Ramakrishna Kappagantu, R10 Vice-Chair Professional Activities Mr MGPL Narayana and R10 Conference and Technical Seminar Coordinator Prof S N Singh were also present during the conference. Mr Ramakrishna in his opening speech extended a warm welcome to all fellow IEEE members. He congratulated the TENCON 2015 organizing committee led by Dr. Thomas Cheang for their wonderful organization. Ramakrishna informed that R10 is going to celebrate its golden jubilee starting from 24th August 2016 for one year. In his

address, Ramakrishna also mentioned the successful drive to connect with industry thru webinars, SmartTech (Metro Area Workshops) which has drawn positive response and an encouraging support. R10 flagship humanitarian innovation series AIYEHUM has reached another milestone with projects like Haemoglobin Sensor Using Tapered Optical Fibre for blind e-book reader as a testimonial of the high level of skills of the student members.

After the inauguration, R10 Conference and Technical Seminar Coordinator talked to a combined session about the quality of conferences and papers. He explained the increase in the number of conferences and plagiarism issue in the region.

There were various section and young scientist promotional activities at TENCON 2015 including Young Scientist Awards in different tracks of the technical program. Along with the industrial panel and forum, Women in Engineering (WIE) session and Academic Research & Industrial Collaboration, an exhibition was also organized at the TENCON 2015.

Apart from the technical events, there were many social events such as the welcome reception on Nov 1, 2015; welcome dinner on Nov 3; CEM technical visit and Macau Half-day heritage tour on Nov 4, 2015. Along with TENCON 2015, IEEE Macau Section celebrated the 10th anniversary of its establishment.

Professor Sri Niwas Singh
R10 Conference & Technical Seminar Coordinator 2016

IEEE President-Elect Ms Karen Bartleson and R10 Director Ramakrishna Kappagantu with the TENCON2015 organisers

IEEE Young Professionals & Students Meetup
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The first IEEE Region 10 Young Professionals (YP) meet up for the year 2016 was held successfully in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 26th January 2016. It was organized by the IEEE Malaysia Section Young Professionals and hosted by University Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Held in conjunction with a Region 10 Students Meetup, the event drew a crowd of around 50 Young Professionals and Students from various universities in Malaysia, as well as Indonesia.

Officiating the event was Dr Aduwati Sali, the immediate past IEEE YP Chair for Malaysia Section. Also present was Dr Anang Hudaya, the newly elected IEEE YP Malaysia Chair, and Dr Zuhaina Zakaria, 2015-2016 Malaysia Section Chair.

Present from IEEE Region 10 was Nivas Ravichandran (IEEE Region 10 Young Professionals Coordinator), Mehvish Zahoor (IEEE Region 10 Student Representative), Nitin Keshav (IEEE Region 10 ECIM Coordinator) and Prasanth Mohan (IEEE Xtreme Publicity Coordinator).

The sessions kicked off with Nivas Ravichandran sharing views on IEEE Young Professionals and why continue being in IEEE after graduation. This was followed by a talk from Nitin Keshav on evolving with IEEE, who gave personal references to his IEEE journey. After Nitin, Mehvish Zahoor addressed the audience on the need of interaction between the Young Professionals and the Students community. Prasanth Mohan added in the benefits of volunteering for IEEE societies and about IEEEXtreme 24-Hour Programming Competition.

The official program ended with brainstorming sessions done in groups of 5 - 6, where delegates discussed various problems faced as young professionals and students. The program was well received by the participants and motivated several of them to engage in upcoming IEEE activities. The Student Activities Committee conducted a meeting with all the student representatives and Student Branch Counsellors to increase awareness about functioning and reporting of activities.

Region 10 Young Professionals and Student Activities would like to thank IEEE Malaysia Section, IEEE Malaysia Section Young Professionals and IEEE Industry Applications Society for supporting us in this initiative.

Participants of the IEEE Young Professionals & Students Meetup Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Esther Ling
South East Asia Zone Young Professionals Coordinator

TENCON2016

TENCON, the premier international technical conference of IEEE Region 10 will be held in Singapore from 22 - 25 November 2016. The theme for TENCON 2016 is *Technologies for Smart Nation*.

This conference is expected to bring together researchers, educators, students, practitioners, technocrats and policymakers from across academia, government, industry and non-governmental organizations to discuss, share and promote current works and recent accomplishments across all aspects of electrical, electronic and computer engineering, as well as information technology. Distinguished speakers will be invited to deliver keynote speeches and invited talks on trends and significant advances in the emerging technologies.

The scope of conference papers and exhibits include but are not limited to the following areas:

• Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution
• Power Electronics
• Wireless Power Transfer and Energy Harvesting
• Renewable Energy Sources and Technology
• Signal and Image Processing
• Antennas, Propagation and Computational EM
• Analog and Mixed Signal ICs
• RF/Millimetre-wave Circuits and Systems
• Smart Nation and Internet of Things
• Robotics, Control, Instrumentation and Automation
• 3D Printing/Flexible Electronics
• Electronic Devices & Materials Processing
• Nano-electronics
• Wireless Communications and Networks
• Computing Architectures and Systems
• Network and Cyber-Security
• Photonic Technologies
• Computational Intelligence
• Big Data Analytics
• Humanitarian Technologies
• Aerospace Technology
• Marine and Offshore Engineering

TENCON 2016 will feature both invited and contributed papers. The best papers will be selected from the contributed papers for awards. The presented papers will be submitted to IEEE Xplore, which is indexed by major databases. Prospective authors are invited to submit full papers with three to four pages, in double column IEEE Conference format.

Paper Submission Deadline: 30 May 2016
Notice of Acceptance: 1 August 2016
Final Manuscripts: 10 September 2016

For more information, please contact:
    Secretariat
    Jasmine Leong
    IEEE Singapore Section
    Tel: +65 6743 2523
    Email: sec.singapore@ieee.org

IEEE Young Professionals & Students Meetup
Hyderabad, India

Following the success achieved at the first IEEE R10 Young Professionals (YP) meetup in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the most awaited, second meetup for the year 2016 was held successfully in Hyderabad, India, on 13th February 2016. It was organised by IEEE Hyderabad Section Young Professionals and hosted by the University of Hyderabad.

Held in collaboration with the Young Professionals Affinity Group of Hyderabad Section and R10 Students Meetup, the event brought together around 83 young professionals and students from various universities in Hyderabad and from nearby towns and districts.

The meetup started with the traditional introductions of the dignitaries present representing the Hyderabad Section and the University of Hyderabad. The chief guest was Sri Vinoy Kumar Singh, DGP of Prisons and Correctional Facilities, Hyderabad. He emphasized on how youth can have a positive impact on the society and can play a major role in the country's development. He also emphasized that good engineer must also be a good person and should feel responsible for the society's needs and issues.

Representing IEEE Region 10, Nivas Ravichandran, R10 Young Professionals Coordinator attended the event. Dr Lakshminarayana (Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section), and Dr Amit Kumar (Treasurer, IEEE Hyderabad Section and Chair, IEEE Entrepreneurship and Internship AdHoc Committee) graced the occasion representing the Hyderabad Section

The day started off with the chief guest's words of wisdom on the role of youth in our society. Later Dr Amit Kumar shared his journey as an entrepreneur and things to keep in mind when nurturing the entrepreneurial culture. Dr Lakshminarayana appreciated the success and importance of the event and thanked the volunteers for their support .The session ended with brainstorming sessions done in groups of 5-6, where delegates discussed various problems they face as young professionals. The discussion covered various aspects such as how to obtain financial support for their projects through the Section and R10, how to initiate technical collaborations between various parties, and how a graduating student can reach out to YPs, etc. R10 YP members helped them to clarify their doubts and gain more insight into the functionalities of IEEE YP. The day ended with the vote of thanks from Mr. Karthik Siddavaram followed by exchanging of pleasantries and photographs.

Participants of the IEEE Young Professionals & Students Meetup Hyderabad, India

Nivas Ravichandran
IEEE Region 10 Young Professionals Coordinator

IEEE Region 10 Young Professionals Zones

IEEE Region 10 with its 57 Sections spreads across 17 countries with diverse cultures. To provide more benefits effectively and host more activities, the IEEE Region 10 Young Professionals has divided the IEEE Region 10 into 4 Zones: North Asia (China Japan, South Korea, & Hong Kong), South East Asia (Singapore, Malaysia Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan, Indonesia & Thailand), South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan & Sri Lanka) and ANZ (Australia & New Zealand)

Each zone will have a geographic coordinator who will help coordinate activities and initiatives in the respective Sections. IEEE Region 10 YP aims to closely work with all the Section YP Affinity Groups in keeping them active and also, to form new YP Affinity Groups in the Sections which do not currently have one.

If your IEEE Section does not have a Young Professional Affinity Group, please write to ieeer10yp@gmail.com so that officers can help you with the process.

Nepal Disaster Relief Efforts by IEEE Region 10

Nepal experienced one of the worst earthquakes in the Himalayan region on 25th April 2015 killing over 9,000 people and injured more than 23,000. Hundreds of thousands of people were made homeless with entire villages flattened across many districts of the country.

IEEE R10 Director acted immediately and formed a Region 10 Ad Hoc Nepal Disaster Relief (ANDR) Committee to look into possible ways of helping people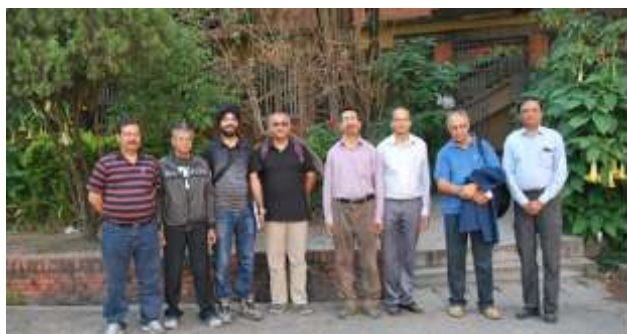 of Nepal by use of technology. The Ad Hoc Committee decided on the short-term and long-term assistance for Nepal disaster.

In the short-term, all Section Chairs and other group leaders were requested to provide monitory or in-kind support to Nepal victims through their local humanitarian organisations. IEEE Kerala Section and Delhi Section arranged through IEEE India office 100 and 12 solar lanterns respectively to Nepal where electricity has been severely affected. Bangalore Section and ComSoc Society Chapter provided monitory support (USD2000) for water purification units for households. Few more Sections and groups came forward to help in many different ways.

For long-term assistance, ANDR Committee decided to send a team of four R10 members to Nepal to assess the situation and identify areas where IEEE can help. The team identified three villages and proposed to provide electricity to these villages using non-conventional energy source (PV). These villages had no grid access and it was also not economical to take the gird to these hilly remote villages.

The team also proposed to have Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) Warning System. Nepal has many glaciers in the upper reaches of Himalayas. During the onset of summer, many of these glaciers melt, forming pools or lakes. All of a sudden when the water level reaches a critical level, these pools burst and there is a rush of water destroying anything in the path. One of the ways of preventing damage from these outbursts is providing an unmanned monitoring system that can warn the villagers and habitants downstream of the water level in the glacial lakes. Secondly, once the lake bursts, it would take a few minutes to reach habituated areas and a quick warning system could be found quite useful and sensible.

The IEEE R10 Director presented the proposal comprising the 2 projects (electrification & GLOF) requesting for US$70k to the IEEE Board of Directors. The proposal was accepted and now ANDR Committee is working on the implementation of the projects. We expect the projects to be completed by 4th quarter of 2016.

R10 Ad Hoc Nepal Disaster Relief Committee in Nepal

All IEEE Young Engineers' Humanitarian Challenge (AIYEHUM)

AIYEHUM, which received the IEEE MGA Innovation 2014 Award, is a project-contest to encourage young scientists and engineers to solve real-world challenges applying science and technology. The contest aims at orienting young minds towards identifying community problems and developing technology solutions, focusing on actual implementation reaching the beneficiaries.

As AIYEHUM enters into its 7th year of running, we plan to make it global by inviting various IEEE Regions to collaborate with us for this meaningful initiative which will certainly benefit young members of IEEE community. This initiative has been funded by R10, SIGHT, IEEE Foundation, IEEE EPICS, Industry p Project Proposal.

The participant teams need to submit a project proposal in which they have to define a real-world problem faced by people or a community and propose a technological solution to the problem. A strong practical implementation of projects reaching target beneficiaries is expected. This contest encourages the participant teams to actually work with beneficiary partners, who could be a community having little access to electricity; or it could be an NGO working on rural education; a local government; an NGO; a social entrepreneurial venture; a hospital etc. Historically we have seen the finalists to evolve into social entrepreneurs, and patent holders licensing technology to others. These projects cover a wide variety of technological areas including technology for silver age; assistive technology; healthcare; frugal technology; sustainability; intelligent mobility; smart nation; disaster recovery and social enterprise. The deadline for submission of project proposal is 15th April 2016.

An eminent Jury would shortlist the project proposals based on a certain criteria and such projects will be awarded grants up to USD 500 to support the development and implementation of the projects. The shortlisted projects will also be assigned mentors who will assist in the development of projects and also keep track of the progress of projects. In addition, the short-listed project teams will be awarded Certificate of achievement from the IEEE R10.

All short-listed project teams who have been given the grant will need to submit a report of their final product. The final report will include photographs of the prototype being developed. Top 3 teams will be selected by a panel of experts based on the results achieved and the impact on humanity/community. The winners will be awarded with prizes and certificates in a suitable ceremony.

Mentors/members of Jury are senior members of academics, industry, NGO, etc. who have a good working experience. We are inviting IEEE members to become mentors/Jury members. The deadline for application to Mentor/Jury member is 1st April 2016.

More details, submission of project proposal and applications to mentor and jury, can be obtained from AIYEHUM 2016 website. http://aiyehum.ieeer10.org/

Rajnish Gupta
R10 Humanitarian Technology Activities Coordinator

IEEE Region 10

2015 R10 Awards Ceremony

2015 IEEE Region 10 Awards winners were announced in November 2015 and an awards ceremony was held in Bangkok on 5 March 2015. IEEE President Barry Shoop and R8 Director Kostas Stasopoulos attended the ceremony. The winners of the 2015 R10 awards are listed below.

2014 R10 Distinguished Section Awards

The R10 Distinguished Section Award is given to recognize the excellent work of the Section. The award is presented for three categories, namely Small, Medium and Large R10 Distinguished Sections. The awards presented at the ceremony were for 2014 and the winners were:

(1) New Zealand Central Section (Small Section category)
(2) Lahore Section (Medium Section category) and
(3) Kerala Section (Large Section category)

2015 R10 Outstanding Volunteer Awards

IEEE Region 10 recognizes and values the important role of members as volunteers to promote the IEEE objectives in the region. The R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award aims to recognize those volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to a particular Region 10 Section. Following volunteers (listed in alphabetical order by first name) were acknowledged with the 2015 R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award:

1. Akinori Nishihara (Tokyo Section)
2. Cornelis Jan (Keith) Kikkert (South Australia Section)
3. Jianguo Huang (Xian Section)
4. Lakshminarayana Merugu (Hyderabad Section)
5. Lance Fung (Western Australia Section)
6. Murray Milner (New Zealand Central Section)
7. Nirbhay Chaubey (Gujarat Section)
8. Stefan Mozar (New South Wales Section)
9. Wu Qun (Harbin Section)

R10 Humanitarian Technology Activities Awards

2015 IEEE R10 Outstanding Individual Award for HTA

This new R10 award was introduced in 2015 to recognize professional members of IEEE who have made an outstanding contribution to the society through their dedicated work in supporting the livelihood of the people through humanitarian technologies. The 2015 award winner is:

Dr Lee Yoot Khuan (Malaysia Section)

2015 IEEE R10 Outstanding Section Award for HTA

This new R10 award was introduced in 2015. The objective of instituting this award is to motivate Sections to promote humanitarian technologies and in helping the OUs to plan and implement technologies that might uplift the society. Unfortunately the judges' panel did not find any nomination fit for the award and therefore no award for 2015.

IEEE R10 WIE Activities Awards

2015 IEEE R10 WIE Student/Professional Volunteer Award

R10 WIE Student/Professional Volunteer Award aims to recognize individuals who have exhibited exemplary and substantive leadership of an extraordinary nature in implementing activities which support the visions of R10 WIE,

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IEEE REGION 10
2016 R10 Awards & Recognitions

IEEE Region 10 has a strong program to recognize and reward excellence in all facets of the professional lives of its members and its organizational units. Given here is a list of IEEE Region 10 Awards and award instruments for 2016.

- R10 Outstanding Large Section Award (One/year) Plaque & US$1000
- R10 Outstanding Medium Section Award (One/year), Plaque & US$1000
- R10 Outstanding Small Section Award (One/year) Plaque & US$1000
- R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award (up to three/year) Certificate
- R10 Outstanding Industry-Academia Collaboration (One/year) Plaque
- R10 WIE Section Affinity Group Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 WIE Student Branch AG Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 WIE Outstanding Professional Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 WIE Outstanding Student Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 YP Affinity Group Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 YP Outstanding Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 HTA Outstanding Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 HTA Section Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 SA Student Branch Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 SA Outstanding Student Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 SA Outstanding Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 LM Affinity Group Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 LM Outstanding Volunteer (One/year) Certificate
- R10 EA Section/AG Award (One/year) Plaque
- R10 EA Outstanding Volunteer (One/year) Certificate

A consolidated Call for Nominations will be issued for all the above awards for the year 2016 (based on activity or contributions during 1 January – 31 December 2015) by mid-March 2016. Call will appear on R10 website:

http://www.ieeer10.org/

Deadline for receipt of completed nominations is **20 May 2016**.

All 2016 IEEE R10 awards will be presented during August 2016 at a special ceremony.

Watch out for the consolidated Call for Nominations & submit all nominations by the deadline date.

Dr V Prasad Kodali (kodalivp@gmail.com)
Chair, R10 Awards & Recognition Committee

at the local, regional, national, and/or international level. The winners are:

a. 2015 R10 WIE Volunteer Award (Professional): Ms. Maryam Saeed (Islamabad Section) and Ms. Sania Arshad (Lahore Section) as joint winners.

b. 2015 R10 WIE Volunteer Award (Student): Ms. Hibi Ovais Latifee (Karachi Section)

2015 IEEE R10 WIE Section/Student Branch Affinity Group of the Year

This award aims to recognize distinguished WIE Section Affinity Group and WIE Student Branch Affinity Group of the Year. For 2015 the winners are:

a. 2015 R10 WIE Section of the Year Award: WIE AG Lahore Section

b. 2015 R10 WIE SB AG of the Year Award: WIE IEEE UVCE, Bangalore Section

IEEE R10 Best Young Professionals Volunteer Award

2015 IEEE R10 Best Young Professionals Volunteer Award

This award is given in three categories namely: Academician, Industry Practitioner and Entrepreneur. The award aims to encourage the high spirited volunteerism and contributions of individuals and showcase their initiatives that has benefited a larger volume of Young Professionals. The winners are:

a. 2015 R10 Best Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Academician): Nandakumar R. (Kerala Section)

b. 2015 R10 Best Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Industry Practitioner): Vijay S Paul (Kerala Section)

c. 2015 R10 Best Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Entrepreneur): Unfortunately no nomination was found fit for the award and hence no award for 2015.

2015 IEEE R10 Best Young Professionals AG Awards

This award recognizes the achievements and activities of the two best outstanding Young Professionals Affinity Groups in R10.

The award aims to motivate the winners to do even better and serve as examples for others to follow. The winners for 2015 are:

a. Bangalore Section and

b. Kerala Section

Chairs of Kerala, Lahore and New Zealand Central Sections receiving 2014 R10 Distinguished Section awards from IEEE President Barry Shoop and R10 Director Ramakrishna Kappagantu

Jianguo Huang receiving his award from Prof Mazierska

L. Merugu receiving award from Prof Toshio Fukuda

Lance Fung receiving his award from Prof YJ Park

Wu Qun receiving his award from Prof Kukjin Chun

Stefan Mozar receiving his award from Mr Stasopoulos

Changwon and Daejeon Sections' Chairs were presented the twenty fifth anniversary banners.

IEEE News and Highlights

Suozzi INTELEC® Fellowship in Electrical Engineering

The INTELEC Executive Committee (IEC) sponsors the Joseph J. Suozzi Fellowship in Power Electronics. The fellowship is named in honour of the late Dr. Joseph John Suozzi, a founder and long-time leader of INTELEC. This grant of $15,000 is made to an electrical engineering graduate student studying in an area of power electronics that powers information and communication technology systems. Such systems include Wireline and Wireless Systems, Data/Internet Systems, Video Systems, Satellite communications, Community Antennae Television (CATV), Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) Systems, Unified Communications, Wireless Internet Networks (Wi-Fi), Data Centers, Energy Storage, Smart Grid, etc. This scope includes the research, sustainability, fundamental development, design, application and management of communications energy and related systems.

This fellowship is international and is therefore open to electrical engineering graduate students in all countries. The applicant must be a member of IEEE and must furnish his/her IEEE membership number with the application. The award is a one-time grant to an individual and is not renewable.

Interested electrical engineering graduate students shall submit:

1. An essay not exceeding one page in length that explains how his/her proposed project can be applied to powering of communications systems.
2. A transcript of his/her grades.
3. A letter of support from his/her Faculty Adviser.
4. Your IEEE Membership Number

These materials should be submitted through the application form by March 31, 2016 to the Chair of the IEEE PELS Awards Committee:
http://www.ieee-pels.org/awards/suozzi-intelec-fellowship

IEEE PELS Awards Committee
445 Hoes Lane
Piscataway, NJ USA 08855
Attn: Andreas Lindemann, Chairman
Donna Florek, Technical Community Program Specialist
Email: pels-awards-nominations@ieee.org
Phone: USA +732-465-6480

Build Mobile Apps that Matter

A mobile app developer has to consider many factors, such as who the users are, how to meet technical requirements, and how to market to a global audience. The IEEE madC mobile app competition has added one more obstacle to the list: build an app that meets the IEEE's mission of benefiting humanity.

MadC stands for mobile app development competition. The contest, which has been held for three years now, takes places in multiple stages. It begins with mobile app development training by student ambassadors and IT professionals, then ideation in which participants decide what the application will accomplish, and finally development. The entire process can take six to eight months from start to finish.

The apps are judged by a group of experts. The criteria are focused on the user interface design, user experience, overall usefulness, as well as availability. Availability means how many people the application reaches. If an app is built for several mobile platforms like iOS, Android, and Windows, there is more potential to reach a wider audience. Another factor is if the app is available in more than one language.

The 2016 madC registration started on 15 February, and you can register from the IEEE madC website or Facebook page.

- Education & Idea Stage: Started on 15th Feb 2016 and finishes on 15 April
- Development Stage: 15th April 2016
- Judging Stage: 1st June 2016
- Results Announcement: 20th June 2016

All ideas need to be submitted before 15th April 2016. Judges will select and approve the ideas.

IEEE Student Member Sangram Chawan, who is studying computer engineering at Pune University, in India, won the competition in 2015. His IEEE Connected Learning app brings together IEEE student members to help them publish their first research article. It provides easy access to various IEEE resources, including IEEE *Collabratec*, the IEEE Xplore Digital Library, and IEEE Spectrum to help gather resources and work together.

Sarang Shaikh is the public visibility and marketing lead for IEEE madC. He is also the founder of Humans of IEEE.

Sarang Shaikh
Public Visibility & Marketing Lead for IEEE madC

IEEE Computer Society Anniversary Challenge

IEEE Computer Society Anniversary Challenge is an international challenge open to all IEEE Computer Society student members across the globe. Students are invited to create a solution, based on the IEEE Computer Society 2022 report that will solve a real-world issue in a smart, fresh way.

Your Solution is Possible - This is your opportunity to propose a solution to a real world-problem, connect to other solutions, and exhibit your ingenuity! If you are a winner you may receive up to $1,500 and travel expenses to attend and be recognized publicly during the IEEE Computer Society Annual Awards Banquet in Atlanta, GA, USA on 8 June 2016.

The Challenge - Submit your solution to a real-world problem using the 2022 report as the foundation, in one of the following formats:

PowerPoint: 10 - 20 slides
Video: Maximum of two minutes
Illustrated storyboard: 10 - 20 panels

Submit your presentation with a supporting essay (maximum 1,000 words) on what technologies in the 2022 report are being utilized and why you think your solution will work. The final judges especially value those proposals that submit a working prototype, demo, or code. These can be made available by sharing a link in your essay or presentation. In addition, please submit a jpeg cover image of your challenge to help identify it.

To submit, email your essay, visual presentation, and jpeg to: membership@computer.org.

The 2022 Report:
https://www.computer.org/cms/ComputingNow/2022Report.pdf

IEEE Computer Society Past President Dejan Milojicic and a team of nine technologists surveyed the landscape and identified the 23 game-changing technologies that will have the biggest impact on our world by 2022. This is a unique opportunity to celebrate IEEE Computer Society's anniversary by creating a

solution to a real-world problem using a technology listed in the report (PDF).

Choose from:

- Security cross-cutting issues
- The open intellectual property movement
- Sustainability
- Massively Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- Quantum computing
- Device and nanotechnology
- 3D integrated circuits
- Universal memory
- Multicore
- Photonics
- Networking and interconnectivity
- Software-defined networks
- High-performance computing
- Cloud computing
- The Internet of Things
- Natural user interfaces
- 3D printing
- Big data analytics
- Machine learning and intelligent systems
- Computer vision and pattern recognition
- Life sciences
- Computational biology and bioinformatics
- Medical robotics

Eligibility - IEEE Computer Society student members are invited to participate. If you are not a member join IEEE Computer Society as Student Member for 8$ Per Year. Visit for more details on Membership**:** https://www.computer.org/web/membership/join/

Judging - Initial judging will be crowd sourced. Submissions with the highest totals will be judged by leaders from industry and academia.

Important Dates

1 April 2016: Deadline to enter the 70th Anniversary Student Challenge

7 - 12 April 2016: Time to vote! Choose your favourites via crowd-source judging

15 April 2016: Finalists announced and official judging begins

21 April 2016: Winners announced

8 June 2016: First place winners honoured at the IEEE Computer Society Annual Awards Banquet in Atlanta, GA, USA

Prizes

If the solution is submitted as a team, prize amounts to be split between the team members.

Top prize: $1500 US and travel expenses and recognition at the IEEE Computer Society Annual Awards Banquet

2nd place: $500 US and 3rd place: $300 US

Prasanth Mohan
Vice Chair, Student and Young Professional Activities (R8 - R10), IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Board
IEEE Computer Society

IEEE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IS 120,000 STRONG. BUT WE NEED YOU!

Are you interested in building your network of professionals, strengthening your leadership skills, furthering your career, and implementing new ideas within your community? If yes, then IEEE Young Professionals will be the perfect platform to unleash your true potential and reach greater heights.

IEEE Young Professionals is an international community of enthusiastic, dynamic, innovative members and volunteers who are committed to help young professionals evaluate their career goals, enhance their professional image, and create the building blocks of a lifelong and diverse professional network.

Any IEEE Member who is within the 15 years of receipt of the first degree is eligible to be an IEEE Young Professional member and would also have the option to participate beyond the fifteen-year time span.

IEEE Young Professionals, through their Affinity Groups, are involved in numerous activities ranging from technical programs, entrepreneurial workshops, educational seminars, community engagement programs, research projects, student transition and elevation programs, humanitarian activities, career development and volunteer training sessions, and young professional summits etc.

There are ample opportunities to actively work with IEEE Young Professionals to pave your path towards success and inspire thousands of energetic technocrats around the world. The first step would be to an IEEE YP! If you are not an IEEE YP now, please add without any cost, the IEEE Young Professionals membership today to enable and receive the monthly IEEE Young Professional newsletter comprising of updates and activities.

Needless to say, IEEE Region 10 YP is dedicated to help you in this journey. There are 57 sections in IEEE Region 10 (Asia-Pacific) and 30 of them have a vibrant Young Professional Affinity Group which are regularly hosting activities and initiatives to provide increased member benefits and satisfaction. If your section does not have a Young Professional Affinity Group write to us at ieeer10yp@gmail.com and we could help set up one.

Even if you are a Graduating Student Member and desire to be a bridge between the YPs and some of your undergraduate student members, then also you have an opportunity to connect with the Section Young Professional group.

If you have the desire to make a difference with your direct active contributions to Technical Societies and Communities and are interested in volunteering for IEEE Young Professionals in any capacity, then please fill the form or send an email with your volunteering interest to your Section IEEE Young Professional Coordinator with a copy to us at ieeer10yp@gmail.com. Stay tuned with our IEEE Region 10 Young Professionals Facebook Page to know more about the different activities and updates.

Nivas Ravichandran
R10 Young Professionals Activities Coordinator
ieeer10yp@gmail.com

IEEE Victorian Section

Development of Advanced Imaging System for the International Space Station

La Trobe University in Australia has signed a contract with Germany's Aerospace Centre to design and build a control system for new imaging technology on the International Space Station (ISS). In what is believed to be the first ISS contract of its kind for an Australian University, the advanced new equipment will monitor natural phenomena such as bush fires, floods, ash clouds, storms, rainfall, and drought from some 400kms in outer space. It will help government and emergency services in Australia and world-wide save lives and minimise damage to property and infrastructure.

The announcement follows Australia and Germany flagging closer innovation and industry links during Prime Minister Turnbull's recent visit to Berlin to capitalise on Australian research and Germany's expertise in commercialisation. Space station compliant technology requires a high level of technological sophistication to cope with the special conditions in which it operates. It has to be low weight, deal with lack of gravity, and need no lubrication.

Germany's national aeronautics and space research agency (DLR), Headquartered in Cologne, has an annual budget of about $AU2 billion and is the largest active partner of the European Space Agency.

Project manager at La Trobe University and IEEE Victorian Section Industry Relations Coordinator, Dr Peter Moar, said "This project was an exciting step for Australia and La Trobe University. It demonstrates the high calibre of science education and co-operative research by La Trobe University engineers, mathematicians and computer scientists".

IEEE Victorian Section Chairman and Industry Project Coordinator at La Trobe University, Dr Eddie Custovic, said Germany recently developed high-resolution imaging systems capable of identifying very small fires and smoke trails from far above the Earth. 'With Australia's enormous land mass,

technologies such as these are crucial for effective natural disaster management,' he said.

Globally wildfires also contribute up to 40% of gross carbon dioxide emissions and 38% of tropospheric ozone. Reducing wildfires just one per cent would have the same effect on emissions as removing all cars and trucks from the world for an entire year.

The new technology, called the DLR Earth Sensing Imaging Spectrometer (DESIS), will be integrated in the International Space Station's imaging platform named MUSES (Multi-User System for Earth Sensing). This will host up to three other observation instruments capable of imaging the Earth from the visible through to the near infrared light spectrum.

Dr Eddie Custovic
Chair, Victorian Section, Australia

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IEEE Milestone

The Middle and Upper Atmosphere Radar

In 1984, Kyoto University built the MU (Middle and Upper atmosphere) radar as the first large-scale MST (Mesosphere, Stratosphere, and Troposphere) radar with a two-dimensional active phased array antenna system, with the collaboration of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation. The MU radar enabled continuous and flexible observation of the atmosphere, and has contributed to the progress of atmospheric science and radar engineering.

DLR Earth Sensing Imaging Spectrometer (DESIS) for integration in the International Space Station's imaging platform for Earth Sensing.

Under computer control, the MU radar is capable of emitting an ultra-fast 400 µs scanning beam in all directions, enabling real-time monitoring of the upper atmosphere at an altitude of up to several hundred kilometres, making it thus one of the most powerful instruments of its kind in the world. As a joint-use facility accessible to all universities and research institutions in Japan, it has contributed to the advancement of atmospheric science and radar technology by playing a role in numerous research projects in a broad range of related fields, including atmospheric studies, meteorology, astronomy, electrical engineering, electronics, and astrophysics.

The MU radar system was acknowledged as an IEEE milestone in 2015. The commemorative ceremony was held in the presence of 2015 IEEE President Howard Michel, Kyoto University President Juichi Yamagiwa, Mitsubishi Electric President & CEO Masaki Sakuyama, guests from Ministry of Education and Cabinet Office, and with more than 100 participants. The commemorative ceremony was followed by a plaque dedication ceremony at RISH's Shigaraki MU Observatory in Shiga Prefecture.

IEEE President Howard Michel presenting the IEEE Milestone palque

The IEEE milestone plaque at RISH's Shigaraki MU Observatory in Shiga Prefecture

Hiroshi Kawamura
IEEE Kansai Section, Japan
http://www.ieee-jp.org/section/kansai/

IEEE South Australia Section

2015 IEEE SA Section Distinguished Lecturer Dinner

The 2015 Distinguished Lecture "Exploring the Dark Continent of the Human Body - An unexpected voyage of discovery for a naïve optical fibre telecommunications engineer", was presented by Professor John Arkwright – South Australian Premier's Professorial Research Fellow in Biomedical Engineering, Flinders University. The Distinguished Lecturer Dinner was held at the Adelaide Pavilion on 28 October 2015 and was attended by over 60 members, professional colleagues and guests.

Prof. Arkwright presented a highly interesting and also very entertaining lecture on the development of the telecommunications grade optical fibre into the Fibre Bragg Diffraction Grating (FBGs) arrays as used for measuring mechanical and thermal properties. Prof. Arkwright then went on to describe the application of FBGs as fibre optic catheters for in-vivo diagnostics, and also for other non-invasive biomedical applications. The talk was very well received by all the members and guests attending the DLD.

The IEEE-SA Section acknowledges its appreciation to the DLD Organising Committee, comprising Pina dall'Armi-Stoks, Sherry Randhawa, Morgan Smith, and Scott Sleep, for accomplishing an outstanding job in organising a very successful event.

Prof John Arkwright (middle) with (left to right) Prof Cheng-Chew Lin, A/Prof Karl Sammut, and Prof Derek Abbott (IEEE Fellow).

Karl Sammut
Chair, IEEE South Australia Section (2015-16)

Views expressed in articles published in this newsletter are those of author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views or official position of IEEE Region 10 or any other IEEE entity.

IEEE Indonesia Section

Indonesia Flying Robot Contest – Yogyakarta

Directorate of Research and Community Service of the Directorate of Higher Education Republic of Indonesia (DIKTI), supported by Higher Learning Directorate General, Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM), the local Government of Gunung Kidul Regency, Adisucipto International Airport Yogyakarta and several Universities and Industries, organized the Indonesia Flying Robot Contest (KRTI 2015) on 17-20 September 2015. The theme for the contest was "*Towards Technology Independence in Unmanned Flying Vehicles*" and it was held at Gading Square Air Base in Gunung Kidul Regency, Yogyakarta Indonesia. There are 213 participants who take part in 71 teams from 29 Indonesian universities. The volunteer of IEEE Indonesia Section served as the Jury for this competition whereas Gesang Nugroho, S.T., M.T., Ph.D from UGM served as the Chair of the jury.

The contest had three categories. The first category was Racing Jet (RJ) which consists of Light Weight (LW) and Heavy Weight (HW) jets. The second category was Fixed Wing (FW), consisting of Fixed Wing Monitoring (FWMon) and Fixed Wing Mapping (FWMap). The third category was for the Vertical Take-off Landing division (VTOL), consisting of Vertical Take-off Landing Water Based Fire Distinguisher (VTOL-WFE) and Vertical Take-off Landing Non Water Based Fire Distinguisher (VTOL-NWFE).

The Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) emerged as the general champion of this Flying Robot Contest (KRTI) 2015. The UGM team won in two categories and received awards in three divisions including Fixed Wing, Racing Jet, and Vertical Take-off and Landing.

UGM's Gama Force II team came first in Mapping and Monitoring for Fixed Wing division and also won the special award for the best idea and best design in this division. The Horse Fly team of UGM had the best design in the Racing Jet category while the Gadjah Mada Fighting Copter-1 won the special award for the best system in the Vertical Take-off and landing division.

The winner for light weight in Racing Jet division is Universitas Andalas, followed by Politeknik Elektronika Negeri Surabaya. The Heavy Weight division is won by Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember while Water Based fire Extinguisher division in Vertical Take-off and landing is won by Telkom University, followed by STMIK Teknokrat and Institut Teknologi Sepuluh
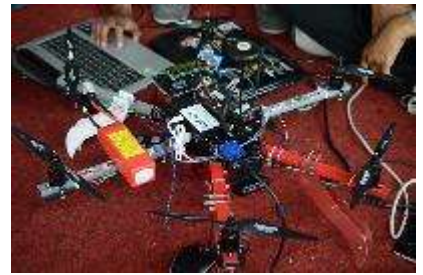
Nopember. For Non Water Based Fire Extinguisher, the Garuda team from Universitas Indonesia came first, followed by Politeknik Elektronika Negeri Surabaya and Telkom University.

The UGM Director of Student Affairs expressed the view that the contest is expected to develop the student's creativity in Technology. Dr Djoko Sarjadi, a member of the jury panel, said the contestants of the KRTI2015 had produced robots that are ready for application. One of the unmanned aerial vehicles can even produce good quality photos for mapping. Vice-Rector for Research and Community Service, UGM, Prof Dr Suratman, M.Sc., revealed that to follow this up, his office would establish Avionics Research Centre as avionics and maritime technologies are strategic technologies that need to be developed in Indonesia as an archipelagic country.

IEEE Indonesia Section is continuing to develop strategic

alliances with universities, including universities outside Java Island, government and other ICT organizations. Strategic planning of IEEE activities Technical Activities, Education Activity, Industry Relation, Professional Activity, Conference Coordination, Membership Development, Student Activity and Women in Engineering. IEEE Indonesia Section also continues aligning and strengthening active contribution in Research, Innovation and Public policy, related to technology.

IEEE Indonesia Section expects that, being a professional society, such activities would elevate its vital role for strategic national positioning and establish IEEE as one of the national assets. IEEE Indonesia Section is in the midst of continuing organization development progress, enhancing National visibility, combining unique position in Indonesia ICT professional communities and continuing making profound social impact in the communities that IEEE Indonesia Section serve around Indonesia.

Volunteers from the IEEE Indonesia Section serving as the jury panel.

Satriyo Dharmanto
Chair, IEEE Indonesia Section

IEEE Bombay Section

IEEE Bombay Section Symposium (IBSS-2015)

IEEE Bombay Section conceived the "Signature Symposia" to provide its members with a platform to share their expertise in a wide range of science, engineering and industrial research areas. These Symposia will offer excellent opportunities for students, researchers and industries to foster collaborations or simply to further their knowledge in the cutting-edge science, engineering and technology areas. The annual Symposia series are referred to as the IEEE Bombay Section Symposia (IBSS) and the maiden edition - IEEE Bombay Section Symposium (IBSS-2015) was organised during 10 – 11 September, 2015.

The Symposium venue was chosen based on bids from the potential host institutes spread across the Section, which were expected to satisfy a number of strict criteria that would enable successful organisation of the Symposium. The bids were carefully scrutinised by a committee, which chose Usha Mittal Institute of Technology, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai as the host for IBSS-2015. It was befitting that the Symposium was held at the SNDT Women's University, which is celebrating its Centenary Year

The theme chosen for the Symposia was "Frontiers of Technologies: Fuelling Prosperity of the Planet and People", reflecting well both the Mission and Vision of IEEE. The core topics chosen for the IBSS-2015 were:

1. Sensors, instrumentation and signal processing,
2. Communication, networks and wireless technologies,
3. Microwave techniques and medical applications and
4. Cyber physical systems and smart vehicles.

Besides the keynote and the summary talks delivered in their chosen fields by highly distinguished speakers, the Symposium featured 16 high quality review talks encompassing the core topics by senior experts and four contributory talks by the young and active researchers. All the sessions were plenary.

In order to encourage students and young researchers to actively participate in the Symposium and present their work, papers based on their original work were invited. Out of the 120 papers received, about 50% were accepted after careful refereeing by at least two referees chosen from the research domain of the paper. The selected papers were presented as posters during the Symposium, out of which four best posters chosen by a panel of judges were awarded mementos and merit certificates. Manuscripts modified to incorporate the reviewers comments and suggestions, if any are going to be submitted to the IEEE Xplore Digital Library.

While inaugurating the Symposium, Prof Vasudha Kamat, Vice-Chancellor SNDT Women's University appreciated the Section's sincere efforts to actively and effectively engage with its local communities, especially the students. She also suggested that future editions of the Symposium must include technological innovations in education as one of the Symposium topics.

As per the feedback received, the technical programme and the enlightening interactions of eminent speakers with the delegates were found to be academically rich, inspiring and highly motivating. The young contributory speakers struck an excellent chord with the student delegates with matching wavelengths in finding quick solutions to their research problems. The poster presenters found an excellent platform to share their work and opportunity to network with who's who of the industry, academia and research. A cultural programme by the artistes from the SNDT Women's University was an excellent way to unwind from a daylong intense technical sessions and discussions.

We developed a highly informative and dynamic Symposium web page, which turned out to be single stop destination for all activities of the Symposium - including online registration and secured fee payment and so on. UMIT turned out to be a great host for the Symposium. In all, it was a greatly satisfying event for various organising committees of this Symposium who toiled for months meticulously planning and executing all the tasks with able support from highly energetic student volunteers.

Armed with success of this maiden Symposium, plans are already underway to organise the IBSS-2016 at another venue of the Section. We are hopeful that the IBSS will very soon reach to its rightful place as one of the best technical events of the IEEE India, while maintaining its signature of IEEE Bombay Section.

Anthony Lobo
Chair IEEE Bombay Section

Prof. Vasudha Kamat's address during the inauguration of IBSS-2015. Seated L to R: Prof. Sanjay Pawar, Local Organising Committee Chair, Mr. Anthony Lobo, General Co-Chair, Mr. B.H.V.S.Narayana Murthy (Associate Director, RCI, DRDO), Keynote Speaker and Dr. Satyanarayana Bheesette, Technical Programme Committee Chair.

IEEE Hyderabad Section

The Skill Connect Program

Enhancing Employability & Sustainably through Industry Aligned Competence Building

Developing personal abilities like self-confidence, team skills and ability to quickly align with current & changing market scenarios that make a student employable, have always been an important aim in every student's education. This is usually beyond what they learn in college. Large numbers of students joining IT companies have difficulty inducting into work due to lack of employable skills.

The 'Skill Connect' program aims to build competencies among students for successful employment. Competence is recognised as "a cluster of Knowledge, Skill and Process Abilities". The program addresses these component abilities. 'Process Ability' is knowing the process steps that must be executed to realize a product or work. 'Skill' is having a relationship with the interfaces we deal with when we execute the steps. Thus the starting point for defining competence is what the employers want.

The 'Skill Connect' identifies a set of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), who offer internships to students. The SMEs define the product that the interns must build during their internship.

The Skill Connect consists of 5 phases depicted in a snap shot of the program below. In the first phase starting in fourth semester, students learn basics of any one of the stream (Java or C and Embedded systems). In the second phase, they learn how to apply this basic knowledge to build a web application. In both these phases, the students have to pass rigorous tests. In the next 2 phases, they upskill to cover more application building, learning and doing today's trended technologies. At the end of the 7th Semester students are expected to have employability skills that are needed for internship.

In the first phase 110 -120 hours (1-1.5 days per week) of basic training and about 64 hours (8 weekends) of application building

in phase 2 is provided, followed by upskilling in situation driven settings. Eighth Semester students join internship. The Skill Connect 1 started in Jan 2015 is currently in phase 2 – 3. The Skill Connect 2 started in Jan 2016.

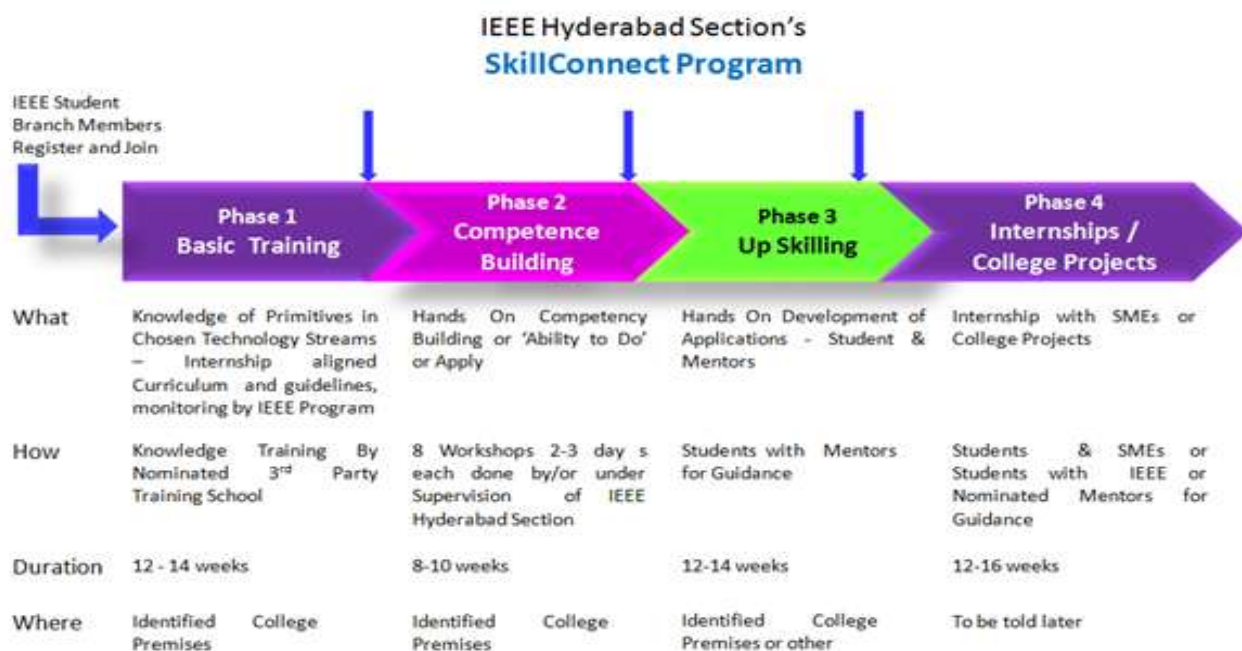**P. Ravi Shankar** (prs7953@gmail.com)
2015 Chair, Education Society Chapter, Hyderabad Section

New Zealand Central Section

2015 International Conference on Field Programmable Technology

The conference was held at Rydges Lakeland Resort, on the shores of Lake Wakatipu in Queenstown. There were 96 delegates, attracted from around the world. Over 90% of the attendees were from outside of New Zealand, and for most, this was their first visit to New Zealand and Queenstown. The conference ran as a single track, with 6 oral sessions and 2 poster sessions.

We had 3 exceptional keynote addresses. Dr Andrew Ensor spoke on some of the technological challenges of the Square Kilometre Array project, and how some of these are being addressed through FPGA technology. Prof Andre DeHon outlined the energy advantages of FPGAs over other forms of computational acceleration, and traced these to their underlying architectural causes. From this he suggested further architectural refinements to maximise the energy advantages. Prof Vaughn Betz explored some of the connectivity and bandwidth issues facing FPGAs as they increase in size and become more

IEEE Hyderabad Section's
SkillConnect Program

	Phase 1 Basic Training	Phase 2 Competence Building	Phase 3 Up Skilling	Phase 4 Internships / College Projects
What	Knowledge of Primitives in Chosen Technology Streams – Internship aligned Curriculum and guidelines, monitoring by IEEE Program	Hands On Competency Building or 'Ability to Do' or Apply	Hands On Development of Applications - Student & Mentors	Internship with SMEs or College Projects
How	Knowledge Training By Nominated 3rd Party Training School	8 Workshops 2-3 day s each done by/or under Supervision of IEEE Hyderabad Section	Students with Mentors for Guidance	Students & SMEs or Students with IEEE or Nominated Mentors for Guidance
Duration	12 - 14 weeks	8-10 weeks	12-14 weeks	12-16 weeks
Where	Identified College Premises	Identified College Premises	Identified College Premises or other	To be told later

IEEE Student Branch Members Register and Join

Students Pass performance gates at the finish of each phase to go to next Phase

A snap shot of the Skill Connect program

powerful. He proposed addressing these problems through embedding network-on-chip infrastructure within FPGAs.

In addition to the usual technical activities, there was also a PhD forum where students could present work in progress, and a demonstration session, where some of the practical aspects or applications of programmable technology were demonstrated. In keeping with previous FPT conferences, the 2015 conference also had a design competition, where 12 teams designed an FPGA based artificial intelligence for playing the strategy game Trax. The designs were pitted against one another in a round-robin type tournament. Following the conference, two industry training workshops were held by Xilinx and Altera, the two main manufacturers of FPGAs.

There were plentiful opportunities for networking, catching up with colleagues, and meeting new ones. One of the highlights was the conference banquet, held at the Skyline restaurant, with a gondola ride up the mountain. The views were excellent, the food was superb, and the kiwi-haka performance had the international visitors enthralled.

More than one delegate commented after the conference that this was the best conference that they had attended, both in terms of venue (Queenstown and the surrounding hills were spectacular) and in terms of high quality technical content. (And they had been going to conferences for over 20 years!).

It was my pleasure to be part of the team working on the organisation of this conference. My thanks go to the rest of the organising committee, in particular the TPC chairs, for their hard work in helping make FPT 2015 a success. On the ground at the conference ensuring that everything ran smoothly were Mike Lobb (AV specialist), student helpers (Anoop, Hitesh, and Jason), my wife Robyn who looked after the registration desk, and the staff from Rydges who ensured that we had all that we needed in the right place at the right time. I am grateful for the financial support from sponsors: Xilinx, Altera, and Digilent, and technical co-sponsorship from IEEE NZ (North, Central and South Sections).

Donald Bailey (FPT 2015 General Chair)
Chair, New Zealand Central Section
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Interested in advertising your conference in this newsletter? Contact us at <u>r10=ecn@ieee.org</u>

IEEE Harbin Section
ComSoc Meeting & Traditional Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

The annual meeting of Harbin Communication Society Chapter was held at Communication Research Center in Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT) on Sep. 28, 2015 coinciding with the traditional Chinese mid-autumn festival. The activity was conducted by the Chair of ComSoc Harbin Chapter, Prof Weixiao Meng, with the main purpose of promoting IEEE ComSoc among young engineers and students.

Prof Meng in his opening speech started with a brief introduction of Harbin Chapter, which is characterized by the technical lectures of visiting scholars and interesting self-designed LOGO and souvenirs. Then, the basic information of IEEE and ComSoc were summarized, which mainly included the component of organization, staff composition, research achievement, membership application, and related websites. Noticing that most of the listeners were young students just starting their researches, Prof Meng introduced in detail some major conferences and journals sponsored by IEEE ComSoc. Then, the secretary of ComSoc Harbin Chapter, Dr Shuai Han gave a presentation entitled "Conference Paper Versus Journal Paper", which described the newly published statement of IEEE. This statement is related to the confusion whether it is proper for an author to submit a journal paper based on material that has been previously published in one or more conference papers. As most of the students have this confusion, the lecture of Dr Han was meaningful and timely.

Considering it was a traditional Chinese festival, the mid-autumn festival, Harbin Chapter organized some interesting activities, such as guessing lantern riddles and eating moon cakes. This activity ended with the sound of joy.

Wu Qan
Harbin Section, China

IEEE TECHSYM 2016
STUDENTS' TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM
30 September - 2 October, 2016, IIT Kharagpur, India

THE 4TH IEEE Students' Technology Symposium (IEEE TECHSYM 2016) invites original scholastic contributions from students and young professionals in the form of articles for oral/poster presentation with subsequent submission to the IEEE Xplore digital library. IEEE TECHSYM 2016 provides exciting opportunities in the form of technical awards, undergraduate/graduate project displays, a hardware hackathon competition and technical challenges for young engineers and researchers. The three-day symposium also includes cutting edge keynote talks and exciting opportunities to interact with some of the leading figures in academia and industry. (<u>www.techsym.in</u>)

Important Dates:
   Paper Submission: 10 May, 2016
   Acceptance Notification: 31 July 2016
   Registration Begins: 14 August 2016

IEEE Delhi Section & IEEE India Council

IEEE INDICON 2015

INDICON is the annual conference conceptualized by IEEE India Council in the field of Electrical, Electronics, Communication and Computer Engineering in general. IEEE INDICON 2015, being the 12th of the series, was organized by Department of Electrical Engineering, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with IEEE Delhi Section & IEEE India Council, at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi from 17th and 20th December 2015 with the theme of E3 - C3 covering the research areas in the field of Electronics, Energy, Environment, Communication, Computer, Control.

Prof Roberto De Marca, IEEE President (2014) inaugurated the IEEE INDICON 2015 on 18th December, 2015. Prof Majid Jamil, Head Department of Electrical Engineering and Organizing Chair of the conference welcomed all to INDICON-2015. General Chair INDICON-2015, Prof Mini S. Thomas updated everyone about IEEE INDICON-2015 and introduced theme of the conference. President De Marca, PES President Elect Prof Saifur Rahman, Computer Society President Roger Fuji spoke on the occasion which was also attended by Prof Mohammad Shahidehpour and Mr John D McDonald. INDICON 2015 had a footfall of around 1200 people.

INDICON showcased eight tutorials by eminent experts from across the world on a variety of topics and a Plenary session on "*Key Industry/Societal Trends in the Future of Smart Grid for India*", which featured five expert speakers. Six keynote slots featuring fourteen renowned speakers and four Industry Panel sessions with fifteen speakers, mostly from Industry, made INDICON 2015 a truly international conference. The invited talks exploring the current technologies in R&D such as medical electronics, power system reliability, smart cities, renewable energy integration, smart sensors, internet of things, digital holography, signal processing were delivered by international and national stalwarts.

INDICON 2015 showed a meteoric growth with 2195 papers registered and 1807 selected for review. Finally, 945 papers were accepted out of which 757 were presented and sent to IEEExplore. INDICON 2015 featured a whopping 90 oral paper presentation sessions (16 parallel sessions) and 13 poster presentation sessions spread over 3 days. INDICON 2015 also featured an exhibition showcasing the latest equipment and books and hosted a cultural evening on 18th December. The valedictory session was held on 20th December. Among various dignitaries present were Mr K Ramakrishna, IEEE R10 Director, John D McDonald, GE Digital Energy, and Deepak Mathur IEEE India Council Chair. In the concluding ceremony,

The Plenary Session of IEEE INDICON-2015 was held on 18th December 2015 at M. A. Ansari Auditorium, Jamia Millia

Islamia. The theme of the session was "*Key Industry/Societal Trends in the Future of Smart Grid for India*". A smart grid delivers electricity from suppliers to the consumers using digital technology to increase reliability of the system with conservation of energy and reduction in cost. It offers advent remote control and automation technologies to provide 21st century high quality power. Smart Grid will act as a backbone infrastructure to enable new business models like smart city, electric vehicles, smart communities apart from more resilient and efficient energy system and tariff structures. The session was chaired by John D McDonald Director, GE Digital Energy, Atlanta. He talked about distribution automation. Other plenary speakers included:

- Roger Fuji, IEEE CS President 2016 (IT for Smartgrid Applications)
- Roberto De Marca, IEEE President 2014 (Communications for smart environments)
- Saifur Rahman, IEEE PES President Elect 2016, Director, ARI, Virginia Tech (Role of the Smart Grid in Renewable Integration)
- Mohd Shahidehpour, IIT Chicago, Founder Editor, IEEE Transactions on Smartgrid (Microgrids - A new hub in smart energy infrastructure)

Eight tutorials by eminent speakers included:

- Distribution System Modelling, Automation, Management and Advanced Applications by John D. McDonald
- Integration of Demand Response with Renewable Energy for Efficient Power System Operation by Saifur Rahman
- Electronic Instrumentation and Control – its applications by Dr S. A. Akbar
- Distribution System Operator and Transactive Energy Exchange in Electric Power Systems with Renewable Energy by Mohammad Shahidehpour
- How to Verify That Software and Systems Development Products Are Correct and Safe by Roger U. Fuji
- Free Space Optical Communications: From Theory to Practice by Manav Bhatnagar
- Energy harvesting from ambient sources by Shouri Chatterjee
- Signal representation: A geometric perspective by S.D. Joshi

Prof Bhim Singh, General Chair INDICON presented the conference report and best paper awards were announced by Prof Mini Thomas. On this occasion special awards for specific achievements in research were also given. INDICON baton was passed to IEEE Bangalore Section.

Mini Shaji Thomas
Chair, IEEE Delhi Section

IEEE Queensland Section

Asia Pacific Power and Energy Conference 2015

The Asia Pacific Power and Energy conference was held on 15th – 18th November 2015 in Brisbane, Australia. The conference was organised by the IEEE Power and Energy Society (IEEE PES) and the PES Queensland Chapter. Each year the Asia – Pacific region of the IEEE-PES holds its Power Engineering and Energy conference in the region, where the leading power engineering researchers and industry practitioners present and discuss the latest developments on emerging power industry issues, of critical importance, to countries in the region.

This was the first time that the conference was held in Australia, having been successfully run for the last six years in leading Asian cities. The conference covered a broad range of power industry topics, including the challenges of rapidly growing economies, managing ageing infrastructure in developed countries, and, the network integration problems of intermittent renewable generation and distributed technologies. About 300 delegates from 22 different countries participated in the conference.

IEEE PES President-Elect Dr Damir Novosel, IEEE PES Executive Director Mr. Pat Ryan and IEEE PES R10 representative Prof Lalit Goel participated in the conference. Several CEOs and senior power industry executives participated in the conference as plenary speakers. Mr. Terry Effeney (CEO, Energex, Australia), Mr. Mike Cleary (COO, AEMO, Australia), Mr Peter McIntyre (Managing Director, TransGrid, Australia), and Professor Paul Simshauser (Director-General, Department of Energy & Water Supply, Queensland Government) were the panellists at the Monday morning session.

The plenary session was moderated by Mr. Peter Price (EGM, Energex, Australia). The panellists were Mr Stephen Richardson, (Technical and Innovation Engineer, Ergon Energy, Australia), Dr Stuart Johnston (Executive Director, Assets and Network Transformation, ENA, Australia) and Dr Perry Sioshansi (President, Menlo Energy Economics, USA).

A conference banquet, City Lights Dinner Cruise, was held on the Kookaburra Queen paddle steamer.

Three industry site visits were organised for delegates, which included the University of Queensland's Gatton solar facility, NOJA Power's manufacturing facility, and the AEMO Control Centre. Conference received strong support from Queensland industry, including a Gold sponsorship from NOJA Power, Silver sponsorships from Energex and Ergon Energy, and a Bronze sponsorship from Powerlink Queensland. Two special awards for papers were kindly donated by the Australian Power Institute and CIGRE Australia.

Dr Damir Novosel delivering key note speech

Nilesh Modi, 2016 Chair, PES Chapter
IEEE Queensland Section, Australia

IEEE Uttar Pradesh Section

3rd International Conference on Signal Processing and Integrated Networks (SPIN 2016)

The Third International Conference on Signal Processing and Integrated Networks (SPIN 2016) was held on 11-12 February 2016 in the Amity University Campus, Noida Delhi NCR, India. This conference was technically co-sponsored by IEEE UP Section and IEEE UP Section SP/C joint chapter.

SPIN 2016 was aimed to bring together scientists, academicians and industrialists working in the field of Signal Processing and Integrated Networks to discuss new ideas and promote research work. The conference had a high quality technical programme consisting of 163 contributory papers and 22 invited talks. Overall this conference had 28 sessions and all the sessions were very nicely managed by expert session chairs. Five parallel sessions were run for the contributed papers. The sessions were highly interactive and thoughtful. There was huge participation of students from the organizing Institution as well as many other institutions. In addition to the regular sessions, one special session on " Nano-Scale Electronic Devices and Modern Active Devices" organized by Prof. Jean-Pierre Leburton, Beckman Institute for Advanced Science & Technology, University of Illinois, USA.

There were sessions on Image Processing, Communication, Signal Processing, VLSI, Networking & Security, Video Processing, Biomedical Signal Processing, Embedded system & robotics, Antenna, Wireless Sensor Networks etc.

The invited talks were delivered by researchers throughout the world from countries like Germany, UK, USA, Japan, Canada and European Countries etc. The invited speakers of this conference are listed below.

1. Prof Pan Agathoklis, University of Victoria, Canada
2. Prof Leonardo BOCCHI, University of Florence, Italy
3. Prof C. Sidney Burrus, Rice University, USA
4. Prof Yukio Ohsawa, The University of Tokyo, Japan
5. Prof Jean-Pierre Leburton, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA
6. Prof Patrick Gaydecki, University of Manchester, UK
7. Prof Takeshi Onodera, Kyushu University, Japan
8. Prof Yi Qian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
9. Prof Rangaraj M. Rangayyan, University of Calgary, Canada
10. Prof Hamid Vakilzadian, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
11. Prof Dr. Sven-Hendrik Voss, Beuth University of Applied Sciences, Germany
12. Prof Xavier Fernando, Ryerson University, Canada.
13. Prof Raimo Kantola, Aalto University, Finland
14. Prof Marius Pedersen, Gjøvik University College, Norway
15. Prof Henrik Hautop Lund, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark
16. Prof Hsi-Pin Ma, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan
17. Prof Peter Puschner, Vienna University of Technology, Austria
18. Prof Hui-Huang Hsu, Tamkang University, Taiwan.
19. Prof Alexander Kurganov, Tulane University, USA
20. Prof Radim Burget, BRNO University of Technology, Czech Republic
21. Prof Surinder Dhanjal, Thomson River University, Canada

22. Dr Ivan Linscott –VLF Research Lab, Stanford University, USA

SPIN-2016 also attracted contributions across the world from countries like, USA, UK, Germany, Canada, Spain, China, Australia, Bangladesh, New Zealand, France, Norway, Oman, South Africa, Czech Republic, Taiwan, Japan, Thailand, Austria, Finland, Denmark etc.

SPIN-2016 had attracted contributory scientific papers from 25 out of 28 states of the country, which means that it has attracted the attention of the larger research community. Besides this SPIN 2016 also attracted contributory papers from many premier academic institutions of the country like, IIT Delhi, IIT, Kharagpur, IIT Gauhati, IIT Roorkee, IIT Indore, IIT Ropar, IIIT-Trichy, IIIT Chittor, IIIT Gwalior, IIIT Jabalpur, IIIT Allahabad, Many NITs from all parts of the country, Netaji Subhas Institute of Technology, Delhi, DTU-Delhi, NSIT-Delhi, Indian School of Mines at Dhanbad, BITS Mesra, Thapar University, VIT Vellore, Manipal University, Aligarh Muslim University etc. SPIN -2016 also attracted contributory papers from Research Centres like ISRO Satellite Centre, CSIR Labs, DRDO Labs, CDAC, Noida, Dept. of Anaesthesiology, Regional Cancer Centre, Trivandrum, Kerala, National Institute Abiotic Stress Management, Pune.

The feedback from the participants, authors, session chairs and invited speakers was positive and all appreciated the conference. The student participation was a marked feature in this conference which saw all the venues flooded with students. The conference was concluded with a small valedictory function on 12 February 2016. The conference organizers organized a complementary trip for all the invited speakers and delegates to Agra for visit to the Taj Mahal and Agra Red Fort on 13 Feb 2016.

M. K. Dutta
IEEE UP Section SP/C Joint Chapter, India

IEEE Karachi Section

2015 Student/Young Professional/WIE Congress

On 19th December 2015, IEEE Karachi Section organized a SYW Congress in Karachi where local and overseas scholars and speakers congregated. The congress proved to be highly successful in its attributes, mainly because it was designed to enlighten the young attendees about the perks of thriving with IEEE in the long run. The purpose of the congress was for the youthful minds of today's generation to interact with, and to learn from the experience of highly professional academic and industrial personnel.

The congress was attended by universities and IEEE affiliated institutions from all over Karachi, with more than 200 people actively participating in it. The Chairs of different Student Branches across the Section attend the event. The congress was not only the fourth edition for the series but also one of the events by Karachi Section to have larger and diversified audience.

A discussion panel on "Industry demands for graduating students" which hosted a panel including MD and CEO of Pakistan State Oil (PSO), HR Manager for Wavetec. A second discussion panel on "Why should we volunteer for IEEE after undergrad" was also held which consisted of some international IEEE volunteers as: Mr. Subodha Charles- past-SSR for Sri Lanka Section, Mr. Kavinga Upul- past-Young Professional Chair for Sri Lanka Section, Ms. Aisha Yousuf- an IEEE Region -1 (USA) volunteer, Ms. Mehvish Zahoor- R10 RSR for and Dr. Shahab Siddiqui- Vice Chair Karachi Section.

Ms. Mehvish Zahoor along with SAC Chair, Mr. Murtaza Hanif conducted SAC meetings with Student Branch Chairs & officers and Student Branch Counsellors. Certificate of appreciation were given to participating SB Chairs and officers. Motivational sessions by Mr. Muhammad Ali Khan, Finance Banker by profession and Mr. Nabeel, a Ph.D candidate were given; moreover technical sessions on various topics ranging from entrepreneurship, commercializing business and robotics were given by professionals hailing from MIT and MIT Enterprise Forum Pakistan.

The event overall catered the interest and focused on professional development. Lastly, Mr. Sarang Shaikh, Secretary Karachi Section presented yearly activity/meeting report which highlighted major events conducted by the Section and Student Branches.

A closing note by Chief Guest Dr Aslam Uqaili, Vice Chancellor of Mehran UET, Jamshoro presented an enthusiastic ending note to all participants emphasizing the importance of volunteering and extracurricular activities in engineering studies. He was accompanied by Karachi Section SYP Congress Chair, Dr. Bhawany Shankar Chowdhary.

The one day event sure ended with awards given to people who demonstrated dedication to effect some goals for the congress, which included ambassadors and volunteers but that was certainly not the way Karachi Section wanted to end the year 2015, instead it ended with smile on everyone's face and a fire kindled with energy to do more and involve to achieve what IEEE asserts from its mission i.e. to inspire, engage and involve.

Sarang Shaikh
Secretary, Karachi Section, Pakistan

IEEE Uttar Pradesh Section

CONFLUENCE-2016

Department of Computer Science & Engineering, Amity School of Engineering and Technology (ASET), Amity University, Noida organized a two day 6th International Conference, CONFLUENCE-2016: themed on "Cloud System and Big Data Engineering" on 14th -15th Jan, 2016. The conference was technically sponsored by IEEE UP Section.

The Two day CONFLUENCE-2016: Global Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Summit themed on Cloud System & Big Data Engineering was organized in association with EMC Corporation; and Academic Partners as University of Massachusetts, Lowell, USA; Purdue University, Calumet, USA; University of Florida, USA; University of Cape Town, South Africa; Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada; Queen University Belfast, UK.

Research manuscripts were presented by authors from more than 12 countries including India, USA, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Malaysia, Canada, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Italy, Nigeria, and United Arab Emirates. Confluence 2016 attracted numerous research manuscripts from esteemed institutes, industries and government bodies like IITs; NITs; Mando Softech Pvt. Ltd.; IBM; SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory-Stanford University, USA, NITTR, Chandigarh; IIRS, Dehradun, India etc.

Prof Abhay Bansal, General Chair, Confluence 2016 welcomed the distinguished guests. He proclaimed the Confluence 2016 as a platform to discuss the current trends and issues related to Cloud Computing and Big Data Engineering by industry experts and academicians. Talking about the industry, Prof. Bansal asserted that the global Cloud Computing market is constantly expanding and is likely to surpass $ 41.5 billion by 2018 as per IDC forecast, generating huge job opportunities for the young technocrats. He encouraged students to make the most out of their interactions with the corporate leaders and eminent academicians, which will give them a deeper insight into the current industry trends.

During the Summit, Amity University signed 7 MoUs with University of Massachusetts, USA; Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada; Sunway University and Asia Pacific University, Malaysia; Penza State University, Russian Federation; Suleyman Demiral University, Kazakhstan and Intel Corporation to facilitate and enrich educational ties between the institutions and benefit from inter disciplinary research.

Dr. Michael A. Smith, Visual Computing Architect and Academic Program Director, Intel Corporation, USA; Professor Emeritus David Gries, , Cornell University, USA; Prof Graham Kendall, Vice-Provost (Research and Knowledge Transfer) University of Nottingham, UK and Malaysia; Prof Paul Gries, Acting Vice Dean, University of Toronto, Canada; Prof Jean-Paul Van Belle- Director, Cenre for IT and National Development in Africa, University of Cape Town, South Africa were conferred Honorary Professorship by Dr. Ashok K Chauhan, Founder President, Amity Group.

Addressing the august gathering, Dr Ashok K Chauhan expressed his delight over the MoUs and International alliances, which were initiated during two day Confluence 2016. He shared that as part of the MoU signed with Intel, Amity University and Intel will co-develop a state of the art Hi Computing Laboratory at Amity that will benefit the students and research scholars immensely. He also announced fellowships for "Synergy of Brains Mission" and invited the speakers and delegates to come together on one platform for collaborative research and development. Dr Chauhan also announced the launch of "Centre of Cloud Computing, Data Science and Engineering" which would act as a platform for scholars and researchers worldwide to deliberate upon recent trends and issues in the area of Cloud Computing and Data Science.

Valediction of the Summit was graced by Prof Supriya Chakrabarti, Associated Dean, University of Massachusetts, USA, Prof Ajay Gupta, IEEE-CS TAC Vice-Chair IEEE-CS TCPP Chair & Director, Wireless Sensornets Lab, Western Michigan University, USA, Prof R Logeswaran, Dean, Asia Pacific University, Malaysia, Prof Leonard Lye, Associate Dean (GS), Memorial University, Canada, Prof Jean-Paul Van Belle, Director, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Industry & Academic Awards were conferred to the big industries such as Microsoft Innovation, India, NASSCOM, National Informatics Centre, Competition Commission of India, Intex, Arginos, Data Wind, Ernst and Young, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Punj Llyod, EPSA Group, Cerner.

Expressing his views, Prof R Logeswaran appreciated Amity for its state of the art facilities and cutting edge infrastructure and urged the students to utilize the facilities to the best. He shared that the MoU that his university has signed with Amity during Confluence 2016 will involve lot of interactions between both institutions especially on research side, which will mutually benefit both institutions and respective countries as well. Prof Supriya Chakrabarti expressed his delight in being part of "Confluence 2016" and stressed that the MoU signed between University of Massachusetts, USA and Amity University will harness the boundless energy evinced by students and faculty of Amity. He expressed his desire to utilize the resources of both institutions in the best possible way for societal benefit. He thanked Amity University for providing him an opportunity to re-connect with his passion about Cloud Computing and Big Data through Confluence 2016. Prof Jean - Paul Van Belle appreciated "Confluence2016" and called it an apt platform and congregation of all the stakeholders - industry, students, and academia under one platform. He stressed that it is very important in current times for all the stakeholders of education sector to come together and bridge the widening chasm between industry and academia.

During the conference, more than 30 keynote addresses were delivered by distinguished professors from MIT, Harvard, USA, University of Cambridge, UK, Stanford University, USA, University of Massachusetts, USA, Lueny Morell & Associates, University of Newfoundland, Canada. Hacettepe University, Turkey, University of Malaya, Malaysia, Asia Pacific University, Malaysia, University of Nottingham, Malaysia, University of Cape Town, South Africa, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Sunway University, Malaysia, CDAC Noida, Queen's University Belfast, UK, Western Michigan University, USA, Western Sydney University, Australia.

Prof Abhay Bansal, Director, International Collaboration for Engineering & Technology**,** Amity University UP, Noida, India

IEEE SB UVPCE, IEEE Gujarat Section

Workshop on Web of Things

A 3 day workshop on Web of Things sponsored by GUJCOST and supported by IEEE UVPCE Student Branch was organized at Computer Engineering and Information Technology Department of U V Patel College of Engineering(UVPCE), Ganpat University, Gujarat, India from 21 to 23 January, 2016.

The objective of the workshop was to create interest and basic programming skill among the undergraduate and postgraduate students related to Internet of Things technologies to utilizes them for Smart Applications i.e. Smart Home, Smart Healthcare, and Smart City.

Following topics have been discussed during the workshop sessions by eminent experts:

- Speech Technologies using Web of Things (WoT) by Dr, Hemant Patil, DAIICT, Gujarat
- WoT and IoT and Applications of IoT by Mr. Madhukant Patel, MD, Reve Automation, LLC, Gujarat
- Intelligent Transportation System using WoT by Prof Manish Chaturvedi, Nirma University, Gujarat
- Ardunio Programming by Prof Jignesh Patoliya, Charusat, Gujarat
- Raspberry PI Programming by Prof Tushar Champaneriya, LDCE, Ahmedabad.
- IoTOS by Prof Vijay Ukani, Nirma University, Ahmedabad

More than 52 participants attended the workshop which included four faculty members, 46 undergraduate and postgraduate student members from various branches (i.e. CE, IT, EC and MC) of the UVPCE and 3 student members of outside institutions. All participants found the workshop quite informative and interesting to the participants.

The workshop was coordinated by the Prof Kirit J. Modi (IEEE Branch Counsellor of IEEE UVPCE SB) and Prof Pravesh Patel (CE Dept) and supported by HoDs of CE and IT Department (Dr Kiran Amin and Prof Rakesh Vanzara) as well as Dr Mahendra Sharma (Director, Ganpat University) and Dr P. H. Shah (Principal, UVPCE).

As a Branch Counsellor of IEEE SB UVPCE and Workshop Coordinator I would like add that Web of Things (WoT), an emerging technology, has come up with convergence of Embedded System. The Communication & Networking Technology and Cloud Computing play an important role in our day to day life due to the penetration of Smart Phone. This kind of workshops helps students to get into and develop required concepts and skills to develop innovative applications and solutions.

Kirit J Modi, Branch Counsellor IEEE Student Branch
U V Patel College of Engineering, Ganpat University, India

USM Student Branch, IEEE Malaysia Section

A Worthwhile Study Trip to Singapore

IEEE Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Student Branch initiated a study trip to Singapore with the mission to take its activities and involvement beyond campus and to the national level. Through this study trip, we visited the IEEE Asia-Pacific Limited office in Singapore; we also established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between IEEE USM Student Branch and IEEE Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Student Branch for opportunities such as research collaboration, knowledge exchange and delegations between the two universities. We also visited a Semiconductor Fabrication company, namely Global Foundries, to establish industrial collaboration relationship.

At the IEEE Asia-Pacific Office Singapore

On Friday, 29th January 2016, we started our first agenda to visit the IEEE Asia-Pacific Limited office in Singapore. Miss Ewell thoughtfully explained to us the available benefits as an IEEE Student member. Mr Hazman taught us on how to make good

Participants of "Webs of Things" workshop

use of the IEEE Xplore Digital Library which can often be useful for scholarly research database for research papers and final year projects. During the sharing session, we learnt about the IEEE student resources and activities. We were introduced to new things such as IEEE Eta-Kappa Nu, IEEE *Collabratec*, some student awards and grants that we might have missed out.

Our next stop was Global Foundries, where we were exposed on the general product fabrication, working environment and the career prospects in joining Global Foundries through a short video clip and presentation by Mr Hao. On top of that, we had a chance to visit the Failure Analysis Lab. We were introduced to all sorts of Materials Characterisation Equipment such as the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) operating on Focused Ion Beams (FIB), Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM), Atomic Force Microscope (AFM) and Secondary Ion Mass Spectroscopy (SIMS); Generally, the Failure Analysis Engineers checked on the electrical analysis to identify the failure part through short circuit method before proceeding to the materials analysis. We also had a conversation with our USM Senior, Miss Mei Chen. She shared with us her working experience at Global Foundries and her life in Singapore.

On Saturday, 30th January 2016, we met up with the IEEE NTU Student Branch's committee members. After having breakfast together, we had a tour at the NTU campus. We had a networking session with the members from IEEE NTU Student Branch. Finally, a Memorandum of Understanding was agreed between IEEE USM Student Branch and IEEE NTU Student Branch for the purpose of future collaborations, by means of communication and sharing knowledge and resources. It will enhance the networking relationship between both student branches and members will definitely benefit from this collaboration.

Last but not least, this article was written to express our utmost gratitude to all the people that made our study trip special. They are our Student Branch Counsellor, Dr Rosmiwati Mohd Mokhtar; the staff from IEEE Asia-Pacific Limited, in Singapore especially Miss Ewell Tan, Miss Fanny Su and Mr Hazman Aziz; all the staff involved in the Global Foundries, especially to Miss Kelly Tan, Mr How, Miss Mei Chen and the engineers; and all the IEEE NTU Student Branch committees involved, especially to the Student Branch President, Mr Sahil.

Detailed visit report is available at:

http://usmieeesb.eng.usm.my/v1/?p=3185

Yong Ling Khor
Secretary, IEEE USM Student Branch
(http://usmieeesb.eng.usm.my/v1/)

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IEEE NUCES Student Branch, IEEE Lahore Section

Embedded Week – Workshops on Controllers

Embedded week, conducted from 6 to 10 of October 2015, at National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES) Lahore, was organized by IEEE Circuits and Systems Society Chapter NUCES. The crux of this event was to get the students familiar with boards commonly used in embedded circuits. It comprised of three back to back workshops scheduled according to the ease of learners which included tutorials on both hardware and software and comprehensive lectures. This required complete involvement of students and hands on experience of single board computers. The events of Embedded Week included detailed tutorials on Arduino, Raspberry Pi and an introduction to Beagle Bone.

The week started with a two-day workshop on 6 and 7 Oct on Arduino conducted by Ms. Urwa Arshad, a graduate from NUCES Lahore, in which a brief introduction to embedded systems was given followed by an introduction to Arduino boards. The basic software and hardware tutorials given along with exercises allowed the participants to practice the knowledge they learnt about the boards.

The next event, workshop on Raspberry Pi, was conducted from 8th to 9th of October by Mr. Umair Anwar, a graduate student from NUCES Lahore and currently a Research Assistant at Innovations for Poverty Alleviation Lab in Arfa Software Technology Park, Lahore. The workshop included introduction and tutorials of Raspberry pi along with some examples and exercises to be tried on the boards provided to the participants.

The last event was introduction to Beagle Bone which was a one day event, held on 10th of October. It was conducted by NUCES Lahore students, Mr. Muhammad Umer and Mr. Omair Azam. It was an introduction to the board and the projects where they could be used. The session was an interactive session where participant questions were addressed.

The were forty participants, which included students of NUCES Lahore belonging to the Electrical Engineering Department and Computer Science Department, IEEE Members and young professionals of Pakistan. Overall, the event was proficiently conducted and hence successful.

Embedded Week Workshop in progress

(Report prepared by Moatar Khalid Bhatti, IEEE CAS NUCES Chapter)

Ozair Ali Khan
Chair, IEEE NUCES Lahore Student Branch

2017 IEEE International Conference on Technological Innovations in Communication, Control and Automation (TICCA)
Date & Location: 5 – 7 Apr 2017, Chennai, India
Abstract submission deadline: 31 Oct 2016
Full Paper Submission deadline: 31 Oct 2016
Final submission deadline: 05 Jan 2017
Notification of acceptance date: 31 Dec 2016
Abstract Submission Deadline: 01 Apr 2012
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 01 Jun 2012
Website: eie.srmeaswari.ac.in/ticca/

2017 IEEE 13th International Colloquium on Signal Processing & Its Applications (CSPA)
Date & Location: 10 to 12 March 2017, Penang, Malaysia
Full Paper Submission deadline: 25 Nov 2016
Final submission deadline: 03 Feb 2017
Notification of acceptance date: 23 Dec 2016
Website: www.asprg.net/cspa2017/

2017 IEEE International Conference on Mechatronics (ICM)
Date & Location: 14 - 17 Feb 2017, Victoria, Australia
Full Paper Submission deadline: 15 Jul 2016
Final submission deadline: 01 Dec 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 15 Oct 2016
Contact: Yousef.Ibrahim@ieee.org

2016 IEEE Conference on Systems, Process and Control (ICSPC)
Date & Location: 16 18 Dec 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Abstract submission deadline: 07 Aug 2016
Full Paper Submission deadline: 07 Aug 2016
Final submission deadline: 01 Nov 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 25 Sep 2016
Website: asprg.net/icspc2016

2017 IEEE 27th Symposium on Fusion Engineering (SOFE)
Date & Location: 04 - 08 Jun 2017, Shanghai, China
Abstract submission deadline: 27 Jan 2017
Full Paper Submission deadline: 02 Jun 2017
Final submission deadline: 28 Jul 2017
Notification of acceptance date: 30 Jun 2017
Contact: George Neilson, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory,
Email: hneilson@pppl.gov

2017 IEEE Information Theory Workshop (ITW)
Date & Location: 6 – 10 Nov 2017, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
Abstract submission deadline: 07 May 2017
Full Paper Submission deadline: 07 May 2017
Final submission deadline: 21 Aug 2017
Notification of acceptance date: 21 Jul 2017
Website: www.itw2017.org

2016 IEEE International Conference on Computational Intelligence and Computing Research (ICCIC)
Date & Location: 15 – 17 Dec 2017, Chennai, India
Abstract submission deadline: 08 Jun 2016
Full Paper Submission deadline: 02 Nov 2016
Final submission deadline: 16 Nov 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 25 Jul 2016
Website: itfrindia.org/2016ICCIC/

2016 IEEE/SICE International Symposium on System Integration (SII)
Date & Location: 13 – 15 Dec 2017, Sapporo, Japan
Full Paper Submission deadline: 29 Jul 2016
Final submission deadline: 21 Oct 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 23 Sep 2016
Contact: Atsushi Konno (konno@ssi.ist.hokudai.ac.jp)

2016 Asia-Pacific Signal and Information Processing Association Annual Summit and Conference (APSIPA)
Date & Location: 13 – 16 Dec 2016, Jeju, Korea (South)
Abstract submission deadline: 31 May 2016
Full Paper Submission deadline: 31 May 2016
Final submission deadline: 30 Sep 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 31 Aug 2016
Website: www.apsipa2016.org/main.do

2016 IEEE 22nd International Conference on Parallel and Distributed Systems (ICPADS)
Date & Location: 13 - -16 Dec 2016, Wuhan, China
Abstract submission deadline: 10 Apr 2016
Full Paper Submission deadline: 01 Jul 2016
Final submission deadline: 01 Oct 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 01 Sep 2016
Website: grid.hust.edu.cn/icpads2016/

2016 26th International Telecommunication Networks and Applications Conference (ITNAC)
Date & Location: 7 – 9 Dec 2016, Dunedin, New Zealand
Full Paper Submission deadline: 01 Jul 2016
Final submission deadline: 01 Oct 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 14 Aug 2016
Contact: Mark Gregory (mark.gregory@rmit.edu.au)

2016 IEEE MTT-S International Microwave and RF Conference (IMaRC)
Date & Location: 5 – 9 Dec 2016, New Delhi, India
Abstract submission deadline: 10 Jun 2016
Full Paper Submission deadline: 10 Jun 2016
Final submission deadline: 07 Oct 2016
Notification of acceptance date: 02 Sep 2016
Contact: Ananjan Basu (ananjan_b@yahoo.com)