R10 Director’s Message

Dear IEEE Members in the Asia Pacific Region,

It is the time of the year when we are called upon to cast our votes for the IEEE President-Elect 2012 and various other positions in this year’s elections. Region 10 has the largest membership among all the regions in IEEE comprising 22.2% of the total number of members. The participation rate in the 2010 IEEE elections for Region 10 was 19.9% compared to the global voting rate of 15.4%. I am sure we can do better this year if we all put in a few minutes to cast our votes. Strong participation in the elections will help strengthen IEEE as a global institution tuned to the needs of its worldwide members.

The IEEE Sections Congress 2011 was recently held on 19-21 August in San Francisco, USA, bringing together IEEE volunteer leaders from across the globe to deliberate on the theme of “Empowering Members to Create the Future”. The Primary Section Delegates voted on the IEEE Sections Congress 2011 Recommendations during the Closing Ceremony on Monday, 22 August. You can read about the top 5 recommendations in a report by Deepak Mathur in this newsletter.

Sections Congress has provided the opportunity for IEEE representatives from all over the world to participate in an event that provides them with the tools which will assist their unit in focusing their activities solely on the member and increase members’ participation in IEEE activities. As such these representatives have developed a stronger sense of shared pursuit and invigorated to better serve their local member communities. More details about Sections Congress 2011 can be found at:


Regards,
Lawrence W.C. WONG
R10 Director

IEEE R10 News & Highlights

• Region 10 Meeting at 2011 Sections Congress
• Region 10 Awards Results
• Calls for Nominations for Various R10 Awards
• IEEE Region 10 WIE Support Funds Allocations
• Region 10 IEEE GOLD Congress 2011
• Sections Congress 2011 Update

IEEE HQ News & Highlights

• IEEE Honorary Membership for Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam, Ex-President of India

IEEE R10 Councils & Sections - News & Highlights

• IEEE Victorian Section, Australia
• IEEE Bangalore Section, India
• IEEE Karachi Section, Pakistan
• IEEE EAB TISP Workshop in India

WIE News & Highlights

• IEEE WIE AG Hyderabad Section
• WIE IEEE Jamia Millia Islamia, India

IEEE R10 Student Branches - News and Highlights

• MGA Student Activities Chair’s Message
• IEEEExteeme 5.0 Programming Competition
• IEEE GUCAS Student Branch - IEEE China Student Congress 2011
• IEEE NTU Student Branch, Taipei
• IEEE Hyderabad Section - Student Congress 2011
• IEEE SB University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
• IEEE BEC Student Branch, Karnataka, India
• IEEE-TSEC Student Branch

Upcoming IEEE Conferences in Region 10

IEEE Region 10 EXCOM Members

Vote & You Can Get Money for Your Section

The Region 10 is offering bonuses of $500, $300 and $200 to Sections with the top 3 highest voting percentages in the IEEE Elections 2011.
R10 Committee Meets at Sections Congress

Three years have passed and the Region 10 team was back to the Sections Congress; this time at San Francisco. The R10 committee met on the 19th of August, 8.30am - 12.30pm, ahead of the Sections Congress. 103 volunteers and staff met; 66 of them were primary delegates representing R10 Excom, Sections and Councils. The rest were observers and presenters. Among them were Ted Hissey, BoD Emeritus Director and the two President-Elect candidates, Roger Pollard and Peter Staecker.

The R10 committee had a fruitful morning. The first part of the morning covered topics that were related to external speakers. We started with Lawrence Wong, R10 Director addressing the delegates. The key points included achieving a sustainable membership growth and improving our due diligence in technical conferences so that members can have better quality venues to submit papers and learn from expert speakers from around the world. Subsequently, James Prendergast, Executive Director of IEEE, addressed the delegates. This was followed by a 40 minutes introduction and Q&A sessions by the two President-Elect candidates, Peter Staecker and Roger Pollard. The session was hosted by Zia Ahmed, R10 Newsletter Editor, and gave opportunities for R10 delegates to know the two candidates better.

After the interactive 40 minutes, Cheryl Sinauskas, MGA Director and Fern Katronestsky shared with the delegates about local regulatory compliance and formation of IEEE-HKN Student Branch Chapters outside of the USA, respectively. The morning session was closed with call for sponsorship for the “2012 Social Implications of Technology Conference by Greg Adamson, and call for participation for the 2011 IEEE Xtreme Programming contest by Gowtham Prasad. The Xtreme contests will be held on 22 October 2011.

The second part of the meeting was lined up with in-house R10 matters, started by Amarnath Raja (R10 Humanitarian coordinator) giving the R10 delegates an update on the distribution of the $100,000 Pakistan Humanitarian Fund. The team has shortlisted 4 to 5 projects and was going to finalize the funded projects in the afternoon with the R10 Opcom. Next, Kukjin Chun (R10 Vice-Chair for Membership Activities) gave the R10 delegates an update on the refined process for Section and sub-Section formation. Subsequently, he updated the R10 team on the 2010/2011 R10 award recipients. Lawrence Wong was invited to give away the award to one of the recipients, 2010 R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award for Satish Chaparala.

A short interval was introduced by Fanny Su, asking the delegates to proceed for the R10 Photo-taking. Everyone was excited.

After returning from the photo-taking, Mini Thomas (MGA Members Development Chair) addressed the R10 committee in regards to concerns surrounding the poor student retention rate in R10, which could be as low as 20-30%. The North America Student Branches retention rate on the other hand, could be about 60% or more. Mini encouraged the Section Chairs, especially the Sections in India to review the poor retention issue locally and suggest actions for remedies at the next R10 meeting.

Prior to the end of the meeting, Lawrence Wong put forward a proposal and motion to formalize TENCON spring conference. The additional TENCON will give members an added avenue to publish their papers. The second TENCON offers a thematic or multi-disciplinary approach, allowing researchers from different fields to come together and address matters such as “sustainable technology”. The motion was unanimously approved by the R10 committee. The technical committee will take lead to prepare the details for the second TENCON.

Lawrence also highlighted that there will be some movements in the appointments in the R10 EXCOM. Marzuki Khalid was recently diagnosed with cancer. He is currently under treatment and needs plenty of rest. Therefore, Deepak Mathur will assume the role of R10 Vice Chair Technical Activities, during this interim. Niu Zhisheng, R10 Conference and Technical Seminar Coordinator also expressed intent to step down from the office due to escalating workload in the office. He will be replaced by Borhanudin Mohamed Ali from Malaysia.

The meeting adjourned at 12.40 PM.

Darrel Chong, Secretary IEEE Region 10
2010 IEEE Region 10 WIE Affinity Group of the Year Award Winner

It is my pleasure and honour to announce the winners of the 2010 IEEE Region 10 WIE Affinity Group of The Year Award.

R10 WIE coordination committee received 4 entries and selected the WIE Affinity Group, Hyderabad Section as the winner of the 2010 IEEE Region 10 WIE Affinity Group Of The Year. The selection of the award is based on the performance summarized in the nominations submitted by R10 WIE Affinity Groups.

Congratulations to the WIE Affinity Group, Hyderabad Section and a big thanks to all the participants.

Takako Hashimoto
IEEE R10 Women In Engineering Coordinator

2011 R10 SAC Award and Competition Results

The winners of 2011 R10 SAC Award and Competition are:

(1) Region 10 Website Competition

In 2011 R10 Student Activities Committee received 58 entries. Prize money is sponsored by IEEE Region 10.

1st Place: USD500 & Certificate
College of Engineering Trivandrum, Kerala Section
(http://www.ieeesbcet.org/)

2nd Place: USD350 & Certificate
IEEE Student Branch Manipal, Bangalore Section
(http://www.ieee-manipal.org/)

3rd Place: USD200 & Certificate
IEEE Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi Section
(http://www.ieeejmi.com)

(2) Student Paper Contests

This year we received 6 postgraduate and 14 undergraduate entries. Prize is funded by the IEEE Life Members' Committee.

In Postgraduate Category:

1st Place: USD350 & Certificate
Wang Huai (City University of Hong Kong) "Novel Concepts of High Voltage DC-DC Power Conversions for Energy Savings in Modern Public Transport"

2nd Place: USD300 & Certificate
Kan Wu (Nanyang Technological University) "Reduction of Phase Noise and Timing Jitter of Mode-locked Lasers with External Graphene Layers"

3rd Place: USD200 & Certificate
Amar Kumar Nandan and Ritesh Kumar Kalle (International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore), "VP8 Video: Performance Evaluation, Modeling and Frame Size Prediction"

In Undergraduate Category

1st Place: USD300 & Certificate
Shankar Narayan Mohan (National University of Singapore) "High Performance Flexible Active Power Control of Three-Phase Generalized Micro-grid connected Inverters"

2nd Place: USD200 & Certificate
Ramesh N Nair, Sai Manoj P, and Mithun Mohan (Amirta Vishwa Vidyapeetham), "Gesture Based Wheelchair Control for the Physically Challenged"

3rd Place: USD150 & Certificate
Amarjot Singh, Srikrishna Karanam, and Devinder Kumar (National Institute of Technology, Warangal) "Constructive Learning for Human-Robot Interaction"

(3) Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award

In total 22 nominations were received this year. The winner receives a special plaque and three years complimentary membership in the IEEE, which is sponsored by the IEEE MGA Board. And the winner is…

Imran Ali (Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi Section, India)

(4) Region 10 Exemplary Student Branch

There were 13 entries from across R10. Prize money for the Outstanding SB Award is sponsored by Region 10. The winners of Outstanding Student Branch Awards are:

1st Place: USD250 & Certificate
The University of Auckland (NZ North Section)

2nd Place: Certificate
Macquarie University (New South Wales Section)

3rd Place: Certificate
Thangal Kunju Musaliyar College of Eng, Kolam (Kerala Section)

Congratulations to all the winners and a big thanks to all the participants.

Takao Onoye, R10 Student Activities Coordinator
Om Perkash, R10 Student Representative

Call for Nominations

2011 IEEE Region 10 WIE Most Inspiring Engineer Award

IEEE Region 10 WIE Most Inspiring Engineer Award will be given to individual or a team (maximum two members per team) of IEEE R10 WIE members that involved in the development and completion of a project(s) or activity(ies) which are directed to fulfill one or more of the goals and objectives and which have left an undeniable imprint on the fabric of WIE operations through service to society.

For details of this CFN, please refer to the following URL.

The nominations should be sent to Takako Hashimoto, IEEE R10 WIE coordinator at takako@cuc.ac.jp and copy to the IEEE Asia Pacific Regional Headquarters in Singapore: ieeeapo@pacific.net.sg.

The nomination deadline is 30th September 2011.

Should you need more information, please contact takako@cuc.ac.jp. Thank you in advance for your kind consideration and participation.

Takako Hashimoto
Coordinator, IEEE R10 Women In Engineering

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Call for Nominations
Region 10 GOLD Award
This award is designed to recognize those substantive projects or achievement of a relatively short nature (one to three years) but which have left an undeniable imprint on the fabric of GOLD operations within Region 10. The award will be based on a selection that recognizes individuals involved with GOLD activities who are recognized for singular achievement in the development and completion of a project(s) or activity(ies) which are directed to the fulfillment of one or more of the Region’s goals and/or objectives.

The individuals nominated must be GOLD members at the time of nomination.

Please complete the nomination form and send to your Section Chair for endorsement. The completed form should be sent to Fanny Su, Region 10 APO Office (ieeeapo@pacific.net.sg).

The Nomination deadline is 14 October 2011.

For more information and nomination form, please contact timothy.wong@ieee.org.

Timothy Wong
IEEE Region 10 GOLD Coordinator

Call for Nominations
2011 R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award
The R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award aims to recognize those volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to a particular Region 10 Section.

Eligibility
- An IEEE member of any membership grade.
- The candidate's volunteer work is, or has been, on behalf of a Section. The candidate must have been active for at least 2 years in the Section and is not currently the Section Chair.
- The candidate receives no remuneration for his/her volunteer work for the Section except reimbursement of expenses incurred in carrying out the volunteer work.
- The incumbent R10 Awards & Recognition Committee Chair, Director and Secretary, and the immediate past R10 Director are not eligible for the Award.
- Previous winners of the R10 Outstanding Volunteer Award are not eligible.

Based on the merit of each candidate, the R10 Awards & Recognition Committee may decide on the number of winners or if no candidate is found to be suitable, no award will be given. One Award will be selected and presented to the winner at the IEEE Region 10 Annual Committee Meeting to be held early next year, with the travel expenses to be supported by R10. Other awards would be sent to the Section Chairperson for the presentation at an appropriate event of the Section.

For details of this nomination including the nomination form, please visit the announcement on the R10 Website. The announcement has been sent to all R10 Section Chairs by email. Should you need more information or the nomination form, please contact taka.minami@jp.fujitsu.com.

Please complete the nomination form send it to Ms. Fanny Su, R10 APO Office at ieeeapo@pacific.net.sg.

The nomination deadline is 31 October 2011.

Thank you in advance for your kind considerations and participation.

Takatoshi Minami
Chair, IEEE R10 Awards & Recognition Committee

With the release of the new Impact Factors in the Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Report (2010), Wiley is pleased to announce that overall our Engineering journals portfolio continues to show strong growth year on year. Our Impact Factors prove that the research we publish is of great value to researchers worldwide. Click on the subject headers and read on for more.
IEEE Region 10 WIE Support Funds Allocated

It is my pleasure and honour to announce the recipients of IEEE Region 10 WIE Support Funds. In 2011, R10 WIE Coordination Committee received 34 proposals from 23 GendeR Equal Societies in Science” with utmost confidence and gender-equality promotion in cooperation with rural gender-equality status through questionnaire or interview, PROGRESS project include the survey of the current awareness. The primary activities and programs of PROGRESS project include the survey of the current gender-equality status through questionnaire or interview, and gender-equality promotion in cooperation with rural areas.

Ten entries were received and the following groups have been selected.

1. WIE Delhi Section, Delhi Section
2. WIE Student Group, Institute of Technology, Nirma University, Gujarat Section
3. MES College of Engineering Thirukkanapuram, Kuttipuram, Malappuram (dt), Kerala Section
4. WIE Kerala Section, Kerala Section
5. WIE Indonesia, Indonesia Section
6. Japan Council Women in Engineering Affinity Group, Japan Council
7. IEEE Pakistan WIE Forum, Lahore Section

(2) Congress/Forum Funds ($300 * 5 groups)

WIE congresses/forums are organized by the Sections to make networking between the members possible by providing a forum where the members speak as the collective voice of IEEE WIE to share and discuss their views for change. R10 WIE supports such congress/forums.

Seven entries were received for the Congress/Forum Funds and the following five groups have been selected.

1. WIE Affinity Group, IEEE Student Branch, DA-IICT, Gujarat Section
2. IEEE WIE VICET, Kerala Section
3. College of Engineering, Trivandrum, etc. (8 groups), Kerala Section
4. WIE Kerala Section, Kerala Section
5. WIE Affinity Group College of Engineering Adoor, Kerala Section

(3) Conference Funds ($500 * 3 groups, $200 * 2 groups)

To encourage women in research, WIE tracks are being organized in national and International level IEEE conferences all over the Region. R10 WIE is proud to provide partial support for the WIE tracks in terms of promotional materials, registration aids, awards and proceedings.

Six entries were received for the Conference Funds and the following groups have been selected.

1. WIE Affinity Group, Hyderabad Section, Hyderabad Section ($500)
2. College of Engineering Trivandrum, Kerala Section ($500)

3. Government Engineering College, Barton Hill, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Section ($500)
4. IEEE Malaysia WIE Affinity Group, Malaysia Section ($200)
5. IEEE Singapore Section WIE Affinity Group, Singapore ($200)

STAR Funds ($200 * 7 groups)

The IEEE Student-Teacher and Research Engineer/Scientist (STAR) Program was developed to address the growing concern that, at a young age, girls are discouraged from careers in mathematics, science, and engineering. R10 WIE supports STAR programs in R10.

Eleven entries were received and the following groups have been selected.

1. WIE IEEE JMI, Delhi Section
2. MES College of Engineering Thirukkanapuram (PO), Kuttipuram, Malappuram (Dt), Kerala Section
3. WIE SBCET, Kerala Section
4. Vidya Academy of Science & Technology, Kerala Section
5. College of Engineering Karunagappally, Kerala Section
6. WIE SB TKMCE, Kerala Section
7. IEEE SB, Government Engineering College, Bartonhill, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala Section

Takako Hashimoto (takako@cuc.ac.jp)

IEEE R10 Women In Engineering Coordinator

2011 IEEE Annual Election

If you have not yet voted in this year's Annual Election, the balloting period is open until 12:00 PM Central Time USA (17:00 UTC) on 3 October 2011. When you vote, you are choosing the future direction of the IEEE as an organization. Your votes provide an important service to IEEE. Thank you for making this a part of your IEEE membership experience.

Information about the candidates and access to your ballot on the IEEE Election Site at: https://www.directvote.net/ieee/

You will need your IEEE Web Account username and password to authenticate access or the ballot Control Number and E-signature located on your paper ballot (at the top and to the right of your mailing address).

When accessing your ballot electronically, you may save your choices at any point by clicking “Logout” and return later to complete casting your vote. For your vote to count, be sure to click the “Submit ballot” button on the ballot summary page. After your ballot is submitted, you will be able to request an e-mail confirmation.

Once you have submitted your ballot, please take a minute to complete the feedback form and let us know about your voting experience.

If you have any questions, contact DirectVote support or call +1 952 974 2339.

Go Green!
Access your ballot electronically at www.ieee.org/elections
Region 10 IEEE GOLD Congress 2011

Region 10 IEEE Graduates Of the Last Decade (GOLD) participated in the first ever joint Student/GOLD/Women In Engineering (WIE) Congress held in the region. The event took place over 4 days at The University of Auckland and was a great opportunity for GOLD, Student and WIE member and volunteers to develop their leadership skills and network with each other. The GOLD initiatives and events that took place at this congress are reported below.

Geographic GOLD Forum

In this session, GOLD groups were divided into their respective Region 10 sub-groups. The three sub-groups include South Asia, East and North Asia and Australia and New Zealand. These are the same sub-groups which operate under the Region 10 GOLD Clustering Initiative. The rationale behind this grouping is the belief that these groups operate under similar circumstances based on their geographical location, socio-political and economic environments.

South Asia Cluster discussion

A number of discussion questions were prepared by Noel Gomes for this one hour session. The discussion questions were grouped into the following themes:

- Membership recruitment and retention
- Managing a GOLD Affinity Group
- Suggestions for GOLD events for member and membership development
- Ideas on collaboration between Student Branches/other professional organisations & GOLD

After the discussion, each group appointed a leader to report their findings. It was evident from the discussions that there is much room for improvement and many opportunities for collaboration within GOLD operations in Region 10. The results of this discussion have provided input for planning in Region 10 GOLD and GOLD Clustering Coordinators to take the required short-term action to address the issues that arose in the session.

Engaging GOLD with Industry

The session on ‘Engaging GOLD with Industry’ was aimed at sharing thoughts on the importance of GOLD and industry to engage with each other. It was facilitated by the New Zealand North Section Chair, Peter Over and lasted for 30 minutes.

A number of discussion points were prepared and brainstormed to stimulate thoughts and discuss experiences on positive outcomes from GOLD events with industry participation. Attendees were provided with some useful tips on how to engage more with industry to achieve maximum benefits for both parties.

GOLD STEP Event

IEEE STEP is the Student Transition and Elevation Partnership initiative that is run at the MGA GOLD level. The aim of STEP is to help students transition from being a Student Member into professional life after graduating from their first professional degree. Students typically end up working in industry or undergoing further postgraduate study after graduation. The objectives of the STEP program as outlined on the IEEE STEP website (http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/gold/step.html) are to:

- Identify a local IEEE entity beyond the Student Branch for members to contact.
- Plan a joint Section and GOLD event to introduce local IEEE resources.
- Illustrate IEEE member benefits appropriate for young professional members.
- Identify recent IEEE Student members who have graduated with an undergraduate or graduate degree; help retaining members by capturing any change of address, email or other contact information.

A STEP event titled ‘Engineering your career with GOLD’ was held during one of the sessions of the Region 10 joint Congress. Local graduating student members were invited to take part and meet the GOLD volunteers and committee in Auckland. The event at the Congress also provided a live demonstration of how a STEP event could be run to other GOLD and student volunteers from around Region 10.

The STEP event began with a briefing presentation to welcome the audience and outline the purpose of the event by the New Zealand North GOLD Chair, Noel Gomes. This was then followed by an informal question and answer session with a panel of global GOLD volunteers that have enhanced their career and professional development through their significant involvement with the IEEE and GOLD.
GOLD Session on Career Development

The best was left until last with the GOLD session on career and professional development. This session consisted of speakers from industry who shared their professional and career experiences with a slant towards young professionals. The presentations included:

- Leadership Opportunities For Young Engineers by Shreejan Pandey
- Career Transitions and Decisions by Richard Gibbons
- Strategic Networking in the 21st Century by Colin Kennedy

The presenters were all industry professionals who were at various stages of their career. They provided a unique perspective which was shaped by their own individual life and professional experiences. The presentations were well received with the audience having the opportunity to meet and have a one on one chat with the presenters following the session.

Conclusion

A quick survey of the attendees who attended the congress provided very encouraging positive feedback on the sessions and the overall consensus was that it would be a good idea to hold another joint Student, GOLD and WIE Congress in the future. All participants benefited from the opportunity to network and form new friendships to propel IEEE GOLD into a bright future. This joint congress also had the advantage of helping the student, GOLD and WIE organizational units within the IEEE, understand the relevance of each other’s presence and realize the benefits of working with each other.

I would like to thank the New Zealand North Chairperson, Noel Gomes for his enthusiasm and help with organising the GOLD events during this congress. A big thank you must also go to the congress organisers who worked tirelessly to ensure that this event was possible and a big success. Last, but not least, this event would not have been a success without the help of the support of IEEE Region 10, the sponsors and the conference attendees.

Timothy Wong
R10 GOLD Coordinator

IEEE Sections Congress 2011 Update

Sections Congress 2011 which was held in San Francisco from 19th August 2011 concluded on 22nd August 2011. The Congress was represented by 1133 delegates from 92 countries. There were 94 attendees from Region 10 which includes participation of 45 Sections, 2 Subsections, 5 Councils, 4 GOLD representatives and 21 R10 EXCOM members.

The Primary Section Delegates voted on the IEEE Sections Congress 2011 Recommendations during the Closing Ceremony on Monday, 22 August. The following are the top 5 selected recommendations based on the voting by Primary Section Delegates:

1. IEEE to develop a comprehensive long-term strategy to increase the number of next generation youth pursuing science and engineering careers.
2. As members maintain their IEEE membership over their years, IEEE must reward them for their loyalty. Rewards ought to be tangible and useful and can be done simply and inexpensively. Create Global Fidelity Programs including: (a) Continue membership Recognition 5-10-15-20 years of membership (b) Bonus for specific Benefits (e.g., reduced fee, IEEE merchandise, etc).
3. IEEE membership (including e-Membership) should include a Society membership as part of the basic membership fee.
4. Increased support to students in technical activities with grants to attend conferences and organization of technical competitions.
5. To encourage interest in pre-university students in engineering careers, IEEE to publish a subscription periodical (paper or electronic) targeted to high school students that highlights engineering activities of interest to those students. The periodical should also have articles promoting the benefits of an engineering career and what the students can do in college to get involved with IEEE.

Deepak Mathur
R10 Coordinator for IEEE Sections Congress 2011

IEEE President-Elect 2012, President 2013 Candidates

Roger D. Pollard (IEEE Fellow)
Emeritus Professor, The University of Leeds, UK
Agilent Technologies, Santa Rosa, CA, USA
www.rogerpollard.org
(Nominated by IEEE Board of Directors)

Peter W. Staecker (IEEE Life Fellow)
AMP M/A-COM (Retired)
Lowell, Massachusetts, USA
http://www.peterstaecker.net
(Nominated by IEEE Board of Directors)

Vote & You Can Get Money for Your Section

The Region 10 is offering bonuses of $500, $300 and $200 to Sections with the top 3 highest voting percentages in the IEEE Elections 2011.

Go Green!

Access your ballot electronically at www.ieee.org/elections

Please Remember: Balloting period ends on 3rd October at 12:00 noon Central Time USA (17:00 UTC)
IEEE Honors Ceremony at Sections Congress 2011

IEEE Honorary Membership for Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam - Ex-President of India

IEEE awarded honorary membership to His Excellency Dr. Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, Ex-President of India during the 2011 IEEE Honors Ceremony held in San Francisco, USA on 20 August.

The IEEE Honorary Membership is bestowed to those individuals who have rendered meritorious service to humanity in IEEE designated fields of interest, and who are not members of IEEE. Dr. Abdul Kalam was honored for his outstanding contributions toward transforming society through technology and for inspiring millions of school children to harness science and technology for human welfare and national development.

Dr. Abdul Kalam accepted the award from IEEE President and CEO Professor Moshe Kam. In his acceptance speech Dr Kalam urged the IEEE fraternity to help solve problems in developing countries using technology.

Dr. Abdul Kalam delivering the acceptance speech at the IEEE Honors Ceremony.

The first scientist to be elected President of India, A P J Abdul Kalam is a leader whose vision and commitment to improving society through technology has helped India’s overall development. Born and brought-up in a humble and devout Muslim family, in a famous Hindu temple town in southern India, and receiving his first degree from a Christian college Dr. Abdul Kalam was already influencing India’s path to becoming a developed nation by providing both technological innovations and leadership to improve the lives of India’s population before becoming India’s 11th President. During the 1990s, Dr. Abdul Kalam, as an eminent scientist, was appointed chairman of India’s Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council. He led a team of 500 experts to create a technology roadmap known as Technology Vision 2020, which provides the guidelines for developing India using technology to benefit the common citizen. As India’s Principal Science Advisor from 1999-2001, Dr. Kalam spearheaded the Providing Urban Amenities to Rural Areas (PURA) program, in which technology plays an important role in improving India’s rural areas. As President from 2002 to 2007, he used the influence of his position to motivate countless students to be honest, study and work for the betterment of India and to realize the role of science in achieving that goal. With B. S. Raju, he developed the Kalam-Raju cardiac stent, which has benefited thousands of cardiac patients. Dr. Abdul Kalam also initiated the use of lightweight materials for floor-reaction orthosis calipers, improving the quality of life of over 50,000 physically disadvantaged children who have been fitted with the device. He was instrumental in using telemedicine to improve healthcare access for India’s rural population. Dr. Abdul Kalam is currently the Chancellor of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology, Asia's first Space Institute and the first in the world to offer the complete range of undergraduate, post graduate, doctoral programs with specific focus to space science, technology and applications, situated at Trivandrum, India.

Dr VP Kodali - Nominator of IEEE Honorary Membership for Dr A P J Abdul Kalam.

Assistance provided by Kathy Weeks, IEEE Awards and Professor Janina Mazierska for this report is highly appreciated - Editor.
IEEE R10 Councils & Sections
News and Highlights

IEEE Victorian Section, Australia

Computer Society Chapter Activities - 2011

With nearly 85,000 members, the IEEE Computer Society is the world’s leading organization of computing professionals. IEEE Computer Society Victorian Section promoted an active exchange of ideas, technological innovation and critical view points among its members throughout the first half of year 2011. The events invited both local and international speakers focusing to ensure the maximum benefits to the industrial, academic as well as the student members related with computing background.

Software Testing: “Software testing methodology to verify the correctness of the computed outputs of a program”, was delivered by Dr. T. Y Chan on 16th March 2011 at Engineers Australia Building. He is currently a Professor of Software Engineering at Swinburne University of Technology. This afternoon event attracted the attention of industrial guests as well as academics - involved with software testing, debugging and production.

Software Engineering: “Due to the nature of research and the flexibility of outcomes, low cost approach is needed in order to achieve maximum “academic benefit” with minimum cost. This talk was delivered by Dr Andre Oboler on 17th March 2011 at the University of Melbourne, who is chair of the Victorian Section's IEEE Computer Society. He presented the RAISER / RESET SDLC, designed for the academic environment. The talk also covered the tools that have been used as part of the SDLC, in particular the idea of research process modelling. University of Melbourne IEEE Student branch co-hosted the event with IEEE VIC CS.

Computing Ethics: Sometimes it is really hard to define/find ethics in the field of Engineering and IT field, where fiscal values and authority influence the judgement. In the continuous development era of technology we have seen the role play of Computing and Engineering either in good or evil ways. IEEE Computer Society Victorian Chapter has been working hard to express their concern about the ethical issue of misuse of technology for a while.

To inspire IT & Engineering professionals to consider the ethical issues before getting involved to any project, IEEE VIC CS invited Edwin Black (New York Times bestselling investigative author of 80 award-winning editions in 14 languages spread across 65 countries), on June 2nd, 6:30pm, Monash University - Caulfield Campus. The IEEE Computer Society, IEEE Society for the Social Implications of Technology and the Faculty of Information Technology of Monash University co-hosted the event. Edwin Black who is reluctant to use social media like Facebook, Twitter justified his concerns against those online networking sites, how young people getting addicted to those sites, making online hate groups, protesting against government. Social media help people to co-ordinate uprising but when those get trackless the consequences can be very severe. Edwin’s talk considered ethical issues ranging from the use of technology in the WWII to the future risks and opportunity that may result if societies move from conventional notes and coins to computerised money. The talk started with the issues related to the WWII and continued up to the role play of modern day social media networks, Wikileaks and Egyptian internet breakdown, and the legitimacy of using computing and internets in those issues.

Even though the event raised controversy, but at the end it finished up with a big crowd. It was very successful because it went well with public discussion with the audiences. Computer Society (Victoria) organised to sell signed books of Edwin. After that, committee members headed for dinner with the speaker where the attendees included Computing Intelligence Society Chair - Dr. Kevin Korb, Computer Society Chair - Dr. Andre Oboler, Computer Society Treasurer - Dr. Lito Cruz, and Computer Society Secretary - Nasir Uddin.

Rest half of 2011: Computer Society Victorian Chapter is now aiming to contribute more for the students and professionals by planning to organise a career activity event, which will get the recent graduates close contact with the employers, government bodies and recruitment agencies with deeply focusing on Information Technology, Computer Science and Engineering unlike other career events which focus on generalised fields. The professionals who are looking for moving to management can boost their confidence and know about the required skill sets though the discussion with the invited panel of speakers.

Event on cloud computing (speakers from cloud based solution providers) and presentation on social networking are on top priorities for VIC CS to organise within next few months.

Md. Nasir Uddin
Secretary Computer Society Chapter,
IEEE Victorian Section

http://ieeevic.org/chapters/computer/

IEEE DAY 2011
6th October 2011
Empowering Members to Create the Future.

IEEE Day is an opportunity to recognize IEEE around the world. Take part in this global event and help empower members to create the future!

For more information, please visit: www.ieeeday.org

Get Involved!

Please do vote in the IEEE election; your vote is important for the Region 10

The IEEE Region 10 Newsletter, September 2011 (page 9)
IEEE India Industry Day, 2011

IEEE India Industry Day was organized on 10th – 11th March, 2011 in Bangalore. The main theme was to enhance the collaboration between industry and IEEE by connecting stakeholders, professionals and solution providers in a unique opportunity for fostering business relationships and thereby advancing technology.

It was sponsored by IEEE MGA Industry Relations, IEEE Corporate Activities and IEEE ComSoc and jointly organized by IEEE MGA, COMSOC and IEEE Bangalore Section. The patrons to this event were, NIKSUN Inc., CMAI, and Tata Consultancy Services.

The scope of the event was to participate with industry experts, innovators, inventors, entrepreneurs, researchers, academics, legislators and engineering leaders in a synergistic approach to match technological solutions to industry's needs through keynote speakers, panel discussions and informative breakout and technical session tracks.

The event started at 9am of 10th March, 2011, with welcome address from Dr. Ashutosh Dutta, IEEE Industry Relation Chair and Dr. Shri Goyal, Membership Development Director of IEEE ComSoc. Dr. Debabrata Das and Dr. Sanjoy Paul, IEEE India Industry co-chairs welcomed the audience. Dr. Howard Michel IEEE MGA VP gave a talk about various IEEE activities and the role of MGA. Dr. Byeong Lee, IEEE ComSoc President discussed the role of IEEE Communication Society in engaging the Industry.

After the welcome speeches on day one, the 1st keynote talk was presented by Dr. F C. Kohli, IEEE Fellow, who has been referred as “Father of Indian IT Industry”. His talk was with great touch of visionary points with respect to past, present and future of IT as well as other issues. The 2nd Keynote address was given by Dr. Parag Purthi, Founder, Chairman and CEO of NIKSUN. His keynote speech was on cyber security. On the second day Mr. Narayana, from Tata Consultancy Services presented the 3rd keynote talk. He was followed by Prof. Viswanadhan, Indian School of Business for the 4th keynote talk. In the evening Mr. Latif Ladid, IPv6 forum president gave a banquet speech. All the keynotes were highly appreciated by the participants. The main Ballroom of the hotel was jam packed with attendees from the industry, academia and media. After the keynote talks of Day 1 and 2, the Technical Tracks presentations started. There were six technical tracks.

Tack 1: Smart Energy, Track Chair: Dr. Shivkumar Kalyanaraman, IBM Research Lab, India; Track 2: Security and Surveillance, Track Chair: Mr. Partha Mallick, Spanco; Track 3: E-Health, Track Chair: Dr. V. R. Singh; Track 4: Consumer Electronics, Track Chairs: Mr. Praveen and Mr. Prabindh, Texas Instrument; Track 5: Wireless and Broadband, Track Chair: Mr. N. K. Goyal, CMAI; Track 6: Innovation for Emerging Economy, Track Chair: Dr. Subir Saha, IonIdea. On day 1, in between the tracks there was a panel discussion, chaired by Mr. Deepak Maheshwari of Microsoft. Each track and panel had very eminent speakers. All the tracks were well attended and interactive in many ways. After the panel discussion Dr. Byeong Gi Lee, IEEE ComSoc President, and Mr. Rajendra Asthana, Region 10 Industry Liaison addressed the gathering on roles of ComSoc and Region 10 Industry activities with IEEE.

At the first day dinner, IEEE hosts from HQ and IEEE Bangalore Section appreciated the role of event manager Mr. Supratik and officials of IEEE MGA. Day one had full day event, and around 450 people attended. Day two was half day event. A total of 710 people attended the event over two days. Almost all participants gave nice feedback and many of them requested to host this kind of event by IEEE across India.

VV Srinivasan
IEEE Bangalore Section
IEEE Karachi Section, Pakistan

Student Conference on Engineering Sciences and Technology - SCONEST 2011 at MUET

Mehran University of Engineering & Technology (MUET), Jamshoro in collaboration with the IEEE Karachi Section and Higher Education Commission organized a two-day mega event of “Student Conference on Engineering Sciences and Technology” (SCONEST) on 27-28 July 2011. First day of the conference was dedicated to undergraduate paper presentations whereas on second day postgraduate paper presentations were made. The conference was attended by more than 200 delegates from academia and industry.

In his inaugural speech, Prof Dr. Muhammad Aslam Uqaili, Pro-Vice Chancellor congratulated the organizing committee of the SCONEST 2011 for their hard work for arranging a comprehensive technical event devoted exclusively to research issues in the fields of Electronics, Electrical, Computer, Telecommunication, Biomedical and Software Engineering. He further said I am positive that our young generation will learn a lot from such technical events. He praised students’ efforts that were presenting their papers in the conference and said that their hard work would bring them good rewards. Earlier Prof Dr BS Chowdhry, Chairman SCONEST Organizing Committee and Dean FEECE welcomed authors, participants, IEEE EXCOM Members, IEEE Professional and student members, keynote speakers to IEEE SCONEST 2011. He mentioned that SCONEST is the most vital series of research paper competition IEEE Karachi Section, to introduce new scientist and engineer with the field of purposeful research. Although it was encouraged to submit research papers in the above mentioned areas, however research papers submitted in any other related field were equally appreciated. In his concluding remarks Engr. Parkash Lohana, Chair IEEE Karachi Section mentioned that a total of 58 papers from undergrad students and graduate students were submitted for this conference from all over the country, which indicates its importance and significance. This was very encouraging that MUET has adopted a double blind review process, which produces a quality research work from postgraduate as well as undergraduate students. After rigorous exercise of reviewing by experts committee, 9 postgraduate papers and 9 papers from undergraduate students were accepted for oral presentation during two days of conference. He thanked all committee members, faculty, student volunteers, and reviewers for their valuable contributions.

In concluding ceremony Vice Chancellor Dr Abdul Qadir Khan Rajput said that exposure of such technical events will go a long way in developing confidence amongst students in the subject for which they were making presentations as well as inculcate a very fruitful discussion amongst the experts from industry and academia attending this event. He hoped that papers presented in the SCONEST would find direct commercial applications. Such seminars also gauge status and standard of our engineering education throughout the country. Earlier Prof Dr BS Chowdhry, Chairman SCONEST Organizing Committee congratulated authors who won the cash prizes at IEEE SCONEST 2011. Students and researchers from NEDUET, Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology, NU-FAST, Jinnah University of Women, MUET, Institute of Business Administration Sukkar, University of Faisalabad, Baluchistan University of Information Technology & Management (BUITEM), Hamdard University, Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and Technology, CIIT Islamabad and many other institutions of the country actively participated in the conference. Four keynote speakers from industry and academia highlighted the emerging trends in technological innovation. Meanwhile experts/judges from various universities evaluated the papers presented in terms of scope, usefulness, technical content and research contribution. Prof Dr Tauha Hussain Ali, Registrar of the University and Prof Dr Muhammad Akram Shaikh co-director IICT thanked HEC and various industrial sectors for their financial support and collaboration. At the end Vice Chancellor Dr Abdul Qadir Khan Rajput distributed prizes, certificate and shields among winners, participants and keynote speakers. An interesting point of the competition was that 5 out of 6 awards were won by female scholars.

Fatima Saima Ahmed, an undergraduate student presenting her paper. (Below) Chair IEEE Karachi Section Engr. Parkash Lohana presenting the shield to Prof Uqaili, Pro-Vice Chancellor MUET Jamshro.

Professor BS Chowdhry, DEAN, Faculty of Electrical, Electronics & Computer Engineering, MUET

Vice Chancellor Dr Abdul Qadir Khan Rajput, Pro VC Dr M. A Uqaili, and Dean FEECE and Chair SCONEST 2011 Dr BS Chowdhry, addressing the conference participants.
IEEE Educational Activities Board

IEEE Teacher in Service Program Workshop India

The IEEE GOLD AG’s of Hyderabad and Bangalore Sections along with the IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB) hosted the IEEE Teacher in Service Program (TISP) Workshop on May 7th and 8th at Hotel Taj Krishna, Hyderabad. The TISP workshop was aimed at training IEEE Volunteers who will work with School Teachers to deliver In Service Presentations based on the material available at www.tryengineering.org

The workshop was a huge success with more than 100 IEEE volunteers from the 5 Indian states (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra) actively participating in more than 8 sessions spread over two days. More than 300 members applied for the workshop. The organizing committee with the help of senior IEEE volunteers shortlisted 120 members and invited them for the workshop.

The workshop saw active participation from members who have championed several engineering outreach efforts for school students. They shared their experiences and guided the members on the importance of such efforts, means and ways to effectively reach out to school teachers and other related ongoing efforts in India.

Dr. Elizabeth Bird, Chair for IEEE Pre-University Education Committee of the EAB started the proceedings on 7th May, 2011 with a keynote address on the Importance of Pre-University Education activities and related efforts of the IEEE around the world. She gave an introduction to the Engineering Portals effort from the IEEE namely the Tryengineering.org, Trynano.org, Trycomputing.org etc. and talked about how much change we are able to influence through the efforts of all our volunteers. She also spoke about what constitutes an In Service Presentation and the kind of support IEEE offers to its volunteers to run such workshops for school teachers. Prasanna Venkatesan (GOLD Liaison to EAB) spoke about the importance of such activities in India and IEEE’s plan and vision in India for such activities.

Jennifer NG, a TISP champion from Canada had joined us to host couple of training sessions for volunteers. She shared her experience of hosting several workshops for teachers in the USA and Canada and hosted couple of hands on training sessions for volunteers. Volunteers followed practical lessons from the Tryengineering.org website and created scientific models for demonstration. This helped all the volunteers realize the importance of practical learning for students and also prepared them to deliver similar training for teachers and students from various schools in South India.

Mr. MGPL Narayana, Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section and Vice President, TCS and Mr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu AGM, Power Grid (Past Chair, IEEE Bangalore Section) delivered the welcome address on 8th May morning. Following their address, Chief Guest Dr. R Satyanarayana (Commissioner and Director of School Education, AP) delivered a keynote address on “Challenges and opportunities in school education”. He urged engineers to play leadership role in such activities and stressed that the Engineering Community should become more vocal and helps shape public policy concerning pre-University education. He also invited the volunteers to visit Government schools in Andhra Pradesh and host training workshops for teachers.

The workshop hosted the all-important Panel Discussion where the volunteers had an opportunity to interact with a panel of well accomplished members representing various facets of pre-University education in the country. The panel consisted of Prof. N. Lakshmana Rao, Retired Head of Chemistry Department from St. Aloysius College Bangalore, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Ramesh, Principal Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Hyderabad, Prof. C. D. Patil, Secretary, Karnataka Rajya Vignana Parishad, Bangalore and Mrs. Jyoti Ramachandran, Manager, Kotak Education Trust. Other notable invited members like Prof Patil Founder Gyan Ganga Trust, Prof V P Kodali Past IEEE R10 Director joined the panel members and interacted with the volunteers.

The panel discussion was followed by a planning session for volunteers. Volunteers separated in to different groups based on their geographic location and further chalked out a plan to drive TISP activities in their state.

There has been good progress after the workshop. Volunteer groups from different IEEE Sections have planned to host workshops for school teachers in the near future. The volunteer team will keep the IEEE members posted about developments and volunteering opportunities through news in IEEE Publications such as this one. We also plan to release a website for the TISP activities in India where there will be up to date information on various activities.

Prasanna Venkatesan, TISP Workshop Coordinator
Member, IEEE Educational Activities Board
IEEE WIE AG Hyderabad Section
Seminar on Women in Engineering and Research Opportunities

Malla Reddy Engineering College & Malla Reddy College of Engineering (MREC) for Women in association with the IEEE WIE Affinity Group, Hyderabad Section organized a two-day seminar on “Women In Engineering & Research Opportunities” on 13th – 14th August, 2011 at MREC Campus 1. Six technical talks were arranged for the benefit of the participants. The event saw participation from more than 75 young women engineers and research scholars from various engineering colleges in and around Hyderabad and Secunderabad.

Prof. Mrs. Ramalatha Marimuthu, President, IEEE Women In Engineering inaugurated the seminar and delivered a keynote address. Following the talk by Prof. Ramalatha, Mrs. Madhumita Chakravarty, Chairperson, IEEE Hyderabad WIE AG gave a talk on benefits of WIE. The post-lunch session comprised of a talk by Dr. Sushmita Mishra from Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata on “BIOINFORMATICS”.

On 14th August, 2011 Prof. N. Srinivasa Rao, Convener, WIE 2011 gave a talk on “Challenges for Engineers”, followed by talk on Various Research Methodologies by Dr. M. Madhavi Latha, Prof. & Head, Dept. of ECE, JNTU-H. Dr. Arnik Swarna Bai, Scientist-RCI, spoke on “Genomic Signal Processing and Artificial Neural Networks for DNA Sequence Analysis”. Later, Prof. Y. Vijaya Latha, Professor in Dept. of CSE, GRIET & Vice –Chair, IEEE Hyd AF gave a talk on “Open Source Software and Its Applications”. Concluding the event, Dr. Arnik Swarna Bai, presided over valedictory function.

S K Salankayana
IEEE Hyderabad Section

WIE IEEE Jamia Millia Islamia, India
STAR ACTIVITY at JMI

WIE IEEE Jamia Millia Islamia successfully organised its first IEEE Student-Teacher and Research Engineer/Scientist (STAR) activity on 19th August 2011. The activity was the inaugural workshop of the ‘HOW THINGS WORK’ series of workshops. Attended by some 300 students from 7th and 8th grade and 8 teachers from Jamia Middle School, the theme for the activity was “Friction and Ball bearings”.

The one and a half hour session was organised to help kids understand the engineering behind everyday objects resonating with WIE’s social commitments worldwide. The tutorial covered the fundamentals of friction and how ball bearings help overcome it in different objects, small and big. To make the workshop more beneficial videos were played that showed the working of ball bearings in objects like a bicycle hub. They were told how ball bearings were employed in a thing as big as an aircraft or a turbine and even in a small little yo-yo. Small activities were carried as recapitulative exercises. Answers came out in choruses showing the level of interest and enjoyment among the kids. The session ended with handouts being given to students with simple multiple choice questions to help them assess themselves. The teachers present gave a very positive feedback and appreciated the idea of more such workshops in the future. WIE IEEE JMI plans to hold the subsequent workshops with increased resources and teaching aides and is eagerly looking forward to enhance the experience for kids now that it is being supported by R10 WIE.

Ayesha Hussain
Chairperson, WIE IEEE JMI, New Delhi, India

Eager hands going up to answer the questions
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MGA Student Activities Chair’s Message

Technology has evolved at a pace that was beyond my expectation. I wasn’t expecting Instant Messaging or Gmail with 7GB free storage when I was using pager, walkman, and Intel 8088 processor in the 90s. In those days, owning a pager was a fashion statement. Today, flipping pages on a iPhone can be pretty normal.

I bought an iPhone in 2010 and didn’t realize how much it would save my life juggling between career, family, friends, and volunteering with the IEEE. I coined the term ‘IEEE on the move’ to describe how my workstation is like my iPhone and that I’m usually on a train or bus or even walking when reading and responding to IEEE emails. My surrounding is moving.

Life starting a family, career, and volunteering with the IEEE can be fairly exciting. There isn’t a moment that I can say I have nothing to do. Other than setting aside time to have quiet moments, which needs a lot of discipline to do and is very necessary, my fingers are moving - tapping away on my iPhone screen working away with my MGA SAC team to put together a suite of services and programs for our student members worldwide.

An exciting global student contest that is happening on 22 October 2011 is IEEEXtreme 5.0. This is the 5th time the contest will be held, through which IEEE students form teams to compete for the top prize! Last year, more than 2,500 students from around the world competed in the 24-hour programming contest. The winners, SurpriseTeam from Belarusian State University, Europe, won an all-expense-paid trip to the team’s choice of an IEEE event/conference. Why not miss some sleep, form a team and challenge your peers from other parts of the world? I encourage you to find out more about IEEEXtreme 5.0 via www.ieee.org/xtreme to register now!

On top of programming contest and technical-type activities, MGA SAC team also organizes professional and soft skill development workshops. One of them is the regional leadership workshops, which Region 7 and 4 are planning during the month of September and October, respectively. We believe in investing in leadership skills of engineering student to help you be effective leaders even at the point of entering the workforce. If you are based in Region 4 and 7, I encourage you to find out more http://ieeelcnu.eventbrite.com (Region 4) or http://ieee.ca/students/workshop/sbw.htm (Region 7).

In addition, MGA SAC team is starting a Facebook for global student activities. Hope to update you more about this in the next issue! Do well and stay well.

Darrel Chong, PhD (dchong@ieee.org)
Chair, MGA Student Activities Committee 2011-2012

IEEEXtreme 5.0 Programming Competition on 22nd October 2011

Do you think you can code? Are you ready to test your programming skills with the best talent across the globe? Do you want unlimited bragging rights and a highlight on your resume? Finally the much awaited programming competition IEEEXtreme 5.0 is back just for you! IEEEXtreme 5.0 is scheduled to be on 22nd October 2011. Registration will be open between 6 September 2011 and 7 October 2011.

IEEEXtreme is a 24 hour online programming competition where IEEE Student Members solve a challenging set of programming problems. IEEEXtreme is fun-packed high-action event across universities in the world where team burn the midnight oil to prove their programming prowess raise to their glory.

A Team can have of up to three IEEE Student members or Graduate Student Members. A student Branch can form multiple teams. Student Branches should act as hosts to the participating teams, helping locate an appropriate venue for use during the competition, promoting the competition, assisting in identifying appropriate proctors, and increasing awareness of the student branch presence on campus.

IEEEXtreme 5.0 is introducing special recognitions this time for Region, Section and Student branches globally based on total participation, penetration and growth. So if you are a Section or Student volunteer Leader, please pass the word locally to drive participation and make it to the top list!

For updates, check out http://www.ieee.org/xtreme or follow us on http://www.facebook.com/IEEEXtreme. For any questions, feel free to email IEEEXtreme team at: ieeextreme-5-0@ieee.org

Regards,
Gowtham Prasad K N
IEEEXtreme 5.0 Project Lead, IEEE MGA SAC
IEEE GUCAS Student Branch
IEEE China Student Congress 2011
19 - 20 July 2011, Beijing, China

IEEE China Student Congress 2011 (CSC2011) was held from 19 to 20 July 2011 at Beijing, China. The CSC2011 was sponsored by IEEE R10 SAC, R10 GINI, IEEE China office, and IEEE University Partnership Program. CSC2011 was organized by IEEE Student Branch at Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (GUCAS). IEEE China Student Congress 2011 aimed to gather the student volunteers and members of GOLD Affinity Group in China.

A total of 62 delegates attended the CSC2011. The distinguished guests from IEEE included R10 Director Professor Lawrence W. C. Wong, PES Chapter/Section Relations Chair Norman Mariun, Member Strategy Director Jamie Moesch, R10 Electronic Communications & Information Management Coordinator Jing Dong, and UPP Information Management Qing Li.

The first part of the Congress was a technical lecture given by Prof. Norman Mariun from University Putra Malaysia. He gave a speech about Energy Crisis - World Scenario and Alternative Solutions. Then, Prof. Lingyang Song from Peking University gave a lecture about Device-to-Device Local Area Networks (D2D LAN), which offers opportunities and challenges of D2D LAN research and extension.

During the Congress, R10 Director Prof. Lawrence Wong gave an overview of IEEE R10 and shared experience of his involvement with IEEE from his schooldays. IEEE Member Strategy Director Jamie Moesch gave a speech about IEEE, and membership development in China.
A few glimpses of IEEE China Students Congress 2011
IEEE NTU Student Branch, Taipei
Participation in Region 10 Student/GOLD/WIE Congress 2011

The topic of the four-day Congress was "Emerging Technologies", which the organizer chose in hope to bring changes to the world through new technologies or innovative projects.

At the Congress members from three different societies, IEEE Student, Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD), and Women in Engineering (WIE) were all invited to one conference to meet and discuss in joint groups. In the group discussion, all the delegates from GOLD & WIE AGs and Student Branches in R10 were divided into groups to discuss and learn about each Section's/Branch's operation and development. Our team members included students from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau and we reached several conclusions, including the possibility of holding Greater China regional congress. We believed it will greatly benefit cross-strait enterprises and students.

It not only allowed participants to understand different needs and operations of each society, but also let all the participants have a more comprehensive understanding of IEEE. As a delegate from Taiwan, I would like to share my reflections and suggestions from the observation of the conference.

Delegates from cross-strait four regions

Important Agenda

The highlight of the Congress, in my opinion, was that some of the sponsorships and agenda were organized by the GOLD, most of which are IEEE members with rich industry knowledge and conference experiences. As a result, the agenda of the Congress was very comprehensive, covering subjects from student affairs to careers planning. I think this is why the Congress was so successful.

As GOLD and WIE were invited to join the Students Congress, the agenda had included the introduction to the operation and histories of the two affinity groups. This way, the delegates from different countries were able to learn a lot about the two affinity groups. As there's no GOLD in Taiwan yet, we are planning to initiate one in the future.

I would also like to point out two things that impressed me the most:

a) Cross-Strait Discussion: In the discussion we found that most of the Student Branches in China are supported and sponsored by colleges, which is similar to Taiwan. We also talked about the possibilities of cross-strait visits and exchange, such as organizing IEEE Student Congress for IEEE student members or delegates in Greater China. Though details needed to be further discussed, we are planning to create the communication platform for cross-strait students for long-term exchange and collaboration.

b) IEEE Meeting: The meeting was hosted by Dr Peter W. Staecker, 2012 candidate for IEEE President-elect, and Mr Michael E. Howard, IEEE MGA Vice President. The meeting focused on how IEEE can change the world through continuous promotion and operation of the organization, and the participants were divided into three discussion groups. We proposed hosting congress on different topics to unite members in different countries, attract more new members and increase members’ understanding and support for IEEE. For Taiwan, active participation in the elections and contests organised by IEEE can help to promote the visibility of IEEE in Taiwan.

Conclusion and Suggestions

Overall, the Congress was well organised and we felt that the organizer had put a lot of efforts in it. We believe the visibility of this Congress is higher than the previous one hosted in Singapore in 2009, and it also raised the bar for the future events.

We were impressed by the local student association’s execution of arrangements at the international congress, which also served as a role model for our future improvements. Most of the student’s association members in Taiwan are inexperienced in coordinating international events. Hence it’s for sure that we need to spend more time on planning and resource allocation in order to organise a successful congress. We’ll pass down the lesson we’ve learned at the Congress to the student associations in Taiwan, hoping that we will be able to coordinate an international congress with Chinese flavor. With Taiwan’s advantages in electronics and electricals and our students’ creativity, we’re confident that we can deliver a successful congress which will elevate the visibility of Taiwan. This is the goal that we will all work together.

Finally, I think our Taipei Section could try to organize this kind of international congress. We could start from hosting cross-strait congress, making Taiwan a pioneer among the cross-straits four regions while also boosting the growth of local student associations.
IEEE Hyderabad Section

IEEE Hyderabad Section Student Congress 2011

The IEEE Hyderabad Section Student Congress is an annual flagship event of the IEEE Hyderabad Section that encourages and brings the student community of the Section under one roof. The SSC is an amalgam of technical talks, office bearers meet, brainstorming sessions, training and networking sessions. The idea behind this congress is to bring together the Student Branch leaders, members and volunteers into one platform to share, interact and learn about Student Branch activities across the Section. The congress had focused sessions on Student Branch Operations for the Student Branch officers and counselors.

This year, the SSC 2011 was held on 13th and 14th August, 2011 at Muffakham Jha College of Engineering, Hyderabad. The congress saw a participation of over 300 engineering students across Andhr Pradesh. The SSC 2011 commenced with an inaugural talk by Mr. M. G. P. L. Narayana, Chair IEEE-Hyderabad Section on “Leadership Skills”. The first technical talk of the SSC 2011 was on Wi-Fi Direct - the New Protocol for Quick and Easy Wireless Connections by Mr. N. Venkatesh, Vice President of Advanced Technologies at Redpine Signals which provided a lot of insight on the technology. Following the talk by Mr. N. Venkatesh, Dr. Ramalatha Marimamuthu, Chair, IEEE-WIE addressed the gathering on opportunities for women in engineering and inspired the female students to take up more challenging roles in the fields of engineering and technology. This was followed by a talk on Data Analytics by Mr. Ashfaq Shaik, TL, Information Management, Deloitte and an alumnus of MJCET giving insights on the different businesses that various organization run on.

Prof. Ramalatha Mariamuthu, Chair, IEEE WIE speaking about the opportunities for women in engineering.

It had been a tradition to nominate a few Student Branches for the “Vibrant Student Branch Award” and present the award during the SSC based on the stalls put up by the SBs detailing their achievements and laurels. The judging criteria is based on various aspects such as the IEEE member count, member retention rate, number and quality of events organized, effectiveness in reporting, technical contributions, etc. The Student Branches that were nominated this year are OU College Engineering, Hyderabad, IEEE ATRI SB, ATRI, Hyderabad, IEEE SNIST SB, SNIST, Hyderabad, IEEE MJCET SB, MJCET, Hyderabad, IEEE NIT-W SB, NIT-W, Warangal, IEEE Avanthi SB, Avanti College of Engineering, Warangal, IEEE SREC SB, SREC, Warangal, Jayamukhi College of Engineering, Warangal, ANITS, Vizag and Pydah College of Engineering, Vizag. These Student Branches were asked to present a case study on the activities in their Student Branches. Based on the stalls and the case study presentation displayed by the SBs, the review panel presented the IEEE Hyderabad Section Most Vibrant Student Branch Award jointly to IEEE NIT-W SB and IEEE MJCET SB. The IEEE ATRI SB was highly commended for their active participation in Section events and the number of members associated with the IEEE ATRI SB volunteering at the Section level.

IEEE MJCET SB members with their stall for the IEEE Hyderabad Section Vibrant Student Branch Award

Day 2 of the SSC 2011 started with a talk on “Introspecting Smart Grid – An India Perspective” by Mr. Mithun Bhaskar, Mahindra Satyam and GOLD Liaison to IEEE Hyderabad PES/IAS/PELS Joint Chapter. Following Mr. Mithun Bhaskar’s talk was a lecture on “Internet of Things” by Mr. Thaddeus Paul Kochanski, President and Chief Scientist Vital Electronics Institute, Inc., MIT and Dr. Andrzej Rucinski. Prof. Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of New Hampshire. The speakers spoke on bringing together the virtual world and the real world and how the interaction can take place between both these things. The third session of the day was by Mr. Ravikant Reddy, Special Correspondent from THE HINDU, Education Plus. It was an interactive session where the students were given glimpse of the world of Journalism. Later, Mr. Prasanna Venkatesan, IEEE R10 GINI Coordinator and member of IEEE EAB spoke on the benefits and opportunities on becoming an IEEE member.

The pre-valedictory session consisted of a panel discussion on “What an undergraduate student must choose after his/her graduation - a job or higher education”. The session went on for about 45 minutes with students expressing their doubts and the panel giving their views.

During the valedictory ceremony, the IEEE NIT-W and IEEE MJCET SBs, the joint recipients of the IEEE Hyderabad Section Vibrant Student Branch Award were presented with the award and certificates followed by appreciating 15 Outstanding Student Volunteers in the Section by presenting them with the Certificates of Appreciation. The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr. Karthik Siddavaram, the Section Student Representative.

The congress concluded in high spirits as the participant had a lot of knowledge to gain and experiences to remember and share. The participants and dignitaries congratulated the organizing committee of Section Student Congress 2011 lead by Prof. P. Srihari, Student Activities Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section and Mr. Karthik Siddavaram.

S K Salankayana
IEEE Hyderabad Section

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IEEE SB University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka

Recent Activities

IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa has organized recently several events. “Robot Competition 2011” and “One day field visit to SLINTEC” were the major events, which were fruitful not only to IEEE members, but also to many students at the university.

Robot Competition 2011

“Robot Competition 2011” is the final evaluation program of the module “Robotics Design and Competition-EN2060” offered by Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering. The competition is organized in collaboration with IEEE Student Branch of the University of Moratuwa. There were 154 students competing from the Department of Electronic & Telecommunication Engineering and Department of Electrical Engineering.

Each group consisted of 5 members who were given the task of creating a line following robot which can hold the objects and take it to the fixed pole in shortest possible time period. Each robot had to fulfill the given task on a special arena prepared exclusively for this challenge. IEEE Student Branch of the University of Moratuwa succeeded the challenging task of organizing the competition and facilitating the competitors.

One Day Field Visit to SLINTEC

Members of the IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa conducted a one day field visit to SLINTEC (Sri Lankan Institute of Nanotechnology), the leading research and innovation platform for Sustainable Nanotechnology in Asia. This highly successful visit with around 40 participants was on 24th June, 2011.

In his presentation Dr. Muditha Senarath Yapa, Senior Scientist at SLINTEC, explained about the formation of the company, the partners they are working with. Successful research projects achievements were described. Further he explained how value is added to our natural resources with the help of nanotechnology on Sri Lankan’s way to a knowledge based economy. Laboratory equipments and other nanotechnology related processes were also inspected by the visitors.

Kasun Chamika Sirimanna
Chair, IEEE University of Moratuwa Student Branch

IEEE BEC Student Branch, Karnataka, India

IGreen

Basaveshwar Engineering College (BEC) IEEE Student Branch has always been taking new steps by organizing many social events and this is one of the events hosted to create awareness among the people, students and staff at the college on going green, how to go green and how to reduce the usage of plastic etc.

Every problem starts with small ignorance and after sometimes it would grow to such an extent that we can’t do anything except witnessing the terrifying effects of that. In today’s scenario global warming, deforestation and pollution problems, to be specific plastic and the green gases exhausted by the vehicles are the biggest problems. If we, the so called civilized and educated people don’t take a big step against these problems and initiatives towards the solutions for the havoc, the days in future would be worse and the planet earth would no more be the best place to live. Taking this into account, the BEC-IEEE Student Branch initiated a long term project which possibly could be the answer for the problems of plastics, pollution and deforestation. Bagalkot is a district of Karnataka which is a sort of development stagnant. Most of the people here are from rural background, hence initiating awareness and spreading it amongst the people is the quite tough job. The youth can understand the problems and their impact on environment and they can explain and motivate other peoples to implement environment friendly practices. Considering the fact as an initial step we started implementing the solutions in our campus only. To create the awareness amongst the youth we had organized the painting and movie making competitions which were based on the theme “Going green to ensure our future”.

To initiate the project we organized the inaugural function of I GREEN with a charming tag line “I am going Green, when are you?” on 2nd May 2011 in gallery hall of the college. We invited the range forest officers Mr. Raghunath as the chief guest, and Mr. Girish as a guest.

Further our student members made 200 paper bags from the handmade paper and distributed them to the faculty members of the college there by trying to convey the message of going green. And most of the members then started using the paper bags instead of plastic bags to carry their belongings to college.

As a next step we had approached our college authority with more fascinating ideas to keep the campus clean and green, the ideas include plantation of the saplings around the campus on a day in every month to celebrate the birthdays of IEEE members, promotion of use of cycles, implementations of rain water harvesting techniques in newly constructing buildings, promotion of use of cloth bags instead of plastic bags in shops near the localities. And as a further step we visited shops and we tried to convince them to use the cloth bags instead of plastic bags by explaining the effects of plastics on the environment. We provided some cloth bags of different capacities free of cost.
Some of the shop owners showed the positive response and put the orders for cloth bags. We acted as the interface between the shop owners and the dealers of cloth bags. As time passed owners of 3 shops started using the cloth bags. Three months after our Student Branch’s initiative, the government strictly banned the use of plastic bags below 40 microns. We have succeeded in spreading the awareness and thereby we passively joined hands in the success of the government in banning the plastics.

As it is a long term project our students are working on efficient solid, plastic and organic waste management and various techniques to keep the campus and the locality clean. In coming days we are planning to have a seminar on green roof technique from the resource persons especially for the people around the localities. This could be another promising solution against the global warming if it is implemented in large scales and thus making the environment fresh and clean.

As the old saying goes, prevention is better than cure, let us join our hands together to save our environment before it becomes worst. Let us think of green solutions and implement them in day today life. Let us go green. We are going green, when are you?

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Chair, IEEE Student Branch Basaveshwar Engineering College, Bagalkot, Karnataka State, India

IEEE-TSEC Student Branch

IEEE-TSEC INDUSTRIAL VISIT 2011

The Industrial Visit is one of the biggest highlights of the IEEE Thadomal Shahani Engineering College Student Branch (IEEE-TSEC) schedule. It is organized to enhance the members' knowledge and experience of the industrial world. The places chosen are a combination of progress, nature and beauty all rolled into one. The places covered as a part of the Industrial Visit 2011 were Hyderabad, Ooty and Munnar, from 3rd to 12th July.

The trip started with the boarding of the Hyderabad Express from Chatrapati Shivaji Terminus, which reached Hyderabad next morning. The first industry on the list was Polaris, one of the world's most sophisticated banking and insurance software companies. Located in Hitech City, the campus is an impressive one and has a thoroughly professional work environment that provides excellent facilities to its employees. The Polaris executives explained the entire working of the company and what future prospects it held through a presentation, which was followed by an interactive discussion. The interaction was followed by a short trip around the entire campus, which was invaluable because it gave an idea of the work culture of the company. The trip to Polaris was insightful, and it conveyed a fairly accurate picture of the functioning of industries in the IT sector in relation to the economy, and also the role which an IT industry can play in the working of other industries through outsourcing and consultancy.

The next industry visited was Velgan Hydraul, a hydraulic and pneumatic products manufacturing plant which deals with the manufacture of pumps, valves and motors and their applications in marine, energy, mobile and industrial segments. This visit mainly benefited those pursuing mechanical and civil engineering, although it was quite informative for the rest as well. The management at the site gave a live preview of the different processes that are used in the large scale manufacture of different products across various disciplines.

The day ended with a visit to Lumbini Park whose main attractions include a colourful floral clock, waterfalls and fountains.

The next stop was Microsoft, the world leader in software development. Situated in Hitech City, the Microsoft India Development Centre (MSIDC) in Hyderabad has innovated technologies and products which have impacted millions of customers worldwide. The campus derives its energy requirements using energy-efficient methods. It was a very enriching experience for the students, who were given an overview of what to expect when they complete their engineering and step out into the business world. The visit to Microsoft was an important milestone of the trip, because it presented a very clear picture of the professionalism that sets world leaders apart from the rest. It provided an exposure to the working environment and a brief insight into the technical expertise of a company that has stood the test of time against cut throat global competition in the age of never ending technological innovation.

The next destination was Coimbatore via the Sabari Express, which left at noon. It was followed by a brief bus journey to Ooty, which is popularly known as “Queen of
Hill Stations”. The day was spent in sightseeing and shopping in the local market.

The sixth day began with a visit to Dodabetta Peak, the highest peak in the Nilgiri Hills, which had a breath-taking view of Ooty, Conoor and Mettupalayam. The industry visited was a Tea Factory which showcased an optimized process of tea production. There was a Chocolate Factory adjoining the tea factory as well. The visit to the above two industries consisted of a brief overview of the manufacturing and packaging of two products which are used regularly by everyone. After a quick lunch at Charing Cross, the famous Botanical Garden was covered. It has over a thousand species of shrubs, plants and trees and a fossilized tree trunk in the middle of the garden estimated to be about 20 million years old.

The seventh day was spent in travelling to Munnar as the bus journey took 8 hours. The main attractions along the way included a zoo and a waterfall. The sightseeing attractions in Munnar included the famous Echo Point and Mattupetty Dam.

This was followed by a night journey to Coimbatore Station and a train journey from Coimbatore to Mumbai via the Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Express, which left in the morning and reached Mumbai at Kurla Terminus the next day.

In all, the students had a very enriching experience which enabled them to get a glimpse of the corporate world which they would be shortly stepping into. A first-hand experience of the working of global leaders enables one to better understand the core values that one needs to embrace in order to survive in the world that awaits the average engineering student after graduation, and the IEEE-TSEC Industrial Visit 2011 provided just that. It was a truly enriching experience, which was planned and executed keeping this one aim in mind.

Geeta Tahiliani,
Information Officer, IEEE-TSEC

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New Tutorials Guide Engineers in Ethical Decision-Making

The IEEE eLearning Library has released five new tutorials to help guide engineers on ways to improve their ethical decision-making skills. Developed by Dr. Steve Starrett, these tutorials provide a general introduction to ethics in engineering along with a selection of various codes of ethics, several case studies, and specific issues related to biomedical, software, and power engineering. Learn more about these tutorials.

http://ieee-elearning.org/

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Upcoming IEEE Conferences in Region 10

Conference Location: Kyoto, Japan
Sponsored By: Industrial Electronics Society - IE, Robotics and Automation Society - RA
Abstract Submission Deadline: 23 Sep 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 15 Dec 2011
http://www.si-sice.org/SII2011/

2011 International Conference on Computer Science and Network Technology (ICCSNT) 24 - 26 Dec 2011
Conference Location: Harbin, China
Sponsored By: Harbin Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 10 Oct 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 10 Nov 2011
http://www.iccsnt.org/

2012 IEEE-EMBS International Conference on Biomedical and Health Informatics (BHI) 05 - 07 Jan 2012
Conference Location: Hong Kong, China
Sponsored By: Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society - EMB, Hong Kong Section EMB Chapter
Abstract Submission Deadline: 14 Oct 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 02 Dec 2011
http://bhi2012.embs.org/

2012 International Conference on Computer Communication and Informatics (ICCCI) 10 - 12 Jan 2012
Conference Location: Coimbatore, India
Sponsored By: Madras Section, Sri Shakthi Institute of Engineering & Technology Student Branch
Abstract Submission Deadline: 25 Sep 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 15 Nov 2011
http://siet.ac.in/iccci/

2012 International Conference on Green and Ubiquitous Technology (GUT) 08 - 09 Mar 2012
Conference Location: Jakarta, Indonesia
Sponsored By: Indonesia Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 10 Nov 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 25 Dec 2011
http://www.gut-conf.org/

2012 International Conference on Information Retrieval & Knowledge Management (CAMP) 13 - 15 Mar 2012
Conference Location: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Sponsored By: Malaysia Section C Chapter
Abstract Submission Deadline: 01 Oct 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 13 Jan 2012
http://pgcs.upm.edu.my/camp12/

Conference Location: Coimbatore, India
Sponsored By: India Council ED Chapter
Abstract Submission Deadline: 31 Oct 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 31 Dec 2011
http://www.karunya.edu/ece/icdcss12/
Conference Location: Beijing, China
Sponsored By: Beijing Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 Dec 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 15 Jan 2012
Email: zhoumq@public3.bta.net.cn

Conference Location: Wuhan, China
Sponsored By: Wuhan Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 01 Nov 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 15 Feb 2012
http://icist.mae.cuhk.edu.hk/

Conference Location: Shillong, India
Sponsored By: Calcutta Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 30 Nov 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 02 Feb 2012
http://ncetacs.anthonys.ac.in/

Conference Location: Hsinchu, Taiwan
Abstract Submission Deadline: 10 Oct 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 31 Dec 2011
http://www.ieeevtc.org/2012/index.html

2012 IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference (VTC 2012-Spring) 06 - 09 May 2012
Conference Location: Yokohama, Japan
Sponsored By: Vehicular Technology Society - VT
Abstract Submission Deadline: 30 Sep 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 06 Feb 2012

2011 International Conference of Agricultural Engineering (ICAЕ) 16- 18 Dec 2011
Conference Location: Harbin, China
Sponsored By: Harbin Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 10 Nov 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 20 Nov 2011
http://ieee2011.neau.edu.cn/

Conference Location: Wuhan, China
Sponsored By: Wuhan Section
Abstract Submission Deadline: 01 Nov 2011
Final Paper Submission Deadline: 15 Feb 2012
http://iciiset.mae.cuhk.edu.hk/