

A brief report on

IEEE Region 10 SYWL Virtual Congress'2020

**Theme: *Pandemic to Opportunity – Collaborative Leadership
Towards Technology Advancement for Humanity***

R10 Annual Meeting (6th March 2021)

**Zia Ahmed
General Chair**



IEEE R10 SYWLC ORGANISING COMMITTEE



19th september - 4th October



Emeritus Professor Akinori Nishihara
R10 Director



Dr Zia Ahmed
General Chair



Prof Supavadee Aramvith
General Co-Chair



Prof Takako Hashimoto
Advisor



Mr Deepak Mathur
R10 SYWL Congress'2018 Chair



Huynh Thi Thanh Binh
Students Activities Chair



Dr. Saaveethya Sivakumar
Student Activities (RSR)



Assoc. Prof Takuo Suzuki
Young Professionals Activities Chair



Ms Emi Yano
WIE Activities Chair



Mr Rajendra Kumar Asthana
Life Member Activities Chair



Ms Ewell Tan
Advisor & Admin Support

IEEE Region 10 SYWL Virtual Congress'2020

- Originally scheduled to be held at Bangkok, Thailand in September 2020 - cancelled due to the COVID-19 restrictions.
- Conducted over 16 days, from 19th Sept to 4th Oct 2020, via WebEx sessions and live streaming on Facebook.
- 25 sessions under Students, YP, WIE, LM Tracks and special sessions related to Educational Activities, Humanitarian Activities, and IEEE Standard Association.
- Around 120 speakers, including 44 female speakers, delivered keynote speeches, technical talks and participated in panel discussions.

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- 1,362 registered participants nominated by Sections
- Most of the sessions were also lived streamed and archived via R10 Facebook SYWL page, which attracted more than 10,000 additional audiences.
- More than 50 volunteers helped to successfully conduct the R10 SYWL Virtual Congress'2020 consisting of four tracks (Students, Young Professionals, Women-in-Engineering and Life Members) and three public sessions (Education Activities, HAC and IEEE SA).

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Highlights of Students Track

- 7 Sessions, delivered by total 37 globally recognized speakers/moderator
- Each session followed by bonus networking sessions for attendees.
- Collaboration with IEEE Industry Engagement Society, IEEE Entrepreneurship, IEEE Eta Kappa Nu Society, IEEE Industry Relations Society, IEEE Volunteer leadership Program and IEEE Centre for Leadership Excellence,
- Student Branch Partnership Program with 78 SBs across 19 Sections in 8 countries greatly boosted students participation. The partnered SBs contributed by initiating through screening/broadcasting student track sessions to extended audiences within their Student Branch community.



Highlights of Students Track

- **Exciting Student Contests**

- Joint contest by SAC & WIE to showcase the best practices and activities to improve membership retention and development. The contest was sponsored by IEEE Life Member Funding for student activities.
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- **Virtual Nethack** to improve participants' communication and networking skills to a wider online viewing community. The theme of the contest was to promote “Virtual Networking”. The competition was conducted through team building activities such as virtual meets, team tasks and quizzes.

All 15 members of the top 3 teams received USD 27 IEEE membership subscription.



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Highlights of Young Professionals Track

- **The YP Track held 4 sessions and 1 contest.**
 - IEEE Volunteering Platform - a new IEEE web system for volunteers by Flavia Dinca, IEEE YP Chair,
 - Senior Membership application process and benefits by Mr. Amarnath Raja and experience sharing by three more speakers.
 - Entrepreneurship and Industry Engagement” was jointly held with the R10 Industry Relations Committee for panel discussion on cutting-edge technologies, IoT and 5G
 - An interactive YP session for exchange of information about YP activities amid the COVID-19 pandemic
- All sessions were well attended via WebEx by registered delegates and a large number of members through live streaming of Facebook.



Highlights of WIE Track

- **The WIE Track held 4 sessions and 1 contest.**
 - **“WIE Best Practices, Challenges and Opportunities”** distinguished female speakers discussed their professional careers and how IEEE helped them.
 - **Exclusively sessions for female engineers and professions** to discuss strategies to deal with issues relevant to their career, challenges of work-life balance and scarcity of female leadership in academia and industry.
 - **Career Development for Mid-Career WIE** aimed to enable women engineers and researchers to reach their full potential and shine.
 - **WIE delegates grouped in teams** to deliberate on key goals of WIE providing an opportunity for discussion to inspire delegates and live audience for innovation, facilitated knowledge sharing
- All sessions were well attended via WebEx by registered delegates and a large number of members through live streaming of Facebook.



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Highlights of Life Members Track

- **Largest number of LMAG Chairs participation from across R10 for the first time.**
- **The LM Track held 5 sessions and 1 Photography contest.**
 - **Sharing Success Stories** - IEEE Life Fellow and SM shared professional achievements and benefits of being an IEEE member for their career.
 - **R10 LMAG Chairs Meeting** - discussed problems and strategies to handle issues
 - Presentations on LMs, LM Affinity Group, LMAG Management & Procedure, Finances and Role of Regional LM Coordinator at Region & MGA
 - **Training on Video and Milestones Program**, milestone approval process and dedication ceremony.



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Three General Sessions

- **Education Activities**

- Prof Stephen Phillips, VP IEEE EAB and Mr Jamie Moesch updated about EAB programs, services and products (IEEE Learning Network (ILN), eLearning modules, English for Technical Professionals, Lifelong Learning and Continuing Education, plus a new program IEEE Academy to be launched in 2021.
- IEEE R10 Reaching Locals Project for reaching out to local communities in local languages.

- **IEEE Standards Association**

- Focused on standards for IoT and Smart Cities and impact on things like security for medical IoT and Mapping Public Wi-Fi Network Architecture to Smart Cities through IEEE P2872.

- **IEEE Humanitarian Activities**

- The session focus was IEEE HAC Session on COVID-19 response.

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– A new experience for everyone

– The key advantage - Ability to reach out a large number of members

- * Live streaming on social media watched by hundreds of members

- * Video recordings made available straight after the session

– Many valuable lessons learnt

Everyone, from the members of the Organising Committee to all participants, worked hard to make it a successful congress.

