

IEEE Madras Section Events

miniPOCO 2018



IEEE Madras Section had organised a Panel Of Conference Organizers (miniPOCO) 2018 on 15th Aug 2018 at Heritage Hotel, Madurai. This event was conducted for the benefit of the IEEE Members, Volunteers, Academicians and Industrialists who are interested to organize quality IEEE Conference by understanding the IEEE Conference Policies.

The inaugural function of miniPOCO was conducted at 9:30 a.m. Dr. D. Devaraj, Excom. Member, IEEE Madras Section welcomed the gathering. The event was inaugurated by Dr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu, Past Director, IEEE R10 (Asia-Pacific). In his inaugural address, Dr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu stressed the importance of adhering to the IEEE policies to maintain the quality of the IEEE conference. Dr. P.A. Manoharan during his presidential address briefed the audience about the steps taken by the IEEE Madras Section to support the IEEE conference organizers.

The event had five sessions. The speaker for the first session was Dr. Ramakrishna Kappagantu and he gave a presentation on “Key issues and challenges in organizing IEEE conference”. The next session was handled by Dr. Amit Kumar, Vice Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section and the session was on “Heart of Conference-Focusing on Constituting a Technical Committee and Creating Peer Review Process”. In his presentation, he highlighted the various steps to be followed in successfully organizing a conference. This was followed by a presentation on “Publications in IEEE Conferences and Journals”.by Dr. B. Chitti Babu, Assistant Professor, IITDM Kancheepuram

In the afternoon Dr. Ramalatha Marimuthu, Past Vice Chair, WIE-Technical Activities, R10 handled a session titled “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: Organising a Conference”. She explained the various best practices which can be adopted by the conference organizers. The session titled “e-processing of Conference Application” was handled by Dr. P.A Manoharan, Chairman, IEEE Madras Section, in which he presented the details of the web-portal developed by IEEE Madras Section for the benefit of conference organizers. Finally, Dr. Michael. N. Kumar, Secretary, IEEE Madras Section answered to various questions raised by the participants

About eighty senior level faculty members from various parts of Tamilnadu attended the event which provided a platform for them to gain the knowledge on how to organise and conduct a good quality IEEE Conference. The participants expressed satisfaction about this one day event. The valedictory function was conducted at 4.30 p.m.. Dr. D. Devaraj, thanked the gathering for their participation. Dr. P.A. Manoharan, distributed the certificates to the participants.

Report by Dr. S. Joseph Gladwin

Microsoft has revealed that it will not provide any security updates or support for PCs running on 'Windows 7' after January 14, 2020. Users can still use 'Windows 7' but the company has said PCs "will become more vulnerable to security risks" after the support ends. 'Windows 7' was first released in October 2009.

Nike recently unveiled its self-lacing smart basketball shoes, 'Adapt BB', that can be controlled through an app. The shoes contain a motor and gear train that senses the tension required by its user's foot and adjusts accordingly. A user can then tighten or loosen the shoes as required through physical buttons on the shoes or through a connected app.

US startup makes wristband that can control body temperature



IEEE itself resonates with aspects of learning through a community effort and this aspect was yet again proven right in the IEEE Day celebrations held in Chennai on behalf of the madras section in Koodal Hall, Anna University on 13th Oct 2018. It began with a warm reception by the IEEE members registering themselves and freshening up with a cup of tea following which they occupied the seats graciously put up in the hall. The program began with the reading IEEE code of conduct guided by Mr R. Nivas followed by the chief guest and the honorary office bearers of IEEE gracing the dais set up.

This was followed by Mr Manoharan delivering the welcome address and also briefing about the IEEE Day and its importance. Mr Sundaresh then introduced the chief guest of the evening Dr M Ponnaivaikko and also spoke about his laurels and achievements. Following this, the chief guest delivered the keynote address covering on topics of how membership drives are very important and how each section and student branch must work hand in hand to make the working of IEEE more effective. He also spoke of the different funding schemes and how students and teachers can benefit from them. He reiterated the importance of checking the various announcements / call for events and the official IEEE website for events and other important details.

On a befitting note the chief guest also gave away the various prizes and accolades to the different IEEE competition winners and honoured different teachers who were supportive in making the IEEE difference in the section as a whole. To break the official monotone the members of the Comsoc Exec committee along with the IEEE office bearers cut the cake to commemorate the IEEE Day celebrations. After this a quiz on IEEE and its various facets was conducted where the participants who got the answers right were given a prize as a token of appreciation.

After the quick session of ice breaking and quizzing, Dr Hariprakash gave a talk on Know Your IEEE and how one can understand it's working. A talk on Membership Development by Dr. S. Elangovan, was delivered sharing his experiences of how he had done different activities and ideas to boost membership drive in colleges. Following the faculty talks was a R10 SYWL Congress 2018 report by Ms. Angelin Indira, IEEE ADSF SIGHT was a visual treat to the attendees as she picturised the different events and had put up lively photos of the congress. Dr Vaidehi also gave a lecture on how WIE is impactful in daily research and how women participation is welcomed and is crucial for an inclusive environment.

Presentation by student branches was done where a set of five colleges presented their IEEE student branch activities that were conducted in their colleges. Following this the event came to an official close where the vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. T. Michael Kumar beyond which the goodie of the vent a T shirt was given to all attendees and happy picture was clicked to celebrate the day. At last not the least a sumptuous dinner was served where all of them interacted in a casual way networking with each other.

Report by Dr. S. Joseph Gladwin

US-headquartered startup Royole displayed the world's first commercial foldable smartphone FlexPai at Consumer Electronics Show (CES) 2019 in Las Vegas. The device, with a 7.8-inch display, works on a Snapdragon 855 chipset and runs a customised version of Android Pie. Royole said that FlexPai is already on sale in China for 8,999 yuan (over ₹93,000) and can be ordered online.

India 2nd highest contributor to IBM's 2018 US patent record: IBM recently announced its inventors received a record 9,100 patents in 2018 in the US, to which India was the second highest contributor with over 800 patents. This marks the company's "26th consecutive year of US patent leadership" and crossing of the 1,10,000-patent milestone, IBM revealed. The patents were granted to over 8,500 IBM inventors in around 48 countries.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg in a Facebook post revealed his plans to host public discussions about the future of technology in society as his personal challenge for 2019.