Chairman's Message

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Dear Friends,

Wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year 2009.

I am happy that IEEE Madras Section in association with IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter and Computer Society of India, Chennai Chapter organized a presentation by Dr. T.V. Subramanain, on the topic "Data Mining & Business Intelligence" on 17th January 2009 at ISTE Professional Centre. Prior to this technical meeting, IEEE Madras Section had its Execom meeting.

On behalf of IEEE Madras Section, I appreciate and congratulate the organizers that the Department of Instrumentation Engineering, Madras Institute of Technology Campus, Anna University Chennai successfully conducted the 6th International Conference, "Trends in Industrial Measurement & Automation, TIMA – 2009 with CEERI (Chennai), ISA (South India Section) & IEEE (Madras Section) as co-organizers during January 04 – 06, 2009 with a focal theme on Intelligence Sensing and Control towards "Energy Management and Environmental Preservation". I participated and delivered the address in the valedictory function on January 06, 2009.

TIMA-2009 had presentations on all topics related to industrial measurements and automation. The conference was preceded by two tutorials on the topics "Advanced Process Control" and "Wireless Sensor Networks, conducted in parallel with erudite resource persons from India and abroad. An Industrial exhibition displaying the products of industries relevant to process automation was also held. About 65 Research papers were presented in the Conference, in eight Technical sessions.

IEEE Madras Section conducted a Faculty Development Program during December 20 – 21, 2008 in Bharathidasan University,

From The Editor's Desk

H.R. Mohan
hrmohan@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

LINK wishes all its readers a HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR 2009.

Along with the New Year, the conference season seems to have started. In the first month of the year, Jan itself, three international conferences have been held of which the proceedings of two events – TIMA - 2009 and ICWIS - 09 are reported in detail in this issue.

Readers attention are drawn to the announcements published in this issue of LINK for the call for papers and participation relating to conferences in the areas of Power Electronics & Renewable Energy Systems, Electrical, Electronics & Control Systems, VLSI, Embedded Systems, Signal Processing & Communication Technologies, Open Source Software and Intelligent Agent & Multi Agent Systems. Members, pl. come forward; share your research experiences with the world.

Aarupadai Veedu Inst. of Tech is organizing a conf. on "Information & Software Engineering" during 13-14, Feb (contact: ncise2009@gmail.com) and a workshop at VIT on "Data Warehousing, Data Mining and Business Intelligence" is being held during 20-12, Feb (contact: kgovinda@vit.ac.in). Members are requested to register and get benefited.

The various societies under the Madras Section such as Computer Society, Power & Energy Society, Technology Management Council and Oceanic Engineering Society under India Council have been active in the month of Dec 2008 and the events organized by them are reported in this issue.

As usual, the activities of Kong Engineering College are featured along with that of Sri Venkateshwara College of Engineering, Catholic College of Engineering. Dr. Suresh Chander Pal, Student Activity Chair of Madras Section & the Executive Vice Chair, India Council has compiled a list of items valuable to our members and the same has been published in this issue.

LINK congratulates Mr. R. Nitin Balajee & Mr. V. Sathya Narayana of Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering, the winners of Info Contest 0812 who will receive a prize of Rs. 500/= each sponsored by SRA Systems.

IEEE Computer Society is planning to launch an initiative relating to the Open Source Software and Products development along with the support of CSI, CDAC, NIC, Essentia Software Solutions and organizations in the Open Source areas. We invite participation in this initiative from Engineering Colleges and professionals. Pl. look forward to the announcement shortly.

The Section AGM is on 11th Feb 2009. Members, pl. note it and attend in large numbers.

International Conference on Trends in Industrial Measurement & Automation (TIMA 2009)

The Dept. of Instrumentation Engineering, MIT Campus, Anna University Chennai organized 6th International Conference, "Trends in Industrial Measurement & Automation, TIMA – 2009 with CEERI (Chennai), ISA (South India Section) & IEEE (Madras Section) as co-organizers during 4-6, January 2009 with a focal theme on Intelligence sensing and control towards "Energy Management and Environmental Preservation".

TIMA-2009 had presentations on all topics related to industrial measurements and automation, with the help of a strong participation by the national and international community of Instrumentation and automation engineers and technologists.

The conference was preceded by two tutorials on the topics "Advanced Process Control" and "Wireless Sensor Networks, conducted in parallel with erudite resource persons from India and abroad. An Industrial exhibition displaying the products of industries relevant to process automation was also held.

About 65 Research papers were presented in the Conference, in eight Technical sessions. Several keynote addresses on important topics by the experts were also arranged. To commemorate the occasion, a comprehensive 'Conference Proceedings' and a 'souvenir' were released.

Many R & D organizations such as CSIR, CDAC, CSIO, reputed measurement and Automation industries and Academic institutions cosponsored the event.

In today's industrial scenario the energy management and environmental preservation with the help of intelligent sensing and control assumes much significance for maintaining a competitive edge. This conference was aptly intended to discuss the state-of-art research results and perspectives of future developments in all areas relevant to measurement and automation.

As a whole, the spectrum of topics that were discussed during TIMA – 2009 and the conglomeration of researchers, academicians and professionals from industry in the area of measurement and automation will definitely provide an excellent opportunity to all the delegates to exchange information on the latest developments in the above field.

Dr. P. Jawahar, Vice-Chancellor, Anna University Chennai delivered the presidential address. Dr. S. Shanmugavel, Registrar, Anna University Chennai inaugurated the pre-conference tutorial. Mr. K. Subramaniyam, Vice-Chairman, Organizing Committee introduced the chief guest. Mr. K. K. Acharya, Managing Director, CPCL inaugurated the conference and delivered the inaugural address. Dr. S. Salivahanan, Chairman IEEE Madras Section, delivered valedictory address. Dr.A.Joseph Stanley, Dean, MIT campus offered facilitations. Dr. T. Thyagarajan, HOD &

Organizing Secretary of the conference delivered welcome address. Dr. S. Ranganathan, former Dean. MIT briefed about TIMA 2009.Dr. P. Kanagasabapathy, Chairman, Organizing Committee proposed Vote of Thanks.

Report by Dr. T. Thyagarajan, Secretary, Organizing Committee-TIMA 2009

Social Activity by WIE at Kongu Engineering College

A social activity program was conducted on 28th Sep 2008 as a part of the activities by the Everest group of Cognizant Technology Solutions. The program was conducted for the school children of 'The Erode Arima Society Trust' – Special School for handicapped, Sengodampalayam, Thindal, Erode.

The WIE affinity group members of the IEEE student branch of Kongu Engineering College served as volunteers in conducting this program. The program consisted of various competitions for the physically handicapped students and included: drawing, dance, vocal music, elocution, and fancy dress competition.

The prelims were held earlier and selected students were presented on the day of celebration.

Technical Talk on Developments at the University of Tokyo in field of Underwater Vehicles

A technical talk on the topic "Developments at the University of Tokyo in field of Underwater Vehicles" by Mr. P. V. Unnikrishnan, URA Laboratory, Underwater Technology Research Center, Institute of Industrial Science, University of Tokyo was organized jointly by IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society, India Chapter, IEEE Technology Management Council Madras chapter and IEEE Power & Energy Society, Madras Chapter on 20th Dec 2008 at Hotel Sangeetha, Chennai. The central theme of the lecture was the Remote Operated Vehicles (ROVs).

Mr. K. V. Rupchand Chairman IEEE-TMC & PES Madras chapters welcomed the gathering and explained the relevance of the topic and usefulness of ROVs for investigation under water especially in Hydro Electric Projects. He underlined the need of Management skills for any project involving ROVs. Dr P. Suresh Chander Pal, Chair IEEE Madras Student activities, encouraged the students to take active part in IEEE. Dr M. A. Atmanand, Chairman IEEE-OES India chapter introduced the speaker.

Mr. P. V. Unnikrishnan presented in his lecture the Developments at the University of Tokyo in the field of Underwater Vehicles and Autonomous underwater Vehicle. A number of educative and entertaining video clippings were shown.

The session was attended by professionals from NIOT Chennai, Anna University, and members of IEEE Madras, and others. The meeting ended with vote of thanks

by Mr. K. V. Rupchand Chairman IEEE- TMS & PES Madras chapters.

Report by M.A.Atmanand, Chairman, IEEE-OES, India Council & K.V.Rupchand , Chairman, IEEE-PES, Madras Chapter

CIO event on Leveraging Information Infrastructure for Business Growth

CNBC-TV18, Biztech2.com, IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter and CIO Forum of CSI Chennai had organized an Info-Discovery Series event on "Leveraging Information Infrastructure for Business Growth" at Chennai on 16th Dec 2008.

At this event, leading experts showcased how one can build an Intelligent Information Infrastructure which comprises of a wide range of interdependent components operating to help your business discover new value in your digital information. They speakers also addressed on how an IT Department can become a strategic partner for the overall business, enabling the business to leverage content to maintain a competitive edge, store information efficiently, secure critical assets and protect information. The experts helped to understand how information infrastructure can allow a business to avoid potentially serious risks, reduce the significant costs associated with managing information and fully tap the value contained in this vital asset for driving new business opportunities.

This one day event was targeted for IT Directors, IT Managers, Architects & Administrators, Consultants & Analysts and Application, Network, Systems and Database Planners and educators. Mr. Ivor Soans

Managing Editor - Enterprise Technology CNBC-TV18 & Web18 co-ordinated the event which had a no. of sessions and included:

- Key Note by EMC on "Intelligent Information Infrastructure"
- Presentation by EMC on Storage Innovations & Trends from EMC
- Presentation by EMC on "Improve Business Efficiency with latest Backup technologies"
- Presentation by Cisco on "Building the Datacenter of the Future with Cisco Datacenter Networking"
- Presentation by EMC on "Transactional Content Management for Business applications"
- Presentation by VmWare on "Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery"

- Presentation by Quantum on "Tiered Storage: Multi-tier Strategies for Protecting and Retaining Data"
- Presentation by RSA (Security division of EMC) on " Information Centric Approach to Security
- Presentation by Wipro Infotech on "IT Integration services"

Chairman's message continued

Tiruchirappalli at Technology Park. Dr. Gopinath Ganapathy, Director of the Technology Park co-ordinated the programme with the support of Mrs. Revathy, Mr. Durairaj, Mr. Premkumar, Ms. Krithika, Mr. Nirmal Kumar and Mr. Gopal. Dr. Ponnavaiko, Vice-Chancellor of the Bharathidasan University delivered the valedictory address. 28 faculty members from various colleges participated in the program.

IEEE Madras Section extends financial assistance to all the IEEE student branches by way of co-sponsorship for the conduct of conferences at National and International levels. Many IEEE student branches have already availed this facility and every student branch is welcome to conduct such conferences for the benefit of faculty and students.

The Annual general Body meeting has been scheduled on 11th Feb 2009. I request the members to make a note and attend the AGM.

Dr. S. Salivahanan

Faculty Development Programme on Trends in Computing

As a service to the teaching community in the engineering institutions, IEEE Madras Section in association with Technology Park, Bharathidasan University (BUTP), Tiruchirappalli organized a Faculty Development Programme on "Trends in Computing" with lectures on Autonomic Computing, Pervasive Computing, Open Source Computing, Web Mining, Grid Computing and Image Processing.

Dr. Gopinath Ganapathy, Director, BUTP was the coordinator for this FDP. The instructors for this programme were drawn from Anna University, National Institute of Technology, Computer Society of India and Bharathidasan University.

The programme was conducted during 20-21, Dec 2008 at the Technology Park, Conference Hall. 32 faculty members from various engineering colleges across the state and from Kerala and Karanataka, attended the programme.

Dr. Gopinath Ganapathy, inaugurated this two days FDP. On the first day, 20th Dec, the first session on Pervasive Computing was taken by Mr. Sivaraman, Deputy Director, Center of Excellence, Anna University. The next session on Open Source Computing was handled by Ms. Kalaivani of the project coordinator, Technology Park, Bharathidasan University. The last session was on Web Mining and it was handled by Dr. S. Nicholas, NITT. The Second

day sessions on Autonomic Computing and Text Mining were handled by Dr.Gopinath Ganapathy. The final session on Image Processing was handled by Dr. R. Krishnamoorthy, Anna University.

On the 21st Dec evening, at the valedictory function, Dr Murugesan Ponnavaikko, Vice Chancellor, Bharathidasan University delivered the valedictory address. Dr. Gopinath Ganapathy presided over the function and delivered the closing remarks and the summary of the FDP. A few participants volunteered the feed back with highest regards and appreciation.

The feedback from the participants was encouraging; Most of them had graded the programme as excellent in terms of quality, topics, presentation and hospitality. Some useful suggestions were also provided. Participants suggested that a lab session or simulation based lessons may be introduced in the forthcoming FDPs. Some participants felt that the duration of the programme can be extended and desired it may be conducted in BUTP again.

Report by : Dr. Gopinath Ganapathy, Director, BUTP, Trichy.

Sangamam Project by WIE at St. Xavier's Catholic College of Engineering

With the grace of almighty, we conducted our first IEEE WIE "Sangamam Project" on 4th December 2008 at Government Primary School, Chunkankadai, Kanyakumari District. The program was fully organized by the IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group, St. Xavier's Catholic College of Engineering, Chunkankadai and IEEE Madras Women In Engineering with support from R10 Women in Engineering. The students of 1st to 5th standard were engaged from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

The welcome address was given by Mr. JIJO, IEEE member. Following him, Miss. M. P. Nageswari, Chairman, IEEE Student Branch gave an introduction about IEEE. Mrs. A. Subitha, WIE Faculty Advisor gave an introduction about our Sangamam project. Mr.C.John Moses, IEEE SB Counselor, Mr. A. Darwin Jose Raju, IEEE Co-ordinator, Mrs. Lalitha Bai, Headmistress, Govt. Primary School, Chunkankadai felicitated the function.

Numerous competitions such us Rhymes, Singing competition, Quiz, Drawing competitions were held on the occasion. It includes:

- For I std.   -   Rhymes Competition
- For II std.   -   Singing Competition
- For III std. -   Elocution Competition
- For IV std. -   Drawing Competition
- For V std   -   Quiz Competition.

In the elocution competition the students talked about our national leaders. Quiz competition for V Standard consisted of two rounds. Preliminary round was the written test. In this screening round each participant were given 20 questions. Out of 22 students 8 were

short listed for the next round. In the second round there were 4 teams, 2 members each. Points were given for each round and the top scorers bagged the prizes. During the afternoon session we conducted surprise events such as Memory Power Contest, Picture Joining etc.

The winners of the events were awarded certificates by Mr. C. John Moses, IEEE SB Counselor, Mr. A. Darwin Jose Raju, IEEE Co-ordinator, Mrs. A. Subitha, WIE Faculty Advisor. Really these gaming proved to be a real time fun for the participants. Members of IEEE nurtured it by their high spirit of participation and team co-operation. The function came to a formal closure with Ms. Lakshmi Pratheepa, WIE Secretary thanking everyone who made the event, a successful one.

We are very thankful to the college correspondent Rev. Fr. Dr. V. Hilarius, Principal Dr. S. Joseph Sekhar, and the mentor Mrs. Ramalatha Marimuthu, IEEE Madras WIE for the support and encouragement given for conducting this Sangamam Project.

Report by: M. P. Nageswari, Chairman, IEEE Student Branch

Visit our Website
www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras

IEEE MAS LINK
SRA Systems

Info Contest

H.R. Mohan

Chairman, IEEE CS, Madras Chapter
Editor, IEEE MAS LINK
AVP (Systems), The Hindu, Chennai

This is the ninth contest under Info Contest – an ICT quiz, a regular column in our newsletter LINK. The members are encouraged to participate in the contest and win a prize. Answers to the contest questions can ONLY be sent by email following the guidelines provided at the end of the questions. TWO lucky winners who answer to maximum no. of questions and early (selected by lot if multiple entries qualify) will receive an award of Rs. 500/= each, sponsored by SRA Systems.

Info Contest – 0901

This contest has four sections A, B, C & D having five questions each. The number in bracket at the end of the questions denotes the no. of characters in the answer string.

A.   Identify the terms which are defined below.

A1.   A file format, commonly used for spreadsheets and databases, which uses a comma to separate the stored data fields.

A2.   Movable light spot on a VDU used to indicate the position of the next character

A3.   Used in engineering and mathematics to mean a million million

A4.   A unit of measurement that can be used to compare electrical power levels or sound-wave intensities.

A5.   Character used to denote the boundaries of a sequence

B.   Identify the company / product / magazine / service from the Tag Line.

B1.   The future is fusion

B2.   Powered by intellect. Driven by values

B3.   Taking You Farther

B4.   Discover your web

B5.   The Business of Infotech

C.   Provide the Answer.

C1.   Who was the first to use the @ symbol as an operator for routing e-mail?

C2.   Name the IBM's new Internet-based collaboration and social networking service

C3.   Google Indic Transliteration is available for Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and ———

C4.   Hexley is the mascot of which UNIX OS

C5.   After the Satyam scam, which IT major has replaced it as the fourth largest IT company in India

D.   Fill in the blanks / Provide the answer.

D1.   Shelfari is a community of ——— lovers

D2.   Google: Checkout = eBay : ———

D3.   A common computer error caused by a user who has "no idea about what they are doing" is know as an ——— error

D4.   Intel often named its CPU projects after ———

D5.   MAIT is the association of ———

Guidelines to submit the answers to the Info Contest by email.

In the Subject,

•   Write the Contest No. (Info Contest – 0901) in the subject line.

In the body of the mail,

•   In the first line, write the contest No: Info Contest – 0901

•   In the second line, write your membership no.

•   In the third line, write your email id.

•   In the fourth line, write your name.

•   In the fifth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section A, separated by comma.

•   In the sixth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section B, separated by comma.

•   In the seventh line, write the answers to the five questions of Section C, separated by comma.

•   In the eighth line, write the answers to the five questions of Section D, separated by comma.

As the evaluation of the entries is automated, pl. ensure the above guidelines are followed.

Email the answers to: hrmohan.infocontest@gmail.com

The last date to receive the answers by email is 5th Feb 2009.

Info Contest – 0812
Answers & Winners

Answers:

Binary, Blogosphere, Buffer, Chip, Compiler
Sify, Tulip, Syntel, Dialogic,Voice & Data
Raman Roy, MTNL, Nandan Nilekani, Spam, BPO industries
Opetron, Bhuvan, Silverlight, Found, XboxCOnsole / TiVo – Digital Video Recorder

Winners:

Mr. R. Nitin Balajee
Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering
Mem No. 90234625
Email: rnb24688@gmail.com

Mr. V. Sathya Narayana
Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering
Mem No. : 90422869
Email: sathya@ieee.org

Both the above will be awarded a prize of Rs. 500/= each. LINK acknowledges with thanks the sponsorship of the awards by SRA Systems (www.srasystems.com).

Section Membership as on 15th January 2009

Life Senior	-	6
Fellow	-	1
Life Fellow	-	1
Life Member	-	3
Senior Member	-	73
Member	-	1334
Affliate	-	33
Associate	-	117
Graduate Student Member	-	650
Student Member	-	4582
Total	-	**6,800**

National Conference on "Innovations in Electrical, Electronics and Control Systems" (IEECONS-2009)

20-21, March, 2009 at Coimbatore

Organised by

Dept of Electrical and Electronics Engineering,

Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore

In association with

IEEE - KCT Students Chapter

Call for Papers & Registration

Important dates: Extended abstract submission: *16th February 2009*; Intimation of selection: *27th February, 2009*; Submission of full paper (final manuscript) with Registration: *9th March, 2009.*

Contact Address: The Convener, IEECONS-2009, Department of Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore – 641 006. Email: ieecons2009@yahoo.com

National Conference on VLSI, Embedded Systems, Signal Processing and Communication Technologies (NCVESCOM'09)

26-27, Mar 2009 at Chennai

Organised by

Dept. of Electronics and Communication Engineering
Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology
Vinayaka Missions University

In association with

IEEE Madras Section
IEEE Communications Society, Madras Chapter
IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter
Broadcast Engineering Society, Madras Chapter
IETE Madras Chapter

Call for Papers & Registration

Important dates: Submissions of full length paper: 23.02.2009; Intimation of acceptance: 02.03.2009; Registration: 10.03.2009; Dates of Conference: 26th and 27th March 2009

Address for Correspondence: Mr. D.Vijendra Babu**,** Organising Secretary, NCVESCOM'09, Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology, Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Paiyanoor - 603104.

Ph: 044 – 27243809 ; Mobile: 09443538245; Website:www.avit.ac.in; Email: ncvescom2009@yahoo.in

NCOSS-09: National Conference on Open Source Software

May 25th - 26th, 2009 at Mumbai, India

Organized by

C-DAC, Mumbai

Supported by

IEEE Computer Society, Mumbai and Chennai Chapters
Computer Society of India, Div II on Software & SIG-OSS

Call For Papers

Important dates: Submission of papers: February 15, 2009; Acceptance intimation: March 15, 2009; Camera ready due: April 15, 2009; Tutorial Proposals due: March 15, 2009; Tutorial Acceptance intimation: April 15, 2009.

Contact details: NCOSS Conference Secretariat, CDAC-Mumbai (formerly NCST), Rain Tree Marg, Sector-7, Near Bharti Vidyapeeth, Opp. Kharghar Railway Station, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 400614. Maharashtra, India. E-mail: ncoss@cdacmumbai.in Web: http://ncoss.cdacmumbai.in

Phone: +91 - 22 – 27565303 :: Fax: +91 - 22 - 27560004 (on request)

International Conference on Intelligent Agent & Multi Agent Systems - IAMA2009

22 - 24 July 2009, Chennai, India

Organized by

Aarupadai Veedu Inst. of Technology, Chennai
Vinayaga Missions University

In association with

IEEE Madras Section
IEEE Computer Society - Madras Chapter
Computer Society of India - Division II on Software

Call for Papers & Registration

Important dates: Abstract Submission: 14 Mar 2009; Full Paper Submission: 14 Apr 2009; Paper Acceptance Notification: 14 May 2009; Camera-ready copy submission: 26 Jun 2009: Pre-conference Tutorials: 22 Jul 2009; Main Conference: 23-24 Jul 2009.

Further details please contact: Prof. R.Ponnusamy, Program Chair – IAMA2009, Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology, Vinayaka Nagar, Old Mahabalipuram Road, Paiyanoor, Chennai - 603 104. Phone: 044 - 27443801 / 04 / 08 / 09; Fax: 044 – 27443800; Website: http://www.iama09.org; E-mail: rponnusamy@acm.org

IEEE - News, Awards & Deadlines

Dr. P. Suresh Chander Pal
Student Activity Chair,
IEEE Madras Section &
Executive Vice-Chair,
IEEE India Council.

The following news is published for the information of our members, including the student members, for their active participation and availing the benefits.

Online Portal Planned for Engineering Students Seeking Projects

Engineering students faced with the difficulty of locating projects from companies can now access them online and consult with mentors via the Internet. A project space is expected to be set up by September through the Board of Information Technology Education Standards, a non-profit group created by the Karnataka government in India. Once students are given an ID and password, they can enter the portal and gain access to lists of available projects from various companies, with electronic mentors on hand to offer guidance.

IEEE Foundation Announces 2009 Grant Deadlines

The IEEE Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the IEEE, is now accepting 2009 grant applications for new and innovative projects. Committed to improving the technological literacy of society from childhood through adulthood, the IEEE Foundation awarded more than US$360,000 in grants during 2008 to projects supporting the advancement of the engineering field. During 2009, unsolicited applications will be accepted from IEEE units and other organizations working in areas of relevance and importance to the IEEE and its membership. Projects should achieve one or more of the following objectives:

* Improve primary and secondary math and science learning

* Increase active interest in engineering and science

* Preserve the history of IEEE-associated technologies

* Tap the technological expertise of IEEE members

Application deadlines: 24 April for June Consideration & 11 September for November Consideration

All applications will be considered for funding by the IEEE Foundation Board of Directors. Questions should be directed to the IEEE Foundation Administrator at +1 732 981 3435 or foundation-office@ieee.org.

IEEE Change the World President's Challenge

Are you making a positive impact on the world? To help celebrate 125 years of engineering the future, IEEE is hosting a global competition for students who develop unique solutions to real-world problems using engineering, science, computing and leadership skills to benefit their community or humanity. Winners could walk away with up to US$10,000 and a trip to the 2009 IEEE Honors Ceremony in Los Angeles, California, USA. The competition runs until 28 February 2009.

Call for IEEE Award Nominations

Nominees are being sought for a no. of 2010 IEEE medals, awards, recognitions, and prize papers. The deadline for the IEEE Board of Directors to receive nominations is 1 July 2009.

For more information, visit http://www.ieee.org/about/awards or contact IEEE Awards Activities, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331 USA; tel.: +1 732 562 3844; fax: +1 732 981 9010; e-mail: awards@ieee.org.

Guest Lecture on Communication Skills at Kongu Engineering College

A guest lecture on "Communication Skills" by Mrs. Karthika Lakshmanan, Director, Astute IT Services Pvt Ltd, Zeal speak easy, Erode was organized at the Kongu Engineering College on 2nd Jan 2009.

Prof .K.Narayanan HOD, EIE Dept., KEC welcomed the gathering. Mr. S. Sathishkumar, final year IEEE student member introduced the chief guest Mrs. Karthika Lakshmanan.

Mrs. Karthika Lakshmanan spoke about the recent recession that the world is facing and how it's going to impact the industry. She opined that the recruitment criteria will be tougher as the industry is undergoing this recession and said that communication skills would play an important role in recruitment.

She explained in detail about the various aspects of communication skills. Body language, listening skills, fluency and simplicity are the various facets of communication skills. She also briefed on how to develop these skills and master it.

She also conducted an activity for the students to evaluate their listening skills. Students were given a pamphlet with a song containing blanks. And then the song was played. How far students could fill the blanks was a challenge. This activity was enjoyed by the students.

Mrs. Karthika Lakshmanan touched upon multimedia and advertisement industries and the opportunities in that area.

At the end of the talk, vote of thanks was given by Mr. Pratiek Jayker, Treasurer IEEE student branch.

National conference on
POWER ELECTRONICS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS
19-21, Mar 2009, Chennai

Theme: Wind, Fuel Cells and Solar Energy Systems

Organised by

SSN College of Engineering

In association with

IEEE Madras Section & ISA South India Section

For details, Pl. contact

Dr. RANGANATH MUTHU
Chairman, PEARES-09,
Tele-Fax: (044) - 27474844 / 45 / 46
Email: peares09@ssn.edu.in
Website: www.ssn.edu.in/peares09

ICWIS-09: International Conference on Web Intelligent Systems

An International Conference on Web Intelligence Systems (ICWIS09) was organized during 8-10, Jan 2009 by Rajalakshmi Engineering College, Chennai with the support of IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter, Div II on Software of the Computer Society of India and its Madras Chapter and the Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management, Trivandrum.

Inauguration:

On the first day – 8th Jan 2009, at the inauguration of the conf. Dr. Subbiah , the principal, welcomed the gathering and the chair person of the college Dr. Thangam Meganathan delivered the presidential address. Mr. P.W. C. Davidar, Secretary, I.T. department, Government of Tamil Nadu, in his inaugural address said that Internet has become a common man's tool and with the increasing number of people using the Internet to access information, it has now become difficult to maintain web applications and in this context, conf. of this type is highly relevant. He outlined how web-based applications can be effectively and efficiently used to connect all the government hospitals and employment exchanges. He pointed out pointed that web intelligence paves way for excellent e-governance in the State and cited the example of Common Service Centres using the web technology (Government plans to establish about 5500 centres by mid 2009) that are becoming a viable option for small scale entrepreneurs and those in the rural areas. Dr. K.R. Srivatsan, Pro Vice- Chancellor IGNOU and the Program Chair of the conference while presenting the conf. highlights and programme details said that Web is not just a technology, but it is a culture and added that the web intelligent system that we have today is the result of tremendous academic research in universities. Advisory committee members,

Mr. H. R. Mohan, Chairman, Div II of Computer Society of India and chairman IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter, Associate Vice President, The Hindu and Mr. K. Jayaramakrishnan, Chairman, CSI, Chennai Chapter and Vice President, Tata Concultancy Services offered felicitations. Dr. Sheila Anand, Program Co-Chair and Dean Research, REC Chennai, while delivering the vote of thanks, thanked the members of the various committees and the invited speakers for their support in organizing the conference of such a magnitude with participation across the country and abroad.

Pre-conference Tutorials:

The inauguration was followed by two pre-conf. tutorials. The first tutorial on "Making Your Web Application Intelligent Using Web X.0" was offered by Dr San Murgesan, Professor, Multimedia University, Malaysia Dr.Ranjini Parthasarathy, Prof CEG, Anna University chaired the session and summed up at the end. The second tutorial on "The Role of Semantics in Next-Generation Online Virtual World-based Retail Store" was offered by Dr. C. Anantaram, TCS Innovation Labs, Delhi. This session was chaired by Mr. H. R. Mohan, AVP(Systems), The Hindu. Both the tutorials were highly informative, interesting and thought provoking. The delegates enthusiastically participated in the ensuing discussions on the topics.

Keynote Addresses and Invited Talks:

The first day of the main conf. started with a keynote address by Dr San Murugesan, Professor, Multimedia University, Malaysia who continued with his previous day's topic on web X.0 and spoke on "Web@15: Where is the Web Heading and How can We Harness its Immense Potential?"

Dr. Ganesh Ramakrishnan from IBM, Bangalore, in his invited talk, dealt with "Scalable techniques for Information extraction" and spoke about the development and deployment of rule based information extraction systems.

The next invited talk was by Dr A Kumaran, Head, Multilingual Systems Group, Microsoft Research India, Bangalore and was on "Water, water, Everywhere...: Data for Computational Linguistics Research …" in which he dealt on "linguistic data needs and its availability" explaining natural language processing, conversion, algorithms and the issues involved.

Dr. K R Srivatsan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU delivered a talk on "Integrating Sensors and Information flow over distributed Geographical Locations". He explained about real world applications of web intelligence in the field of geographical locations over WebGIS Framework.

Dr. Padmini Srinivasan, Professor, University of IOWA, in her presentation on "Mining the Web for Entities, Relationships and More – ", explained about textual mining, its relationship, algorithms and applications.

The second day of the conference started with a keynote address by Dr. Prasad Ram, Director & Head, R&D, Google, India. He emphasized on the need for democratization of web information and tools and also spoke about effective utilization of social networking and open source systems. He invited participants and student to come forward and participate in open source projects.

This was followed an invited talk by Dr. T.V. Geetha of Anna University on "Semantics and Ontology Engineering". She introduced the concepts of Ontology and Semantics and also explained about techniques available for combining Ontologies. She also explained other key terms like taxonomical hierarchy and the role of Ontology on the web.

Mr. Jayanth Chiriyath Kurian, Research Staff, National University, Singapore, in his talk on "Research Trend analysis using Institutional repositories" explained how methodologies like co-word analysis can be combined to develop award winning software based on open source platform.

Dr. Ravi Dakshanamoorthy, Chief Architect, System of Systems Project, Boeing, Seattle, USA, spoke on "Net Enabled Service Oriented Architecture".

Paper Presentations & Proceedings:

ICWIS received over 170 papers of which 15% were from overseas and the rest from all over the country. An expert paper review group screened the papers and 26 were selected for presentation and inclusion in the conf. proceedings. In the paper presentation sessions, fourteen papers were presented in person, highlighting the various aspects of the research in the areas of the conf. theme. The bound volume of the conf. proceedings was brought out by the Narosa Publishing House. Few copies are available for sale. You may contact sheila.anand@gmail.com or hrmohan@gmail.com

Validictory

Dr. K. Sarukesi, Vice Chancellor, Hindustan University presided over the valedictory function. Prof. V Ramachandran, Vice-Chancellor, Anna University, Tiruchirappalli was the Chief Guest and delivered the valedictory address. Mr. Purushothaman, Regional Director, Nasscom, Chennai, was the Guest of Honor and addressed the gathering. Prof. Govindarajulu, Dean CSE/IT Computer Studies, REC, delivered the vote of thanks. The conference was a grand success and the invited speakers and the delegate congratulated the organizers on the excellent arrangements. The conference had thrown open the future challenges and opportunities to explore as a technical community in the field of Web Intelligence and for the knowledge and technology empowerment of the global society.

Presentations on "Open Source: myths, facts and opportunities" and "Open Source Community Development"

The IEEE computer Society Madras Chapter and the Chennai Chapter of the Computer Society of India in association with Essentia Soft Solutions Pvt Ltd organized two presentations in the area of Open Source on 17th Dec 2008.

Dr. S. Salivahanan, Chairman, IEEE Madras Section welcomed the gathering. Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE CS outlined the importance of the open source and the initiatives of the CSI & IEEE CS in promoting the OS. Mr. N. Ramakrishnan, Essentia Soft Solutions Pvt Ltd introduced the speakers.

In the first presentaion on "Open Source: myths, facts and opportunities", Mr. Jordi Mas, director of community development, Openbravo, an open ERP firm, demystified the Open Source with facts. Mr. Jordi Mas said that while the rights to the development, distribution and knowledge of proprietary software is available only to the manufacturer, in the case of open source software, the rights are available to everyone and the user is free to take the software to another level. He then went on describing how Openbravo used community development in their business model. He said that instead of direct sales and marketing, they allowed for free downloads so that customers could get a chance to use their product and come back to them with their actual requirements so that the product could be refined with additional features.

In the second presentation on "Open Source Community Development", Mr.Rajesh Iyer, vice-president, IT, Essentia Soft Solutions, which develops platforms for open source communities, said that the communities work on the principle of meritocracy. According to him, there is a critical mass of like-minded members who build a product together. However, too many coders do not spoil the programme as there are commonplace rules and checks and balances which the community abides by. If you write a module that does not work as claimed, others will find out and post comments on the community. The platform provides tools such as discussion boards, chat forums and versioning software. Sourceforge.net (https://sourceforge.net/) is a popular site that assists collaborative open source software development.

Mr. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter in his address said that a platform for open source community development, a place where people can come together to create and promote open source software, will be launched in early 2009 in collaboration with C-DAC (Centre for Development of Advanced Computing) and NIC (National Informatics Centre). Mr. N. Ramakrishnan of Essentia Soft Solutions, voulteered that the platform would be provided and supported by them.

At the end of these presentations which were attended by over 100 professionals from industry & academia, Mr. M. R. Rajagopalan, Director, CDAC, Chennai presented a memento to Mr. Jordi Mas and Mr. Krishna Prasad, State Information Officer, NIC, Tamil Nadu presented a memnto to Mr. Rajesh Iyer. Mr. S. Ramasamy, Vice-Chairman, CSI Chennai Chapter proposed the vote of thanks.

Visit the Gold Affinity Group at
http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras/gold/index.html

Visit Industry Applications Society at
http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras/ias/

Presentation on e-Procurement and Materials Management in Railways

A meeting on the topic **"e-Procurement and Materials Management in Railways"** by mr. B. Srinivasa, Sr. EDP manager, Southern Railways was organized jointly by the IEEE Computer Society Madras Chapter, IEEE Technology Management Council Madras Chapter, IEEE Power & Energy Society, Madras Chapter and the Chennai Chapter of the Computer Society of India on 27th Dec 2008.

Mr. K. Jayaramakrishnan, Chairman, CSI Chennai Chapter welcomed the gathering. Mr. K.V. Rupchand, Chairman of TMC & PES while introducing the speaker, briefed about the activities of TMC and PES and stressed the need for effective materials management in organization which accounts for a significant portion of the overall cost of production/services.

Mr. Srinivasan, started his presentation with a brief profile of Indian Railways. Some of the highlights include: 155 years old organization with 14 lakh employees; Asias's largest and Worlds second largest Railway network under a single management; Serves more than 18 million passengers per day; Carries more than 2 million tonnes of freight traffic per day; Operations carried out in 300 railway yards and 700 repair shops; Gross Traffic Revenue in 2007-08 Rs.72,755 Crores.

Mr. Srinivasan said that in the railways the total purchases for maintenance was Rs.18,561 crores in 2006-07 and is expected to be more than Rs.20000 crores in 2008-09 and it constitutes around 34% of the total revenue expenditure and ranks as second largest expenditure item next to staff expenditure and includes more than 1.8 lakh materials components of which 96.8% of the purchases are indigenous.

He said that 95% of the purchases (0.2 million purchases in no) are through open tender followed by 4% through limited tender from approved agencies like RDSO, OEM and their authorised dealers and the rest 1% on single tender mainly for spares through OEMs. The inventory management system at Railways is very efficient and 96% materials availability is ensured with a reasonable inventory turnover ratio of 13%. He added that more than Rs.1900 crores is being realised every year through the disposal of scrap (surplus, obselete and industrial waste) through e-auction.

His presentation on the e-Procurement, e-Auction and the Integrated Materials Management Systems at the Southern Railway was elaborate with detailed screen shots of various steps/modules and illustrations.

Mr. Srinivasan also outlined the newer initiatives such as home grown Enterprise Resources Planning Applications and the Indian Railways Portal under implementation. He lso talked about the applications of IT in areas such as CRM, Maintenance, Business Support Systems, Data Processing, Data Capturing and the introduction of mobile, web, RFID and biometric solutions in strategic areas.

The talk, in essence presented, a gist of how Indian Railways is being managed by deploying IT in an effective manner. The participants interacted with the speaker and enjoyed the talk well.

At the end of the presentation, Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter presented a memento to the speaker Mr. Srinivasan. Mr. S. Ramasamy, Vice-Chairman, CSI Chennai Chapter proposed the vote of thanks.

Invited talk at Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering

A s a part of IEEE student branch activities at Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering, Sriperumbudur, a guest lecture was organized on 12th January 2009. The talk "On Chip networks for Stacked 3D architectures" was given by Dr. Vijaykrishnan Narayanan, Professor, Dept. of Computer Science, Pennsylvania State University, U.S.A.

This lecture was organized as a part of ongoing series in the college wherein distinguished alumni of SVCE are invited to share their valuable experiences and research activities with the students. Dr. Vijaykrishnan Narayanan was a Gold medalist from the University of Madras and an Alumnus from the 1993 batch of CSE from Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering.

The programme began with a welcome address and introduction of the speaker by Mr. Nitin Balajee R, Chairperson, IEEE-SVCE student branch. In the lecture followed, Dr. Vijay

Narayanan dealt in detail the various technologies employed in the creation of on chip networks with stacked 3D architectures. The talk was highly interactive and informative. Prof. R. Ramachandran, Principal, SVCE, presented a memento to the speaker.

The lecture was attended by faculty members, IEEE Student branch members and the final year students of ECE and CSE departments.

Workshop on
Data Warehousing, Data Mining and Business Intelligence
(20-21 Feb 2009)

Organized by

School of Computing Sciences, VIT University

In association with

IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter and
Computer Society of India, Division II (Software) & Division V (Edu. & Research)

Aim and Objectives: The purpose of this workshop is to provide a professional forum for industry and academic researchers from around the world to present their state-of-the-art accomplishments, share real-life scenarios, and explore future directions. The topics to be covered include the following: Data Warehouse Design Issues; Data Mining Techniques; Business Intelligence; Applications and Case studies and Research Directions

Resource Persons: - Prof. Uwe Wloka, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Applied Sciences, Dresden, Germany, Prof. Gopal Gupta, Monash University, Australia, and domain experts from academia and industry.

Target Audience: Faculty members, researchers and students, IT Professionals, Database Administrators, CIOs and other Decision Makers from Public and Large Organizations.

Registration Fee: Participants from Industry: Rs. 3000; Academia: Rs 2000; Students: Rs 1000; CSI/IEEE Members will be offered a discount of 25% on the above registration fee. Accommodation in the university campus will be provided on request and chargeable basis

For further details: Please visit www.vit.ac.in or contact: Mr. K. Govinda. Asst. Prof., School of Computer Sciences, VIT University. Email: kgovinda@vit.ac.in

SRISHTI '09 at PSG College of Technology

Call for Participation

One more milestone in the history of IEEE. SRISHTI '09 to be conducted during 21 – 22, Feb 2009 at PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore.

SRISHTI is a national level technical symposium organized by IEEE Student Branch at PSG College of Technology. It is a two day techno-managerial extravaganza as well. The rage is packed with a wide range of events for all categories of students and would include: Tathva - Paper Presentations; Ideas; Dhruva - Hardware Project; Project X - Software Project; Vaishya – Virtual Stock Market; Math Modeling; Tell Me Why; Circuit Designing and Debugging; Mindstorm – C Debugging; Online Quiz; Vigyan - General Quiz; Diablo - Web Designing; Chanakya - Best Manager; Breakeven - B-Plan; Workshops; Guest Lectures; Gaming Arena; Samhitha - Treasure Hunt; Online Programming; I,Robo – Robotics Contest; I,Movie – Movie Making Contest and lots more exciting stuff…

To know more about SRISHTI and participate in SRISHTI '09 logon to www.srishtipsg.org

Grand Challenges for Engineering

The National Academy of Engineering Committee on Engineering's Grand Challenges has identified the following 14 areas awaiting engineering solutions in the 21st century.

- Make solar energy economical
- Provide energy from fusion
- Develop carbon sequestration methods
- Manage the nitrogen cycle
- Provide access to clean water
- Restore and improve urban infrastructure
- Advance health informatics
- Engineer better medicines
- Reverse-engineer the brain
- Prevent nuclear terror
- Secure cyberspace
- Enhance virtual reality
- Advance personalized learning
- Engineer the tools of scientific discovery

To read more about these, pl. visit http://www.engineeringchallenges.org/cms/8996/9221.aspx

A Summit (two-day event) is being organized on March 2-3, 2009 in Durham, NC, drawing leading engineering, science, humanities and social science scholars from across the nation to articulate the challenges and opportunities of the science, technology, and policy related to each National Academy of Engineering Grand Challenge and proposed solutions.

To read about the great engineering achievements of the last century alone, pl. visit http://www.greatachievements.org/

IEEE
MADRAS SECTION

THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS INC.
MADRAS SECTION

Dear Members,

The Annual General Body Meeting of the IEEE Madras Section is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, the **11ᵗʰ of February 2009** at 6.00 p.m. at Oorvasi Hall, **Hotel Palmgrove**, No:13, Kodambakkam High Road, Chennai – 600 034. The meeting will be followed by dinner. Kindly make it convenient to attend the same.

──── PROGRAMME ────

- Welcome Address- Chairman
- Approval of the Minutes of the Previous AGM.
- Presentation of   - Secretary's Report
                     - Treasurer's Report

- Installation of the new Office Bearers
- Appointment of Auditors
- Vote of Thanks

Secretary's Report & Treasurer's Report are posted on the web-page and can be downloaded
(www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras)

Dr. T. Thyagarajan, Secretary
IEEE Madras Section, Room No: 3, ISTE Professional Center, Gandhi Mandapam Road, Chennai – 600 025
Ph: 2442 3939 Cell : 93823 28776   Email ID: ieeemas@eth.net , ieeemas@vsnl.net

Visit our Website
www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras

Posted On : 28ᵗʰ January 2009
Posted at: Egmore RMS (Patrika)

FROM:

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