IEEE Winnipeg Section Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2015
University of Manitoba Engineering Information Technology Complex (EITC) – E2 - 361, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5:30 PM

Attendance: Puyan Mojabi (PM), Dario Schor (DS), Trevor Brown (TB), Ian Jeffrey (IJ), Witold Kinsner (WK), Nozhan Bayat (NB), Chaitanya Narendra (CN), Eric Karr (EK), Haider Al-Saidi (HA), Mike Sefton (MS), Kyle Boch (KB)

Regrets: Steven Howell (SH), Nariman Firoozy (NF), Dave Kemp

CALLED TO ORDER at 17:32

1. Approval of the agenda (DS/NB) Carried.

2. Approval of the minutes of the June meeting (CN/DS) Carried.

3. Chair Report (PM)
   a. We have received the Section rebate, SH will double-check the report
   b. Chapter Chair Meetings (CCMs)
      • IEEE sponsors Chapter Chairs to attend CCMs, usually held at conferences
      • The Waves Chapter has been taking advantage of this
      • PM encourages Chapter Chairs to inquire

4. Vice-Chair Report (DS)
   a. DS will send IJ information on Capstone awards

5. Treasurer Report (SH sent regrets)
   a. Will discuss banking issues at next meeting with SH
      • Concentration banking will be discussed
      • WK would like to see a financial plan from SH

6. Secretary Report (TB)
   a. Nothing to report from ICF
   b. GRSS-AES Chapter update
      • NF is attending the International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium and will meet with other Chapter Chairs
      • NF will discuss cost-sharing options to bring speakers to Winnipeg

7. President-Elect Update (WK)
   a. Attended a Board of Directors meeting (occurs 3 times a year)
      • IEEE is developing new initiatives
        i. Planning on talking about the important topics in a future Section meeting
      • IEEE is developing “Watson for Engineers”, will be officially announced within 6 months
      • IEEE is working to improve collaboration between practitioners and researchers with “Collaboratec”
        i. A trial version is available now
8. IEEE Canada Foundation Report – See Secretary’s report

9. Chapter and Affinity Group Reports
   a. Communications – Not in attendance
      • Dr. Alfa gave a talk with 30 people in attendance
   b. Computer and Computational Intelligence (WK)
      • Planning a talk for September
         i. WK approached people in computer science to join
      • Upcoming IEEE Xtreme Programming Challenge
         i. Would like to include students from Red River College
         ii. HA would like to be involved in the preparation
         iii. There will be one tutorial before the competition
   c. EMBS – Not in attendance
   d. EduManCom – Not in attendance
   e. PES (MS)
      • PES Luncheon was held on June 14th
      • Next luncheon will be in September
      • WK would like to see an analysis of why the PES luncheons are so successful
      i. MS will investigate
   f. Waves (PM)
      • Upcoming DL talk on Friday, July 17th 2015, 10:30 am, Prof. Levent Gürel
      i. Will be on fast CEM methods for solving large-scale EM problems
   g. RobConIM – Not in attendance
   h. GRSS-AES – (NF sent regrets)
      • See Secretary’s report
   i. YP (DS)
      • The Winnipeg Public Library has asked YP to hold three more Arduino workshops over the next year
      i. Open to the general public
      • 34 people attended the BBQ
   j. Life Members – Not in attendance
   k. WIE – Not in attendance
      • PM will try to connect with Jennifer Jessop
      • WK suggests that we could send welcome letters to new members
   l. TISP (WK)
      • Working on a small teachers workshop
      • WK would like to include teachers and UMARS in HAM radio activities
   m. Newsletter – Not in attendance

10. Reports from student branch chairs
    a. University of Manitoba (EK)
       • Registration with IEEE Canada has been approved
       • UMIEEE has been approved to be in the upcoming issue of the “Engenda”
       • EK wants to purchase a domain name
          i. EK wants to apply for an UMIEEE credit card to keep the domain name for multiple years
          ii. Other groups have a credit card that could be used (such as YP)
          iii. IJ: Talk with Andre from UMES to see how they pay for the domain
       • EK will meet with WK to discuss transparency of UMIEEE
• UMIEEE is applying for Google Apps for Business for continuity purposes
• The MLC has been improved significantly with the upgrade grant
  i. KB will talk with Brent Schellenberg about a newsletter article
• IJ suggests that UMIEEE could help advertise for IEEE Xtreme in the fall
b. Lakehead University – Not in attendance
• PM will try to contact Lakehead and Assiniboine representatives
• WK would like to see UMIEEE set up a teleconference
• HA: Joint projects between groups could help
c. Assiniboine College – Not in attendance
d. Red River College – Not in attendance
• PM could go to RRC and talk with students, HA can arrange a meeting
• RRC orientation is on August 31st, and HA would like to promote the benefits and community aspects of IEEE to the new students
  i. Promote IEEE Xtreme
  ii. HA suggests that the Section could have a booth at the orientation from 1-4 pm
     a. The RRC student group would be the ideal candidates if available
     b. A video demonstrating the benefits of the Section would be useful
     c. UMIEEE can generate content for the video and IJ will put them in contact with a semi-professional production team
     d. IEEE International has media content that can be used
     e. The video could also be used to promote engineering at high schools
  iii. HA will provide PM and EK with a brief summary of the event
• “Innovation and Education” conference will be held in Winnipeg in March 2016 (tentative)
  i. HA would like the IEEE Winnipeg Section to be involved with the planning
     a. The conference is specifically focusing on the disconnect between high school and primary education of information technology
  ii. Education society has DLs that could be invited to speak at the conference
     a. PM will try to arrange this with Dr. Ferens
  iii. HA would like someone from IEEE to be on the conference committee

11. New business
   a. Section-wide event theme discussion
      • We need to determine the available funds
      • The Signal Processing Society will not cover DL expenses since we don’t have a SP Chapter in the Winnipeg Section
      • We need to determine the goal of the event
   b. Update from WK
      • Working to establish a SIGHT Chapter and an Eta Kappa Nu group

ADJOURNED (IJ/NB) at 18:57