

## IEEE Winnipeg Section Meeting Minutes – September 15, 2015

University of Manitoba Engineering Information Technology Complex (EITC) – E2 - 361, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5:30 PM

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**Attendance:** Puyan Mojabi (PM), Trevor Brown (TB), Ian Jeffrey (IJ), Witold Kinsner (WK), Eric Karr (EK), Kyle Boch (KB), Matt McQuaker (MM), Brent Schellenberg (BS), Chaitanya Narendra (CN), Nasim Abdollahi (NA), Nariman Firoozy (NF), Nozhan Bayat (NB), Steven Howell (SH), Ekram Hossain (EH)

**Regrets:** Dario Schor, Mike Sefton, Sam Kovnats

### CALLED TO ORDER at 17:30

1. Approval of the agenda (NF/NB) Carried.
2. Approval of the minutes of the July meeting (CN/NB) Carried.
3. Chair Report (PM)
  - a. IEEE Canada Fall Meeting will be held on Oct. 23-25 in London, Ontario
    - Deadline to submit activity reports to PM was Sept. 7
      - i. PM is still missing many reports, please send reports by Sept. 18
    - It would be useful for SH to attend the meeting
      - i. Motion to approve 50% of SH's expenses to travel to the meeting (IJ/NB)  
Carried
  - b. President of IEEE Canada wants to promote senior membership
    - PM will contact eligible members and encourage them to apply
  - c. PM contacted student branch chairs from 3 branches (other than U of M), no response
    - Will continue to inquire
4. Vice-Chair Report (DS sent regrets)
5. Treasurer Report (SH)
  - a. Concentration banking update
    - We are already have a concentration banking account
      - i. This is where the section rebate was deposited
    - Majid Ostadrahimi and Shaahin Filizadeh are the signing authorities for the concentration banking account
      - i. This will be changed soon to SH and DS
    - SH wants to move our operation account to concentration banking to simplify things for next treasurer (this was approved in a previous motion)
    - WK suggests that SH prepare a report summarizing the benefits and drawbacks of the different banking options
    - We could revisit Majid's investment plan and also come up with new investment options
    - PM agrees that the reporting process is extremely difficult without concentration banking, and moving the operational account will simplify things
6. Secretary Report

- a. Vice-chair report
    - Not received
  - b. ICF report from Dave Kemp
    - See attached report
  - c. PES Chapter
    - Mike Sefton provided a few reasons explaining why the PES events have been very successful
      - i. Most attendees work at the same company (Hydro) and talk with each other and remind each other of the event
      - ii. PES has a significant number of people on their mailing list, and their events are often directly related to the interests of the attendees
      - iii. Manitoba Hydro encourages employees to attend professional development events
      - iv. The events are not only professional development opportunities but also have networking opportunities
      - v. PES tries to choose diverse topics that will attract people
    - IJ suggests that if we want to attract more people from industry to IEEE events, we need employers to provide encouragement and incentive to their employees
7. President-Elect Update (WK)
- a. Remember to vote in the ongoing IEEE Canada election
    - An e-mail was sent to IEEE Canada members with an interview from the two candidates
8. IEEE Canada Foundation Report – See attached report
9. Chapter and Affinity Group Reports
- a. Communications (EH)
    - Three seminars so far this year, with the last one in June
      - i. Attendance has been good
    - One upcoming seminar for next month
  - b. Computer and Computational Intelligence (WK)
    - Two recent seminars, both were well received
    - On Sept. 26 there will be an ACM programming competition
    - IEEE Xtreme Programming competition is coming up on Oct. 23-24
  - c. EMBS – Not in attendance
  - d. EduManCom – Not in attendance
  - e. PES (MS sent regrets)
    - See Secretary's report
  - f. Waves (PM)
    - Ari Sihvola, an IEEE distinguished lecturer from Finland, is coming on Oct. 19
  - g. RobConIM – Not in attendance
    - Seminar coming up next week
  - h. GRSS-AES (NF)
    - Distinguished lecturer is coming on Friday, Sept. 25 to talk about maritime awareness and surface wave radar
  - i. YP (MM)
    - Annual BBQ was held in July and it was very successful
    - Will be meeting in the next few weeks to plan upcoming events, including:

- i. Pi Board workshop
    - ii. Networking event
    - iii. Design competition next year
  - j. Life Members – Not in attendance
  - k. WIE – Not in attendance
    - PM will try to contact Jennifer Jessop
  - l. TISP (WK)
    - A teachers workshop is being developed
    - Work is being done on an international space academy program
    - A program for aboriginal students is being reworked
  - m. Newsletter (BS)
    - Second issue is planned for late October
      - i. It could be released before the IEEE Xtreme Challenge to advertise
        - a. WK will provide a summary of the IEEE Xtreme Challenge
        - b. BS has received 2 articles, needs more
        - c. BS will contact more chapter chairs
      - ii. BS would like to move the newsletter to an HTML webpage
10. Reports from student branch chairs
- a. University of Manitoba (KB)
    - EK and KB will be attending the IEEE student congress in Mississauga, ON Sept. 18-20
    - LaTeX workshop coming up on Sept. 23
      - i. IJ suggests advertising to graduate students as well
    - Domain name was purchased and currently developing a website that should be up in the next month
    - EK was in contact with the Red River student branch to assist with their orientation but the Red River student branch was unaware
    - Trying to get some professionals from industry to come in for an ‘ask me anything’ (AMA) session
  - b. Lakehead University – Not in attendance
  - c. Assiniboine College – Not in attendance
  - d. Red River College – Not in attendance
11. New business
- a. Section-wide event theme discussion
    - Ideally the event would be held before the AGM, but the discussion will be tabled until we hear from DS

**ADJOURNED (WK/IJ) at 18:22**