



Chairman's Message



Friends,

As engineers, we are expected to give solutions to societal problems of engineering nature. At implementation scene, directions are required to be given as to how the work is to be carried out. Clarity is the catch word here – clarity in thoughts and clarity in expressing them for the recipient to

understand it fully and act upon. While this clarity-trait is essential for all those engaged in activities, especially of interactive nature, it is more so in the case of engineering community, generally addressing complex problems.

Engineering is becoming more and more interdisciplinary in complexion, with its services and influence reaching more sections of society. Medical profession is increasingly utilising engineering techniques in the form of diagnostic, therapeutic and other healthcare systems. Agriculture sector is another domain where engineering is making greater inroads, helping farmers to improve productivity. Education field is also getting highly engineering-enabled. In all these and other areas where engineering is establishing its role as a key player, clarity in exchanging information is vital. This is specially so, as the interaction is often among people from other domains who may not understand the jargons and expressions of engineering domain. Hence, the special emphasis for clarity in the present times.

At the IEEE front, veteran member HK has given details of a large number of inactive student branches in India. This should be an eye opener to all the senior IEEEians who are requested to do some introspection in this disturbing issue. In fact we have to come out with our observations, why this luke-warm attitude towards IEEE is prevalent among a section of students and what could be done.

Along with AISC 2007, Gujarat section is also planning a Student Paper Contest and Technical Symposium (SPCTS). I appeal to all Sections and members to lend support to Gujarat section to make both the events a grand success.

With best wishes,

Trivandrum
01 July '07

N.T. Nair
Chairman, IEEE India Council
ntnair@gmail.com

M. V. CHAUHAN STUDENTS' PAPER CONTEST 2007

Open for Student Members of IEEE in India

Last Date: 14 August 2007 (Tuesday)

Topic: Any Subject of interest to IEEE

CASH PRIZES

FIRST: Rs. 6000, SECOND: Rs. 4000, THIRD: Rs. 3000

CERTIFICATES ALSO WILL BE ISSUED TO THE AUTHORS OF THE SELECTED PAPERS

FOR THE TOP THREE PAPERS, THE FIRST AUTHOR WILL BE INVITED FOR PRESENTATION AT IEEE INDICON 2007 IN BANGALORE DURING 6-8 SEPTEMBER 2007

RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Papers in any subject of interest to IEEE may be submitted.
2. The number of Authors for any paper should not exceed 3. However, a student can be an author in more than one paper.
3. Two hard copies and one soft copy of the paper should be submitted. In addition, electronic submission through e-mail attachment is required.
4. All papers should be neatly typed or printed on Bond Quality paper in line spacing 1.5.
5. Length of the paper should not exceed 10 type written/printed pages.
6. Each paper should have a title page in front giving the Affiliation of the Author(s)
7. Each paper should bear a Declaration from the Branch Counsellor in the following format:
"It is certified that the Author is an IEEE Student Member. The paper entitled is his/her own work, eligible for entry in the M. V. Chauhan Students' Paper Contest 2007." In the event that the Institution does not have an IEEE Student Branch, the declaration should be signed by a Faculty Member who is an IEEE member, or by the Principal.
8. Travel assistance will be provided to the first author of the top three (prize winning) papers, for presentation at the INDICON 2007 in Bangalore.

Entries to be Submitted to:

DR. P. SURESH CHANDER PAL

Chair, Student Activity, IEEE Madras Section &

Vice Chair, Students' Activities, IEEE India Council

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"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these."

-George Washington Carver

From India Council Secretary



What do I get in return?

A very oft-asked question in many organisations; IEEE is no exception. I have, to a certain extent, tried to address this through the earlier columns, outlining the various member benefits that IEEE offers. This time, I am trying to look at this question from a different point of view.

Many of us would know Mr. Dewang Mehta, initially the Executive Director and then the President of Nasscom (National Association of Software and Service Companies). He died in Sydney in Apr 2001 while on a visit to Australia as part of an Indian delegation of IT companies. He had been with Nasscom for close to a decade and the organisation had played a significant role in the growth of the Indian IT industry. Nasscom continues to do so.

During one of the Nasscom conferences, when I was having a conversation with Mr. Mehta, an industrialist came to him and asked, "Dewang, I [my company] want to join Nasscom. What do I [my company] get in return?". Dewang did not hesitate for a moment before he replied, "Nothing. Nothing at all. You don't get anything in return [for your membership fee] from Nasscom."

Dewang's words keep coming back to my mind, every time I hear the question, "What do I get in return?". What do I get from IEEE? What does a member get from an organisation? Do memberships obey the quid pro quo rule of a buyer-seller relationship?

We all probably know the answer. The organisation gives us the opportunity to work together towards certain common objectives. We share a vision. We love and enjoy doing what we do. In the process, value is created, most of which is retained within the organisation and not taken away by its members. Most of what we enjoy was created by someone else. We understand that we should leave more behind for those who will follow us.

AISC 2007: SPCTS CONTEST

IEEE Gujarat Section & DA-IICT have announced the 4th "Student Paper Contest and Technical Symposium" (SPCTS) along with the IEEE All India Student Congress (AISC-2007) to be held from September 28 to September 30, 2007 in the campus of DA-IICT, Gandhinagar, Gujarat for the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students to encourage in-depth research in Computer, Electrical, Electronics Engineering and Computer Science.

Details about the SPCTS-2007 can be had from

URL: www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/gujarat

<http://ieee.daiict.ac.in/aisc/events/spcts.htm>

Important dates:

15 August 2007 - Submission of Full Paper
30 August 2007 - Notification of Acceptance
10 September 2007 - Submission of Camera-Ready Paper

NIRBHAY CHAUBEY (Co-ordinator, SPCTS-2007)

Forthcoming Events

LISA '07

The 3rd annual IEEE-NIH Life Science Systems and Application (LISA'07) workshop co-sponsored by IEEE and by the National Institute of Health's Biomedical Information Science and Technology Initiative (BISTI, <http://www.bisti.nih.gov/bistic2.cfm>) will be held in the Lister Hill Auditorium, NIH Campus in November 2007. LISA'07 provides a forum for and welcomes original technical papers on the advancement of life and health science systems and applications. Active participation from several IEEE societies, including the Circuits and Systems Society, Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, Signal Processing Society, Instrumentation and Measurement Society etc, are also expected.

This call for papers solicits papers for oral and poster sessions which are designed to be highly interactive. Those interested should submit a 4-page manuscript in the IEEE format describing original work.

For detailed submission instructions, please visit the workshop web page at <http://www.ieee-issatc.org/lisa07>

SENSOR FUSION, INTELLIGENT SENSORS AND APPLICATIONS

Special Symposium on Sensor Fusion, Intelligent sensors and Applications at ISSNIP Conference, Melbourne, December 3-6, 2007.

The symposium aims at papers with a broad spectrum from theory and applications. Several sessions are planned around the topics

- Data Fusion for Target tracking
- Sensor Fusion to achieve Intelligent Sensors
- Computer Vision & Robotics and more (see links below and appended flyer)

Paper submission deadline: July 31, 2007

Please use the conference website for submissions and send an email to sensorfusion@issnip.org with your enquiry.

Enquiries: sensorfusion@issnip.org

More details:

On Conference:

<http://www.issnip.org/2007/index.html>

On Symposium on Sensor Fusion: <http://www.issnip.org/2007/symposia/SensFusion.html>

Jottings from HK

The fallen and the vanished

[The veteran IEEEian Mr. H. Kalyanasundaram looks this month at the fallen and the vanished among Student Branches in India. Though IEEE Sections in India can be proud of nurturing a large number of Student Branches over the years, the analysis by HK reveals that out of 376 Branches, more than one fourth have vanished. Can we not revive them? – Ed].

Section wise list of "Zero Member Branches" as of 31 May 2007

1. **Bangalore- Total Branches 38, Zero strength 7**
*BLDEA, Dr Ambedkar, Guru Nanak, KS Inst., Khaja Banda, SJC and SVES Rural.
2. **Bombay- Total 78, Zero-14**
* All India Shivaji WCOE, Inst of E & T, Jabalpur, JES AC Patil, Lokmanya Tilak, MGM, Padre Conceicao, Parshwanath, Priyadharshini, Sanjay Edn., Shri GS, inst Terna, Vidharba youth, and Vidyalkar.
3. **Calcutta- Total 10, Zero 3**
* Heritage, North Eastern RIST, and REC Durgapur
4. **Delhi- Total 23, Zero 6**
* Ajmer, CR State, Inst of Tech & Mgmt, Malavia NIT, MBM and Seth Jai Prakash
5. **Gujarat- Total 8, Zero 1**
* M S Univ Baroda
6. **Hyderabad- Total 53, Zero 11**
*Chaitanya, Jyothi, Loyola, Madanapalli Inst., Raghu Engg, Sagi Ramakrishna, Shri Vidyaniketan, Sreenivasa, Syed Hashim, Vagdevi and Vijay Rural.
7. **Kerala- Total 36, Zero 6**
*Amal Jyothy, AWH Engg., Mohandas, Noorul Islam, Trivandrum COE, and Viswajyothi
8. **Kharagpur- Total 1/ Zero "Nil"**
9. **Madras- Total 122, Zero 48**
* Adhiyaman, AMS, Annai Teresa, Bharat Inst., CSI Inst., Dnanalakshmi, Dhanalakshmi. Srinivasan, Dr Navalar, Dr Sivanthi, Erode IRT, Francis Xavier, GKM, GCE Salem, GCE Tirunelveli, IFET, Infant Jesus, Jayam, Jayaram, Jerusalem, krishnaswamy, Magna, Maharaja, Mailam, Manonmaniam, Mohamed Sathak, Mookambigai, Odaiyappa, Periar Maniammai, Prithvi, PSNA, RMD, Rajarajeswari, Ranipettai, Ratnavel, SALN, Shri Andal, SNK Fomra, Sri Manakula, Sri Muthukumaran, Sri Ramakrishna, Sri Ramanujar, Sri Subramanya, Sriram, St Peter's, Syed Ammal, Tagore, Thiagarajar, and VRS Coll of E & T.
10. **Uttar Pradesh- Total 7, Zero 1**
*Inst of Engg and Tech.
Total Branches in India 376, Zero strength 97.
The above apart, 92 Branches are in "Sick List" with student strength of 1 to 9 only and of this 31 are with just one student on rolls and 17 are with just 2 students. Please feel free to ask for any further data needed.

5th National Conference of Engineering Council of India

26th October 2007, New Delhi.

Theme: Fast Growing Indian Economy and the Availability of Engineers- A Prospect .

Members Please Note these:

1. IEEE Online Rosters will not be updated during the month of August 2007, due to IEEE Business Management System Launch.
2. IEEE UCE/Spam filtering service to change from "OPT-IN" TO "OPT-OUT": To help reduce the increasingly large volume of unsolicited commercial email messages - commonly known as spam - being sent to [ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org) email addresses from outside sources, the IEEE UCE/spam filtering service will be changing from the current "opt-in" policy to an "op-out" policy.
On 20 August 2007, a default spam filtering level, expected to reduce the volume of email sent to [ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org) addresses by 30 percent, will be applied to all IEEE email aliases. It is designed to filter out email that is extremely likely to be UCE/spam. In the past, this filtering service had to be individually activated by each user.

IEEE Region 10 invites Nominations for 2 New Award Schemes: *R10 Milestone Award & R10 Academia-Industry Partnership Award*

IEEE Region 10 Milestone Award

The requirements for an achievement to be an IEEE Region 10 Milestone are that not only it was performed in the field of electrical engineering and computing, but also

- (1) It must be at least 20 years,
- (2) It must have involved a unique solution to an engineering problem, and
- (3) It must have had at least regional impact.

IEEE Region 10 Academia-Industry Partnership Award

The requirements for an academia-industry collaboration to receive an IEEE Region 10 Academia-Industry Partnership Award are that not only it was achieved in the field of electrical engineering and computing, but also

- (1) It must have accomplished a distinguished joint R&D project which contributed to an engineering innovation,
- (2) It must have implemented a new channel of academia-industry relationship by real time knowledge-sharing, and
- (3) It must have had at least regional impact.

Both these Awards are nominated and sponsored by an IEEE Region 10 Organization Unit (OU) - such as a Section, Society, or Chapter. Nomination Form should be a detailed record of the historical significance of and evidence for the nominated Milestone and awarded after recommendation by IEEE Region 10 Industry Liaison Committee and approval by IEEE Region 10 ExCom. The application forms are available at

R 10 Website: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/10/>

Reported by:

Sasi Kumar, Member, Industry Liaison Committee, IEEE R10
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"Waste no more time talking about great souls and how they should be. Become one yourself." – Marcus Aurelius

Editorial



Powering Rural India

India has recently been very active in bridging the gap between energy supply and demand, looking for spatial and temporal matching of needs. With roughly 128,000 MW of power being produced from all sources, and around 20,000 MW more expected to be added before the end of 10th Five year plan, we are still unable to power rural India adequately; nor is it possible for us to supply quality power, uninterruptedly to our industries, agriculture and commerce sectors.

Out of the 5,93,732 villages in India, we have electrified only 74% of them. That apart, of the 138,271,559 rural households, we have electrified only 44% of them. While affordability on the part of the rural poor to pay for energy services is in question, the fact remains that with central and state grids alone, we cannot reach all these villages in the near future. There are at least 18,000 villages that are in the difficult category. This is where distributed renewable power standard scores. We have an impressive array of newer RE technologies, as well as remarkable achievement to the tune of 10,256 MW of power out of micro hydro, solar, wind, biomass and the like. Energy conservation coupled with CFLs and LED lighting for remote homes and locally generated power for community common purposes are bound to have revolutionary effects in the villages – in quality of life and economic development. Government of India and several of the States seem to be determined on accelerating the pace of electrification in the 11th five year plan period.

However, codes of practice, standards, power tariff and rules and construction procedures, which were meant for grid based electrification under a monopoly utility, would do very little to help realize this national aspiration of 'electricity for all by 2012'. The members and volunteer officers of IEEE can probably interact with and assist the governments in quickly resolving these techno-legal issues to the benefit of the people, as many of them find positions in several of government advisory and planning committees. Only, then can we empower our rural people, who are helpless too. According to HelpAge India, 33% of the elderly are below poverty level and another 33% are only just above it. 75% of the elderly in India are living in rural

areas. 70.3% of elderly in India are illiterate. 90% of the elderly are from the unorganized sector. 8% of the total population of India is above 60 years. Many of them do not know what IEEE is, but this technically well versed population can really touch their lives!

Regards,

Trivandrum
01 July 2007

Prof. V. K. Damodaran, Editor
vkd@ieee.org

New Senior Members from India

Bangalore Section

John Vinod, Mitra Biswadip

Calcutta Section

Mandal Swarup

Bombay Section

Mahapatra Souvik

Kerala Section

S.R Vijayamohanakumar

Uttar Pradesh Section

Das Biswarup

Technology News

Fibre Illumination Scores High Efficiency

Because one-third of the world's electricity generation is used for illumination, the savings resulting from fibre optic illumination may have more impact on global energy than improving the efficiency of automobiles, says Laser Focus World in its July 2007 issue. The four fold improvement in source efficiency was obtained by switching from halogen lamps, offering incandescent efficiencies of 20 lumen/Watt to metal halide high efficiency discharge (HID) sources offering 90 l/W.

Editorial Board

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[http:// www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/india_council](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/india_council)

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