



## IEEE THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, INC

### Chairman's Message



Friends,

In any public organization instituted for the service of its members, be it under government or a voluntarily built-up one, the Mantra should be innovation. That is, to think of untried or new ways of service delivery, such that the value for membership is continuously enhanced. IEEE is one such entity, and its human resource is considered world class, in many respects – technical competence, managerial excellence, social

commitment...

In India too, several initiatives launched by IEEE groups across the country have attracted attention from the public. While the primary responsibility of such a professional society is to its members helping them to stay tuned to the latest trends in technology, it is also important to be of value to the society we live in – from which we draw several resources for our daily life. The notable projects forming part of IEEE's Humanitarian Initiatives which will be presented in the forthcoming Sections Congress at Quebec, Canada during 19-22 Sep.'08 are from India: the novel, demand-driven relief activities organized after tsunami hit India, by Amarnath Raja, Satish Babu, and P M Sasi, all from IEEE Kerala Section, software for diagnosis of autistic children by V. Sampath and education for underprivileged women and children by Ramalatha Marimuthu, both under Madras Section.

It is a matter of pride for all of us under IEEE banner in India that such social commitments are getting international recognition, in the form of presentations in front of IEEE office bearers from all over the world attending the Sections Congress. Adding another feather to Indian IEEE cap, is the news of Bombay Section being selected as the distinguished large Section in Reg.10. Congratulations to all these volunteers, who are bringing halo to IEEE India.

Preparations for the national events INDICON, TENCON and AISC are underway, in the able hands of the volunteers in charge of them. We can be sure that all these events and many other techno-managerial programmes on the anvil will bring more accolades to this land.

The visit of Dr. Rangachar Kasturi with a unique India specific mission 'IEEE Focus on India initiative' during 22 May – 5 June '08 is yet another case of attention coming India way.

Let all these not make us complacent and prompt us to go into an overdrive in IEEE activities, as there are many more areas to be conquered, for the benefit of the entire IEEE community.

**N. T. Nair**

Chairman, IEEE India Council

[ntnair@ieee.org](mailto:ntnair@ieee.org)

Trivandrum

12 May '08

### Congrats Bombay Section!

You have won an Important Award – the 2007 R10 Distinguished Large Section Award! The R10 Award Committee has selected Bombay Section as the 2007 R10 Distinguished Large Section. South Australia Section has been selected as the 2007 R10 Distinguished Small Section. These recognitions are based on the performance summarized in the 2007 Annual Report submitted by R10 Sections.

Bombay and South Australia Sections would be nominated to participate in the MGA Outstanding Large and Small Sections Award Program. Y W Liu, R10 Award Committee Chair has great pleasure in announcing this decision and he Congratulates both these Sections wholeheartedly.

*Bombay, please keep it up!*

### Dr. Rangachar Kasturi leads 'Focus on India' Delegation

IEEE President Lewis Terman has decided to "Focus on India" as one of the primary initiatives of his presidential year 2008. The objectives of this initiative include a better understanding of the needs of the technology community in India, enhancing the presence of IEEE and increasing the participation of Indian technology professionals in IEEE activities. This may result in increased membership at all levels including an increased number of Fellows, Sections, Chapters and Student Branches as well as more technical activities; more career advancement and certification services; and more involvement of Indian members in IEEE activities including an increase of Indian members in IEEE - level volunteer positions. Dr. R. Kasturi, 2008 President of IEEE Computer Society, is honored to have been invited to serve as the Chair of this initiative.

With several senior staff members Dr. Kasturi will be visiting India from 22 May - 5 June 2008. The team would like to meet with leaders from Industry, Academia and Government who are interested in discussing what IEEE can do to meet the needs of the technology community in India.

The Itinerary of Meetings/Information Session/Reception: 2008 May 24-26: Bengaluru; 27-28: Mumbai and 29-31: Delhi. June 2-3: Hyderabad and 4-5: Chennai.

### Editorial Board

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Visit  
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**The greater the glory, the nearer it is to envy – Livy**

## From India Council Secretary



A new model for professional bodies seems to be overdue. We are already in an era where business models have gone through dramatic changes, largely due to the influence of information technology, and also due to other factors, especially globalization. The way people communicate, share and access information, and carry out their daily routines have all changed significantly, especially in the last two decades.

Organizational structures have flattened leading to near loss of hierarchy, younger professionals have equal or greater access to newer technology and information than their seniors, the rate of obsolescence has accelerated, students in academic institutions have the opportunity to surpass and challenge the knowledge of their professors, innovative ideas and organizational models are getting tried out, and professional values and expectations are being redefined.

How are professional bodies responding to these changes? I believe, over the past two decades, there has been little change in the way professional bodies work, resulting in lack of volunteerism and an increasing inability to attract young members. It is time they search for a new model for meeting the aspirations of their members.

IEEE is no exception.

Frankly I have no idea what a new model would look like. Possibly, it should exploit the internet, and not try to beat it. There is no point pretending that professional body membership gives members access to information that is not available on the net. As a matter of fact, IEEE membership by itself provides very little access to the storehouse of knowledge even at IEEE. There is also no point saying that a professional body gives members the opportunity to come together as a community. Internet provides much wider opportunities for building communities. Of course, IEEE entities organize seminars, conferences, talks, workshops and so on, on advanced and leading edge topics, all of which offer significant opportunities for members, especially those from academics. The web is however catching up even on this.

Isn't it time we recognized the need for a new model for professional bodies to work in this information era?

Cheers!

**K G Sathesh Kumar**  
Secretary, India Council, IEEE  
k.g.kumar@ieee.org

### A chance again to vote for Your Director

This year the Region 10 Director Election will be held during August and September. Only two candidates are contesting, Mr. Wong of Singapore and the former IC Chair, R. Muralidharan. The last date to reach the votes is 01 October 2008. Ballots will be arriving in India in the first 10 days of August. So we need to let everyone know that they should look for the election ballots from IEEE HQ in the first two weeks of August itself. The Final year students among the Student membership of IEEE are eligible to vote from this year onwards. The voting profile this year is therefore bound to change.

This is an opportunity to choose the person whom you think will do the utmost to enliven IEEE activities in R 10 and in particular in India. Get ready to vote, please!

## Forthcoming Events

### IEEE Region 10 Colloquium and Third International Conference on Industrial and Information Systems (ICIIS-2008) December 8 -10, 2008

Organised jointly by IEEE Kharagpur Section & IEEE Sri Lanka Section

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur – 721302, India

Theme: "Real-time Communicative Intelligence for Tomorrow's Industry"

The mission is to bring together innovative academics and industrial experts in the field of Electrical, Electronics, Computer Science & Engineering and Information Engineering to a common forum, where a constructive dialog on theoretical concepts, practical ideas and results of the state of the art technology will be developed, with a vision to sink present innovative international research and source it for the development of tomorrow's industry and information system.

General Chair: Prof. N. K. Kishore, India

General Co-Chair: Dr. Sanath Alahakoon, Sri Lanka

Please contact: E-mail : [ieee@ece.iitkgp.ernet.in](mailto:ieee@ece.iitkgp.ernet.in) ,  
[iciis2008@ee.iitkgp.ernet.in](mailto:iciis2008@ee.iitkgp.ernet.in),

Website : <http://conf05.iitkgp.ac.in/iciis08/>

### IEEE PES General Meeting: 20-24 July '08

Power and energy professionals throughout the world who are interested in attending the 2008 IEEE PES General Meeting, July 20-24, 2008, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA can now register online at the meeting web site at <http://ewh.ieee.org/cmte/PESGM08/>

The 2008 General Meeting features a comprehensive technical program that is focused on significant issues facing the global community of power and energy professionals. The intent of the meeting is to provide an international forum for attendees to promote, share and discuss a myriad of ongoing developments that relate to today's power and energy industry. PES is pleased to announce that the General Meeting is being co-hosted by Allegheny Power and Duquesne Light.

### Smart technologies for smart utility enterprises 14-16 Oct '08 Mumbai

On the above theme, a conference on Metering and Billing is scheduled for October in Mumbai. Metering, Billing/CRM India 2008 will consist of a three-day conference and exhibition, showcasing local and international technologies available to the utilities sector. The content rich programme includes international case studies, master classes, workshops and a site visit, as well as the co-located 'SMART GRIDS INDIA' executive forum that will focus on modernising ageing grid infrastructure.

Contact Julia Barton-Hill: [julia.barton-hill@spintelligent.com](mailto:julia.barton-hill@spintelligent.com)

Visit [www.metering.com/india](http://www.metering.com/india) for additional information

## *Recent Events*

### **Broadband '08 – A Report**

Mar Baselios College of Engineering and Technology, Trivandrum, in association with IEEE Kerala Section and CSI Trivandrum Chapter organized Broadband '08, a two-day National conference on Broadband Technologies from 27-28 March 2008, which was inaugurated by Mr. Kris Gopalakrishnan, CEO and MD of Infosys Technologies Pvt Ltd, Bangalore. In his keynote address, he shared his views on broadband connectivity, resulting social changes and the future scenarios. Dr. Ajay Kumar IAS, Secretary, Dept. of Information Technology, Govt. of Kerala presided. 300 delegates attended.

A Pre-Conference Seminar and a host of invited technical talks on the state-of-the-art as well as future trends in Broadband technology were some of the highlights. These included "Future Directions in Wireless Communication" by Prof. U. B. Desai, Professor, IIT Mumbai, "Wi Max, 3G and Beyond" by Prof. K. C. Ravindranathan, Professor, Barton Hill Engg. College, "Software Defined Radio" by Mr. Simon Zacharia, Director and Mr. Jose P. Devassy, Additional Director, CDAC, TVM and "Content Delivery Networks" by Mr. Sajikumar, DGM, BSNL

Mr. Behram Sethna, Vice- president, TCS, Mumbai spoke on "The Future of TV". Technical presentations on various topics related to Broadband Communication, Technologies and Services included those on antennas, OFDM, CDMA, Ultra wideband and Mobile ad hoc networks, to name a few. Of the 67 submissions in all, only 6 each from Communications and Computer streams were selected for presentation. The demand for high bandwidth communication continues to explode, with a need to access ever-increasing amounts of data, video and voice. This has been vindicated by the boom in Broadband Technologies both in the wired and wireless domain. The conference provided a great opportunity to listen to the experts in the field and also share views with the researchers who presented their research work. Mr. G. Vijayaraghavan, President VMA Consultants and Former CEO of Technopark, Trivandrum gave the valedictory address.

A separate students' event was held in parallel. Competitions were held in Robot Soccer, IQ race and student paper presentations. This was a grand success with huge turn out from many colleges in Kerala. Prizes worth Rs 20,000 were given out to the winners. Dr. Sakuntala S. Pillai coordinated the event.

### **Prof Ajit K Chattopadhyay in S. America**

Fellow of IEEE and Professor Emeritus at Bengal Engineering & Science University, Howrah, as an IEEE-IAS Distinguished Lecturer under Regional Speaker program, delivered a series of invited lectures in Peru, Chile and Brazil from 02 to 23 Mar '08. The talks were on High Power High Performance Industrial AC Drives, Power Electronics—A Comprehensive Review, and Power Electronics Research at an University in India (Universidad Nacional de Ingenieria, Lima, Peru); High Power High Performance Industrial AC Drives – A Review, High Power High Performance Industrial AC Drives (PUC de Chile, Santiago, UTF Santa Maria etc) and selected topics among these in Brazil (Univ. of Sao Paulo and Federal Univ. of Rio de Janeiro). India Council is proud of the voluntary services of Prof. Chattopadhyay and requests him to serve the IEEE community in India too under the new NDLP during the current year. Student Branches and Sections Please note!

### **Gujarat Section New Initiative on Conference Presentations Online**

Under the New Initiative Program of IEEE HQ, a second New Initiative Grant has come to India (NDLP of India Council being the first one) to be carried out by the Gujarat Section.

Gujarat Section's proposal is for recommending most efficient software to web host the conference presentations for the reference of professionals who are not participating. The recommended software will be tested thoroughly in real conference scenario for its use and effectiveness. Its financial model will be worked separately by IEEE. It is a matter of pride for India. The project will be led by Mr. Deepak Mathur and Dr. Anil Roy. The project has been awarded in March 2008 for a period of six months.

## NDLP ready to take off!

The New Initiative of a sort and first of its kind in IEEE history, the National Distinguished Lecturer Programme, the brainchild of India Council is ready to take off! It has a National Coordinator and Section level coordinators in several of the Sections. The distinguished roll of speakers is growing every day and requests for their service are pouring in. At the IEEE HQ, the world leaders of IEEE are eagerly watching how this scheme is going to enliven the professional life of many scattered IEEEians in smaller cities and townships in India, as well as how deep it will influence the voluntary activities of the Student Branches.

Student Branches, you are now closer to a faculty of technical speakers, who are world class. All from within India! Then, why wait? Plan your programmes. Utilise the visit of a NDLP to get advice on how to build a vibrant professional society linkage for your members and also some online tutorials subsequently. Many more opportunities are there. The programme is going to be launched by the end of May '08.

*"We shape our buildings; then our buildings shape us."*  
— *Winston Churchill*

## Editorial

### Jersey Roots of India – US migration



I spent around a month in USA on a private visit in April and I utilized this opportunity to visit IEEE HQ in Piscataway in New Jersey State twice and to learn many things on professionalism from our well run apex office of IEEE and held discussions with several senior leaders of IEEE. I could see technology applied at its highest in running this office where over 750 officers work. They gave me a copy of the IEEE Envisioned Future, asked about how the newly granted NDLP is taking off and what more from the IEEE side could help in furthering the mobilization of youth in IEEE designated areas under the banner of this unique Society. Apart from all that I was introduced to a Symposium taking place at Rutgers University on Jersey Roots, Global reach: Innovation and Economic Development in South Asia and New Jersey: Opportunities and Constraints. Dr. Michael N. Geselowitz, Director, IEEE History Centre based in this University accompanied me. It was interesting to listen to the more than a dozen presentations, tracing the quantitative and qualitative change in the South Asian and in particular Indian Migration to the US and how it has and still is affecting as well as portending to affect development in India, through the studies of the distinguished Professors who have gone deep into it. Astonishingly, the current migration is largely in the IEEE designated areas – even business formations. On all that, in a later conversation.

Regards,

New Jersey  
01 May '08

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

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