

Minutes of the IEEE Winnipeg Section meeting of 2008 October 07.
TRLabs, 135 Innovation Drive. Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA

Attendance:

Julian Nedohin-Macek, Haider Al-Saidi, George Pasioka, Lesley McFarlane, Hilmi Turanli, Witold Kinsner, Dawn Nedohin-Macek, Ronnie Minhaz, Stephen Dueck, Stef Penner, Burke Libbey, Matt Sebastian, Rasit Eskicioglu, Jason Kuyp.

Regrets:

Lindsay Ingram, Jagdish Chand.

Called to order: 18:30

1) Approval of the Agenda (Jason Kyup, Stephen Dueck) Carried.

2) Approval of the 02 September 2008 minutes. (Haider, Lesley) Carried.

-Remove George Pasioka from the attendance and place in Regrets as he was not at the meeting.

3)

3.1) Chair

-Attended a very successful IEEE Sections Congress.

-Lively set of meetings.

-Attended two days earlier for the Region 7 meetings.

-Written report to be filed later this week. This report will include information about what was discussed and will outline what was decided. Several recommendations from the Winnipeg Section were adopted.

-Have other information about senior membership drive.

3.2) Vice Chair.

-Attended Sections Congress with Rasit.

-Attended a session on the idea of having a sister section in another part of the world to be able to draw upon their experiences for help with our section issues. Working with Fariel El-Hawary (Region 7 president) to investigate sister sections and how they would work. This is a good idea to do for or in next year.

-It was pointed out that Toronto Section has a sister section.

3.3) Secretary

-All L31s will be submitted to become up to date after this meeting.

3.4) Treasurer

MOTION: To accept the treasurer's summary as presented.

(Stephen Dueck, Hilmi Turanli) carried.

- Handed out a financial summary and there is just over \$15000 in the account. Financially we are doing ok.
- Sections Congress receipts still need to be submitted.
- The total cost of the Sections Congress to the Winnipeg Section is expected to be about \$2000 to \$3000.
- We have not received our rebate for this year. It should have been received in June and is estimated to be about \$6000. George will follow up on the rebate.
- The economic turmoil will have minimal effect because the investments are quite conservative. The interest rate is quite low. These investments were specifically designed this way.

3.5) Webmaster and Newsletter

- Have been getting a fair amount of spam through the submission form.
- Am considering using some character transfer scheme to help avoid spam.
- The IEEE has a spam filter and Jason will look into spam avoidance features.
- Attended Sections Congress and met with many Region 7 people and made several contacts.
- Sections Congress was very focused on making the student experience better.
- It was noted that the Winnipeg Section needs to find a Membership Development officer.

3.6) Chapter Chairs and Affinity Groups

WIE: (Lindsay McFarlane)

- Had an event on the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People with 22 attendees.
- L31 is submitted for the meeting.
- 15 registered and 7 walk ups.
- Didn't get the e-notice out until the week of the event.
- Co-hosted the event with APEGM and both the section and APEGM will absorb half of the event loss of \$100.
- WIE budget is at \$550 and can absorb the loss.
- Billiards night co-sponsored with the Section GOLD chapter at the back room of the Scurfiled Ave BBB's establishment on 2008 December 04 (also Rasit's birthday). The event is expected to lose money.
- Room is booked for billiards and appetizers from 7PM to 10PM.
- Had a little bit of a scheduling almost conflict with GOLD.
- Looking to find out what days are NOT good to hold a Hybrid bus tour at New Flyer.
- IEEE has or is preparing a tool that includes a calendar called WeTools.
- Have WIE meetings on the 4th Monday of each month with a small contingent of dedicated people.
- Rasit was able to get in touch with Susan from the Region GOLD organization at Sections Congress.
- Young woman's conference in Thompson is occurring around this time of year and may be considered for next year as a venue to advertize IEEE and careers in Engineering.

GOLD: (Ronnie Minhaz)

- Had third event and made \$80 for a total of \$380 for the three events held so far.

- Looking for ways of finding attendees for events.
- The Air Traffic Control tours are still getting emails of interest in attending after the event has happened indicating a demand for a repeat event.
- Trying to include socializing prior to event for attendees and ensuring a 50%/50% student to industry ratio for events. This ratio was attained by selectively accepting attendees for events and has created industry academic bridging.
- 55 people attended (over 100 registered) for a Pauels tour.
- The brewery event is also quite successful.
- The money made is to be deposited into the GOLD account.
- Am looking to find a GOLD chair successor after it was suggested at the GOLD summit at Sections Congress. GOLD is viewed as a breeding ground for future leaders and there is a great interest in finding out how to encourage more student/GOLD membership.
- Saskatchewan has a job posting site open to all GOLD members.
- Ottawa Chapter's GOLD group went dormant and needs to be restarted by others. There is interest in finding out how to retain information through such dormancies.
- Recommend more students go to the next GOLD summit and other congresses.

STUDENT BRANCH: (Stef Penner, Burke Libbey, Matt Sebastian)

- Just received notice that we should be attending Section meetings after a lengthy email mix up.
- Looking to do a Soldering workshop with GOLD as well as other interesting projects.
- Student memberships are sold on the student branch benefits (lounge, lab, course materials, etc.) which works well.
- Have several students interested in Computer Society membership and the Society website does not make it very clear that the Student membership is cheaper than the non-student membership.
- It was suggested that the Co-op website of the University of Manitoba would also provide benefits to student members.
- At the University of Manitoba, the IEEE is seen as an Engineering organization and the Computer Science perception is that it is not very valuable to them despite the Computer Society availability.

COMPUTER CHAPTER: (Witold Kinsner)

- The Chapter is expanding to include Computation Intelligence.
- The Chapter is also holding two events. One is October 14th on the modeling of pandemics, and on the October 28th on complexity measures.
- GRADCON is on October 17th (Friday).
- In February 2009 there is the fourth science and technology symposium
- Again the radio course is being planned for 2009.
- Nanotechnology and Biotechnology facilities is being showcased on October 10th in the evening in conjunction with the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club.
- Student scholarships are available that would benefit student branch members.
- There is a Circuit Cellar is available to the student branch from Dr. Kinsner.

-It was noted that these are all events and information that should be given to the Newsletter and Webmaster for content.

RRC STUDENT BRANCH (Haider Al-Siadi)

-Andrew Roncin will be pulling himself from the RRC branch councillor and will potentially be replaced by a new faculty member.

-A meeting with the students will take place next week with Haider.

4) Matters of Information

4.1) IEEE AGM

-AGM is on January the 6th and would like to get the process going.

-Other Sections have AGMs in late November.

-David Barnard is slated to be the keynote speaker.

4.2) CCECE 2010

-CCECE 2010 is going to Calgary and Rasit will be involved in their efforts.

4.3) MANCOM

-MANCOM is defunct and is attempting to be restarted.

4.4) National Science Fair

-There is an annual Student National Science Fair in Winnipeg on May 11th to the 17th 2009. It would be good to have IEEE presence at the Fair.

4.5) Senior Member Drive

MOTION: To accept the list of nominations for forwarding on to the nomination committee (Stephen Dueck, Jason Kyup) carried.

-Senior Member drive email is not going well. 50 emails were sent out and not much response was received. It is unclear as to the benefits of being a senior member. The Section gets an additional \$25 per senior member.

-It was suggested that a hybrid Section nomination plus individual nomination be pursued.

-Waiting until the next meeting will be too late as nominations are required at least ten days prior to the meeting.

Next Meeting: 2008 November 04.

Adjourned: 19:51