

Minutes on the meeting held on 31st March, 2008

Apologies: Edmud Lai, in fact Dr. Ramesh Rayudu attended on his behalf.

Minutes of the last meeting: Agreed in principle.

Murray reported that he is getting a lot of emails through the IEEE. He has been filtering these before forwarding them to the committee. He sought reassurance that the filtering was appropriate. The committee members believed that the current filtering of messages was satisfactory.

Finance report:

Duncan reported that there is currently an amount of NZ \$6,562.00 in the bank.

Thanks to ATNAC conference organizer (Prof. Richard Harris and dr. Murray Milner) for their generous support of NZ \$2000.00 to IEEE central section.

Current known expenditure items:

- We are committed to spend around \$120 for the DL programme that was held at Massey University's Wellington campus during February 2008.
- We also need to spend another \$140 to \$150 towards student memberships in order to enable them to form a Student Section.

Formation of Joint Chapter

As per a request from Edmund Lai, the formation of chapter a specialist Chapter was discussed. Edmund has proposed the formation of a joint chapter of Communication Society along with Signal Processing and Robotics. There was discussion about the proposal and the following points were made:

- Bob expressed the view, that it was a positive development and he was enthusiastic about the proposal he advised caution. It will be essential to have a good core team of people and they need to be committed to ensuring that the Chapter is able to be sustained into the future.
- Subhas reported that he had become a members of the Robotics society via a request from Bruce MacDonald of Auckland University and the purpose was to form a Robotics chapter. So it will be important to know how many members actually want to join this new Chapter and whether it is really feasible.
- The question of impact on funding was also raised.

Bob proposed that Murray should discuss the matter further with Edmund to ask about potential numbers of members who might be interested, funding and other issues. Richard seconded this proposal.

Next technical meeting and Future meetings

- The next technical meeting will be on 14th April at Massey University on the Palmerston North campus. The speaker is Prof. Stephan Hussmann from Germany. The venue is the Marsden Theatre, Science Tower B, near the main Library. The seminar will start from 6.30pm with light snacks to be available from 6:00 pm.
- One night of accommodation has been booked for the speaker; there is provision for snacks and a dinner for the speaker and his wife. These expenses are expected to cost around 200 to 250 dollars.

- Keith will organize to send another e-mail from IEEE HQ.
- IET will support this meeting and will advertise it to their members. But this event is not being considered as a joint meeting with the IET on this occasion. Joint meetings will be supported jointly with respect to their financial requirements.
- The next event will be a joint breakfast meeting with the IET and IPENZ.
- To have more technical presentation all members are requested to take the opportunity of inviting visitor/experts to have a possible technical presentation either in PN or in Wellington. It is also encouraged to have presentations on local activities.
- The IET Prestige lecture will be held on 14th May at the Palmerston North campus.

Membership Coordinator

Ramesh volunteered to be the Membership Coordinator. Ramesh was welcomed as a co-opted member onto the executive committee for 2008. Murray thanked Ramesh for offering to take on this role.

Web reports

Our website has been praised by many people.

Newsletter

Murray indicated that there should be another newsletter to members soon and that he would attempt to prepare something in the near future.

Other business

Subhas requested Murray to provide the details of the March meeting so that it can be reported to IEEE HQ.

Chairman's meeting in Canada

Murray informed the committee, that as chairman of the IEEE Central Section he has been invited to attend the chairman's meeting to be held in Canada during September 2008.

Subhas reported that since the IEEE NZ Central Section had been formed recently, it was discussed during R10 meeting in India that the Section will get some financial support from Region 10 for this meeting.

But for the next meeting the Section has to provide its own support. The chairman's meeting is held every 3 years, so it will be good to keep some money in reserve to be used for that purpose.

Next committee meeting

The members all agreed to have the next meeting on 28th April at 4.30 pm.