

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th July 2009

Present: Murray, Richard, Subhas, Ramesh, Sen Gupta, Keith, Edmund, Mansoor, Pawel, Christopher

Apology: Theresa, Bob, Sajal, Matthew, Chris and Mengjie.

Murray chaired the meeting, welcomed everybody, on both Skype as well as the telephone was used in the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting held in May 2009: agreed in principle.

Finance report: Sen Gupta has reported that we have NZ \$6,186.00 in bank. The rebate received from IEEE is US \$6300.00 which has been deposited. Though it may take up to 4 weeks for clearance, but once the money comes, the total balance will be around \$16,000 dollars.

It is good to have some healthy balance as we may need to spend money for volunteers attending overseas meetings.

Website: Keith has updated the website. The email from IEEE has gone on the coming meeting. It is requested to members to RSVP as soon as possible as places at the breakfast meeting are limited.

Membership development: Ramesh has drafted a letter and asked for Murray's comments. The purpose is to request members who have not renewed their membership, to renew it. Murray will look into it and provide his comments. Also Ramesh informed that Membership development programme is going on globally. In the Senior Member initiative, members who are qualified for SM, may apply for the elevation.

Students' branch: Matthew was not available to update the developments.

Post-graduate student presentation: Pawel will coordinate the event for this year. The tentative date will be in the 1st week of September. Earlier we had the event at Old Government Building of Victoria University campus. A total of around 50 people will be attending.

Theresa is not available for WIE report.

Chapter formation: Edmund updated the committee on the chapter formation, officially the chapter has been formed, but the first meeting is yet to held. He hopes the first meeting will held soon, which he expects to report in the next meeting. He requested some seed money from the section. The section whole-heartedly supported NZ \$ 500.00 for the chapter. There is no need for separate bank account of the chapter. So the amount is budgeted for the section.

General meeting:

The Bell Labs seminar held on 11 June was attended by about 35 people with about 15 members from IEEE, 15 members from IET and about 7 people from Alcatel-Lucent. The event appeared to be well received.

The Joint Institutions Breakfast meeting has been advertised to members of IEEE, IET and IPENZ. The speaker is Peter Dengate Thrush and the event is expected to be very popular. The IEEE Central Section will probably need to fund this event to the amount of around \$500 depending on the mix of members and non-members attending.

Murray proposed that each year at least one meeting be held to enable members to provide feedback on international IEEE events that they have participated in. This would give other members a chance to learn a little about these events. This proposal was supported and it was suggested that it be associated with the AGM this year. It was also suggested that the AGM include a social dinner and part of the meeting programme.

The visitor from University of Limerick will be at Massey for two weeks. He will deliver a seminar at Massey and one at Victoria in Wellington. Both the seminars can be run under the central section, and this approach was supported.

Subhas is organizing a one-day workshop on "Sensors and Instrumentation for Environment Climate Change Monitoring". The event has been supported by the section.

Conference and Events:

125th anniversary: It is expected sometime around the end of September 2009. Bob has agreed to deliver a talk on this occasion. The seminar will be advertised widely to encourage public participation as well as members as the presentation is of general interest. The event will include a light refreshment. The preferred venue is the Victoria Law Lecture Theatre as it is very central for the general public, but Massey has also offered an alternative venue if required.

One-page newsletter for every month: Murray volunteered for the July and then other members have to take responsibility in turn.

Next meeting: the next meeting will be held on 4th August at 4.30pm.