

IEEE/LVS/SSCS/Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2011. Penn Pizza, Bethlehem, PA

Present: Kouros Azimi, Paul Davis, Roger Minear, Glen Offord, Robert Peruzzi, Ian Rippke, Robert Walden

Next meeting: July 12, 2011, technical meeting at Lehigh University.

I. Announcements

Job opportunity with Cadence Design Systems, Research Triangle, NC for an Applications Engineer. Peruzzi will publicize by email to chapter members.

II. Discussion of this year's activities to date and looking ahead.

- Minear stated that he is not comfortable with our lack of activity thus far in 2011. We have not fulfilled the obligations we accepted when applying for our subsidy.
- Rippke stated we would follow through and meet our obligations. We are not limited to spreading our meetings evenly throughout the year and we can still have a rich schedule over the remainder of the year.
- Davis reminded us of our intent to have at least two high-quality presentations per year, which turns out to be difficult without the heavily subsidized distinguished lecturer program.
- Peruzzi asked if we could spend some subsidy money to bring in a lecturer such as Peter Kinget from Columbia, as an individual rather than as part of the distinguished lecturer program.
- All concurred that would be a good use of subsidy
- **Action item:** Peruzzi to invite Kinget

- Minear and Davis asked why our proposed student poster session never materialized
- Rippke: Reasons included that the Morton Paper contest is the major event sponsored by the Lehigh Valley Section and it is difficult to get a start on what we had intended without stepping on that event.
- Offord related the history of the Morton contest, over which he presided for a number of years.
- Rippke, after some discussion, suggests rather than compete with the Morton contest, our SCS chapter could support and augment the Morton contest starting next year.
- Peruzzi: As a minimum baseline, we could contribute cash from our subsidy and one or two volunteers, thus fulfilling our "subsidy obligation" of supporting solid-state circuits education.
- Offord: Better yet if we could offer our award in circuit design separately from the existing Morton awards.
- **Action item:** Peruzzi to draft an email, (to be approved by attendees of the June 22 meeting), addressed to the Lehigh Valley Section executive committee, offering an unspecified amount of money and support for next year's Morton contest. Since we need to fulfill our obligation before Minear applies for next year's subsidy, this email is to be sent as soon as possible to put it on record. Although unspecified, consensus is that \$500 out of our \$2000 subsidy is a reasonable amount.

- Davis suggested we meet consistently on one day of the week
- Walden reminded that we must allow guest speakers the ultimate choice, but offer our usual meeting day as our preference.
- After further discussion we decided Tuesdays would be our first choice, Mondays our second choice for meeting nights

- Azimi suggests we should survey members to ask their ideas for speakers and topics
- Offord states that a straightforward question by email might be better than asking members to go to some website and fill in a survey
- Rippke says that a good practice in surveying is to inform the reader exactly how many questions are in the survey and estimate how long to complete it.
- **Action item:** Azimi to compose a survey

- Rippke stated that SSCS DL program has been cut back, making it difficult to obtain the two high-quality speakers per year we intended to offer
- Davis suggests we coordinate with the NY City (Columbia) and Central NJ (Princeton) SSCS chapters to book presentations at two or more of our chapters
- **Action item:** Peruzzi to initiate dialog with Columbia and Princeton chapters, asking who they've scheduled and when.

III. Planning of Chapter activities for 2011.

A. July 12, 2011

David Bassett of PPL presenting a variant of his recent seminar "Connecting to the Grid" targeted toward the solid states community.

1. Action items for this meeting:

- a. Rippke: Compose and distribute the announcement/invitation to SSCS chapter mailing lists, as soon as possible.
- b. Rippke: Procure refreshments (his choices)
- c. Nelson: Procure desserts and soft drinks.
- d. Peruzzi: Procure speaker's gift (plaque).

B. DL Meeting Tentatively Scheduled

Breaking news on June 23. Truthfully doesn't belong in these minutes. Asad Abidi has agreed to make an SSCS Distinguished Lecturer presentation sometime between August 1 and September 9. Topic "CMOS Millimeter Wave ICs. The Historical Background" Emails are exchanging as I write this to settle on a date. Suggested dates now are August 29, 30, September 1, 2.

1. Action items for this meeting:

- a. Rippke/Davis: Offer suggested dates to Professor Abidi
- b. Peruzzi, if approved by Davis: Depending on selected date, inform the NY City SSCS chapter (Columbia) officers that they might want to invite Prof. Abidi to address their chapter too.

C. "Firm" meetings but not yet scheduled

1. **Doug Lopata. Topic TBD. Sometime this fall.**
2. **Pete Bronner. Topic "Subterranean communication systems for mine safety"**

D. Suggested topics and speakers.

1. **Azimi** has ideas for experts in fields tangential to circuit design, such as patent attorneys and Silicon process design. Although he spoke in some detail about presenters and topics, they weren't recorded for these minutes. **Action Item:** Azimi to disseminate his ideas to attendees of June 22 meeting for discussion and follow up by email.
2. **Rippke** also presented ideas for other speakers. Names and topics weren't recorded for these minutes. **Action item:** Rippke agree to disseminate his suggested speakers and topics by email