



October 2001

October

**October Section Meeting Cancelled**

A tour was planned for the October meeting, and was unfortunately cancelled at the last minute by the group offering the tour. Efforts may be made to reschedule at a future date. Time did not allow us to come up with an alternate program for October. However, plans are pressing ahead for the November program, and we look forward to seeing you all at that meeting. Details will follow in the November Newsletter.

**September 11, 2001**

The Terrorist Attack on the United States will remain in our minds and hearts for many years. We continue to pray for all the innocent victims of those attacks on America. If you have a story you would like to share relating to any of the attacks, send me your words and we can place them in our next edition. Addresses are in the Useful Information Column.

*Ed Simoncek, editor*

Our IEEE Section Meeting and Consultants' Network Meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> were cancelled and the Penn State Harrisburg campus was closed that afternoon. Our special guest, Dr. Gary Blank, never left the Chicago airport, which closed before his scheduled departure, and he remained safely at home. Plans are underway to reschedule Dr. Blank's visit for the Section meeting tentatively on November 13th. For more details on the Consultants' Network meeting and activities, please join the interim list for the IEEE Susquehanna Section Consultants' Network formation. To join send a blank email to:  
[ieee\\_susq\\_cn-subscribe@yahogroups.com](mailto:ieee_susq_cn-subscribe@yahogroups.com).

**Future Meeting Dates**

Mark your calendars for the remaining Section meetings this year:

Tuesday - November 13

*Dr. Gary L. Blank*

*Consulting and Professional Registration*

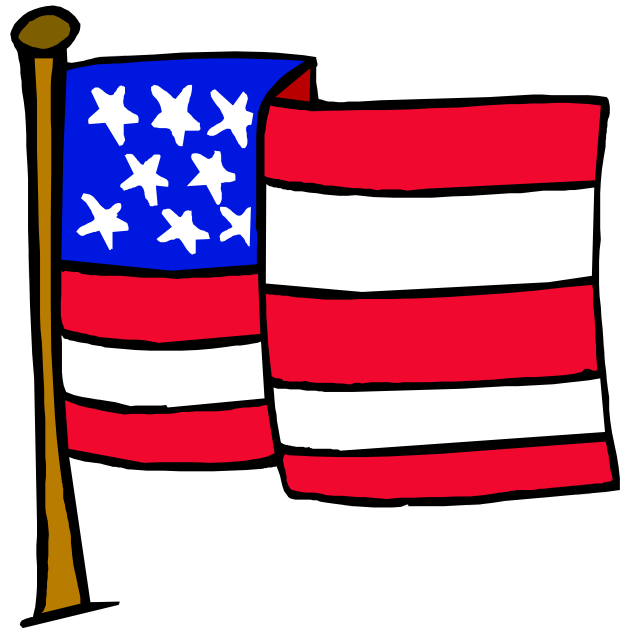
Tuesday - December 11

**IEEE –USA Today's Engineer**

The September – October 2001 edition of IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER is available now on the Web. TODAY'S ENGINEER is IEEE-USA's monthly, career-oriented webzine, offering feature articles and short blurbs with career guidance, tips, strategies and solutions for all sectors of the profession. This month includes articles on Staying Current, Teamwork, and Trends: WiFi, The Wonders and Exasperations of Wireless Networking, and more.

To read Today's Engineer, visit:

<http://www.todaysengineer.org/careerfocus/>



## Computer Science Positions

Penn State University, Capital College, Harrisburg campus, School of Science, Engineering and Technology is accepting applications for multiple tenure-track faculty positions in Computer Science at the Assistant or Associate Professor level beginning Fall Semester 2001, Spring Semester 2002 and Fall Semester 2002. Individuals with experience and research interests in database, programming languages, software engineering/software design, computer architecture, operating systems, genetic algorithms, artificial intelligence, or computer graphics are particularly encouraged to apply. Ph.D. preferred, but ABD will be considered. Candidates will also be evaluated on teaching and professional experience. Salary level will be determined commensurate with qualifications and experience. Teaching responsibilities include courses for the B.S. and M.S. degrees in computer science. In addition to teaching responsibilities, tenure-track faculty are expected to pursue scholarly research and publication, participate in curricular development and University and professional service activities as well as advise undergraduate and graduate students and serve on graduate level degree committees.

The Harrisburg campus of Penn State Capital College, with an enrollment of approximately 3,600 students, is the multi-disciplinary upper division and graduate center of Penn State University's 22-campus system. It is located eight miles from the state capitol at Harrisburg. This unique metropolitan campus serves the citizens of south central Pennsylvania and is easily accessible via interstate routes from Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington D.C. and New York. The Harrisburg campus offers students the opportunity to earn baccalaureate degrees in twenty-six academic majors, seventeen master's degree programs, and two doctoral degree programs. Send letter of application, current resume, and the names, addresses and phone numbers of at least three references to:

Chair, Computer Science Search Committee  
c/o Mrs. Dorothy Guy  
Manager of Human Resources  
Penn State Capital College  
777 West Harrisburg Pike  
Middletown, PA 17057-4898.

Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

## Combating Terrorism: What Can the IEEE Do?

The following is reprinted from *IEEE-USA Policy Perspectives*, September-October 2001. You are invited to fill in a Reader Poll on:  
[www.todaysengineer.org/policyperspectives/](http://www.todaysengineer.org/policyperspectives/)

September 11, 2001 is a date that, as President Bush said, "None of us will ever forget." Millions watched helplessly as satellite feeds transmitted images of the two hijacked commercial jets that slammed into the World Trade Center towers in New York. Minutes later, when it seemed as though things couldn't get any worse, we learned that a third hijacked jet had been forced down in Arlington, Virginia, cutting a fiery path of death and destruction through the nation's "most secure office building" — the Pentagon. We received more news still, this of a fourth hijacked jet downed outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, its sad fate possibly altered by the heroism of a few brave passengers.

As Americans reeled from the attack, which is being called by many "this generation's Pearl Harbor," the first question that came to mind was: How could this have happened? With all of our high-tech security, surveillance and intelligence systems, how?

In the aftermath, as America begins the slow process of healing and the facts begin to surface, we cannot expect a solution to the epidemic of terrorism to fall into our laps. We must take a proactive role in ensuring that such a horrific attack never happens again anywhere. IEEE-USA's technology policy committees already address a number of safety and security issues, including computer crime, encryption policy, Internet security, upgrading the U.S. air traffic control system, and developing space technologies for disaster mitigation and global health. Most recently, the IEEE-USA Medical Technology Policy Committee established a working group on bio-terrorism to develop a technical policy position on manmade biomedical hazards and diseases and other bio-terrorism concerns.

With the technical expertise of its more than 360,000 members, what role can the IEEE play in combating global terrorism? Should the IEEE play a role? What can individual members — as well as the membership as a whole — do to help shore up the anti-terrorism mechanisms already in place around the world? What new ideas can IEEE members bring to the table?

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# News From the Committees

## Help Needed at Penn State

The electrical programs at Penn State Harrisburg are looking for volunteers/guest speakers for its senior project proposal courses. The topics of interest are any of the following: Economic, environmental, sustainability, manufacturability, ethics, health & safety, social and political issues associated with engineering standards and realistic constraints in a major design experience. For more information, contact AB Shafeei at 948-6349 or m.shafeei@ieee.org.

## Mentor Program

The IEEE student branch at Penn State Harrisburg is continuing its Mentor Program for the 2001-2002 academic year. Initiated in 1994, the program allows students to spend a day with a Mentor, observing the daily tasks of an engineer. Continuing commitment is needed to bring students and professional engineers together. The experience is beneficial to both parties allowing a comparison of classroom knowledge with the needs of the student.

This program needs the support of the IEEE Susquehanna Section members. Interested individuals may contact AB Shafeei (numbers listed above) or Thomas Musselman, IEEE Student Branch, at Tcm126@psu.edu. Remember that this program benefits both the students and the industry. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Edward M. Elias

Edward M. Elias of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., died July 31, 2001, at his residence after a lengthy illness. He was 73. Mr. Elias retired from Penn State University as director of the York campus after 35 years of employment. He was the founder of the York campus and was one of the first honorary alumni of Penn State University. He helped organize the Susquehanna Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and was a section chairman.

## Useful Information Column

### Susquehanna Section Chair

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FAX: 717-948-6401

### Q/A-C Column

Do you have any questions or comments? Call, email or FAX it to Alex Avitabile at the above addresses.

### Newsletter Mailing or WEB Page Notification

If you do not receive your Newsletter on time, please notify AB Shafeei or Ed Simoncek at the above addresses. If you would like to convert from paper copy mailing of the Newsletter to WEB page delivery, please notify Webmaster AB Shafeei.

### Address Changes and Updates

There are several ways to correct member information with IEEE. They update their directory from the information you provide, and pass the changes to us monthly. Keeping your address information up to date will ensure accurate mailings.

- There is a WEB based interactive "change of address" form at:  
<http://services1.ieee.org/membersvc/coa/intro.htm>
- You can send an email to: [address-changes@ieee.org](mailto:address-changes@ieee.org)
- Call IEEE Member Services at 1-800-678-IEEE
- Mail changes to  
IEEE  
445 Hoes Lane  
P.O. Box 1331  
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331
- FAX changes to 1-732-981-9667

### Advertisements

#### Current Officers

**Chair**  
Alex Avitabile  
**Vice Chair & Programs**  
Tim Osborne  
**Treasurer**  
Don Arnold  
**Secretary**  
Ed Simoncek  
**Newsletter Editor**  
Ed Simoncek  
**Webmaster**  
AB Shafeei

#### Awards

Larry Brown  
**Central PA Engineering Counsel Rep.**  
Bob Klinger & Craig Clewell  
**Educational Activities**  
Harold Underwood  
**GOLD Coordinator**  
Craig Clewell  
**Local Professional Activities**  
Bob Klinger  
**Members at Large**  
Horst Gerlach & Ernest Guenin

#### Membership Development

Brett Miller  
**PACE**  
Omid Ansary & Peter Czuday  
**Student Activities**  
Ed Cooper  
**Consultants Network Coordinator**  
Stan Telson