

# Kickoff Meeting IEEE Robotics and Automation Society Chapter (Washington Section) July 17, 2007

**Chair: Raj Madhavan, Ph.D.**

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*& Guest Researcher*  
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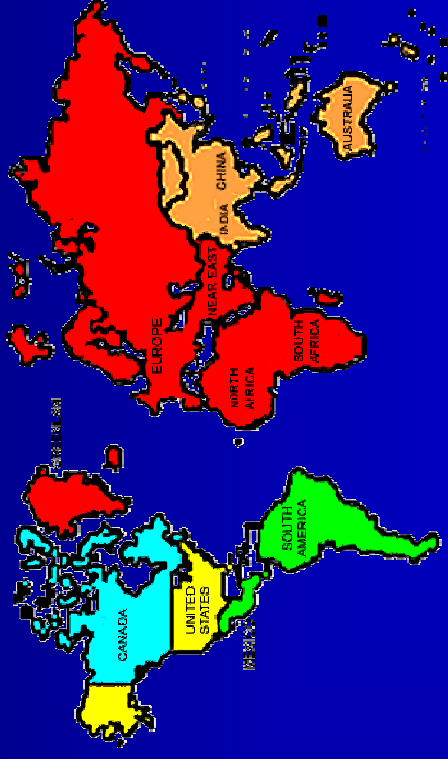
# Outline

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- Discussion
  
- *Please add name, email, and signature on the signup sheet*



# IEEE Regions, Sections & Society Chapters

- 10 IEEE Regions
- Region 2  
<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/2/>
  - Director: Mr. John Dentler  
[jdentler@ieee.org](mailto:jdentler@ieee.org)
  - South Area
    - Baltimore, Northern Virginia & Washington Sections
    - Annapolis Subsection
    - Chair: Mr. Murty Polavarapu  
[murtyp@ieee.org](mailto:murtyp@ieee.org)
- Washington Section  
<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/washsec/>
  - Chair: Dr. Kiki Ikossi  
[ikossi@ieee.org](mailto:ikossi@ieee.org)



# IEEE Regions, Sections & Society Chapters (contd.)

- Society Chapters are your local link to the valuable resources available from the IEEE and the 39 IEEE Technical Societies
- **IEEE Robotics and Automation Society**  
<http://www.ieee-ras.org/>  
President: Dr. Richard Volz
- A Chapter is the technical subunit of one or more IEEE Sections
- Society Chapters consist of Members *from one or more IEEE Societies who share technical interests and geographical proximity*



# How was this Chapter formed?

- Petition with minimum 12 signatures (we got 22!) from Wash. Section **AND** RAS members
- RAS (Volz) & Wash. Section EXCOM Approval (Ikossi)
- Region 2 Director (Dentler)
- Regional Activities Board (RAB)
- Chapter formed in May 2007!
  
- Thanks are due to
  - Ron Ticker (NASA Goddard), Haik Biglari (Fairchild Controls)
  - Rosalyn Snyder (Administrator, RAS)
  - Everyone who signed the petition



# WS-RASC Mission & Vision

- Serve as a forum for discussions, dissemination of ideas;
- Enhance and foster collaborations and partnerships between researchers, graduate students, practitioners from industry, academia, and government agencies enabling their personal and professional growth; and
- Do both of the above pertinent to RAS goals:

*The Society is interested in both applied and theoretical issues in robotics and automation. Robotics is here defined to include intelligent machines and systems used, for example, in space exploration, human services, or manufacturing; whereas automation includes the use of automated methods in various applications, for example, factory, office, home, laboratory automation, or transportation systems to improve performance and productivity.*

*Robotics and Automation involves designing and implementing intelligent machines which can do work too dirty, too dangerous, too precise or too tedious for humans. It also pushes the boundary on the level of intelligence and capability for many forms of autonomous, semi-autonomous and teleoperated machines. Intelligent machines have applications in medicine, defense, space and underwater exploration, service industries, disaster relief, manufacturing and assembly and entertainment.*



# Society Chapter Comms.

- **Chapter Website**
  - <http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/washsec/ras>
  - Presentation and minutes of this (and subsequent) meeting(s) will be posted here
- **Mailing List**
  - [ieeews-rasc@ieee.org](mailto:ieeews-rasc@ieee.org)
  - Currently all messages are “moderated”
- **Quarterly Newsletter**
  - Include significant milestones/achievements of Chapter & its members



# Office Bearers

- Office bearers need to be both IEEE (Wash. Section) & RAS members
- **Vice-Chair**
  - Run activities in Chair's absence
  - Attend AdCom Meetings (alternate with Chair)
  - ...
- **Treasurer**
  - Maintain finances via *IEEE Concentration Banking*
  - *Concentration Banking* program offers *IEEE Geographic Units* and *Conferences* a bank account with unlimited check writing privileges, which pays a higher rate of interest than traditional business checking accounts
  - <http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/services/financial/treasury/concentration.html>
- **Newsletter Editor**



# Planned Activities

- **Guest Speaker Series**
  - Have interesting robotics, intelligent systems, automation research/implementations within the Wash. Section, MD (Baltimore, Annapolis), VA (Northern Virginia) represented via local speakers
  - IEEE Distinguished Lecture Series for national speakers
- **RAS Awards**
  - RAS Society Awards (*Chapter of the Year Award, RAS Most Active Technical Committee Award, ...*)
  - RAS IEEE Transactions Paper Awards
  - ICRA Awards
- **Professional Licensure**
  - A professional engineer (P.E.) is a person who is licensed to practice engineering in a particular state or US territory after meeting all requirements of the law
  - 10 Reasons to Become a PE  
<http://www.ieeeusa.org/careers/files/ieeep1.ppt/>
  - Licensure and Registration Committee  
<http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/committees/rc/index.html/>



# Planned Activities (contd.)

- **Courses, Tutorials, Workshops**
  - Performance Metrics for Intelligent Systems (PerMIS'07)  
*IEEE WS-RASC Technical Co-sponsorship*  
[http://www.isd.mel.nist.gov/PerMIS\\_2007/](http://www.isd.mel.nist.gov/PerMIS_2007/) August 28-30, Gaithersburg, MD  
General Chair: Elena Messina, NIST Program Chair: Raj Madhavan, ORNL/NIST
  - IROS'07 Full-day Workshop on *Performance Evaluation and Benchmarking for Intelligent Robots and Systems*  
<http://www.crim.ncsu.edu/iros2007/> November 2<sup>nd</sup>, San Diego, CA  
Organizers:  
Angel del Pobil, UJI (Spain), Raj Madhavan, ORNL/NIST & Elena Messina, NIST
- **Membership Development**
  - Involve student branches
  - Affiliated organizations
  - Other society members
- **Joint RAS Chapter**
  - Baltimore (<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/>) and
  - NoVa ([http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/no\\_virginia/](http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/no_virginia/)) Sections
- ...



# Community Outreach

- **Judge for Robotics Competitions**
  - Montgomery County Public Schools Career, Engineering, and Technology Student Challenge
  - FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition [www.usfirst.org/robotics/](http://www.usfirst.org/robotics/)
  - Contact Janet Rhodes Lathan FIRST Senior Mentor-Washington, DC Metro Area [janetlathan@comcast.net](mailto:janetlathan@comcast.net)
  - LEGO League Robotics Competition
- **IEEE Washington DC High School Clubs**
  - McKinley Tech. & Roosevelt Washington DC: Mentors
  - Contact Debi Siering Vice-Chair EMBS [siering@ieee.org](mailto:siering@ieee.org)
- **RAS New Initiatives Competition**
  - Starting this year (deadline was June 1<sup>st</sup>); *initiative has to be completed and the funds spent in CY2007*
  - *As a result of a new IEEE policy that, for the first time, allows RAS to use some of the unspent funds from 2006 in 2007, we are able to consider funding a modest number of initiatives that would benefit society members in general*
  - NIST/ORNL Proposal Submitted: *Advancing Robotic Research through an Open Source High-Fidelity Simulation Framework and Competition* by Stephen Balakirsky, Raj Madhavan and Chris Scrapper (pending)



# IEEE Senior Member/Fellow

- **Senior Member Program**
  - <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/sprogram.html/>
  - *Guide to Applying*
- **Benefits of IEEE Senior Membership**
  - The professional recognition of your peers for technical and professional excellence
  - An attractive fine wood and bronze engraved Senior Member plaque to proudly display
  - Up to \$25.00 gift certificate toward one new Society membership
  - A letter of commendation to your employer on the achievement of Senior member grade (upon the request of the newly elected Senior Member)
  - Announcement of elevation in Section/Society and/or local newsletters, newspapers and notices
  - Eligibility to hold executive IEEE volunteer positions
  - Can serve as Reference for Senior Member applicants
  - Invited to be on the panel to review Senior Member applications
- **Fellow Program**
  - <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/fellows/index.html/>
  - *Recognizes unusual distinction in the profession and shall be conferred by the Board of Directors upon a person with an extraordinary record of accomplishments in any of the IEEE fields of interest*



# Staying Informed ...

- **AdCom Meetings**
  - First Tuesday of every month (next meeting August 7<sup>th</sup>)
  - Open to *ALL* IEEE members
  - Time: Dinner at 6:00 pm; meeting at 6:30 pm
  - Place: Bethesda Marriott, 6711 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda, MD
- **National Capital Area eScanner**
  - A Joint Publication of the IEEE Northern Virginia and Washington Sections
  - <http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/capitalarea/eSCANNER/>
- **IEEE National Capital Area Forum**
  - <https://www.ieeecommunities.org/nca/>
  - *The purpose of this community is to provide a place online where IEEE Members in the Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. Sections can connect and collaborate with each other*



# Discussion

- Next Meeting Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)?
- Questions/Suggestions
- ...

