

IEEE Central Texas Section

ANALOG NEWSLETTER

Volume 50-03

Mar

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc.

Published monthly (Deadline for inclusion is the 25th day of the previous month). Dawn Roberson, Editor, (robersondj@ieee.org). Have a question or comment? [Contact us](#).

[Central Texas Section Webpage](#)

[Central Texas Section calendar](#)

4. Local Conferences

2006 IEEE Intl Conference on Microelectronic Test Structures will be held March 6-9, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency on Town Lake in Austin. The conference website is: <http://www.see.ed.ac.uk/ICMTS>.

2006 IEEE International Symposium on Performance Analysis of Systems & Software (ISPASS) will be held in Austin at the Hyatt Regency, March 19-21. The conference website is: <http://www.ispass.org/ispass2006/>

2006 IEEE Region 5 Technical, Professional & Student Conference will be held April 7-9 in San Antonio. The conference website is:

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<http://www.2006ieeer5conference.com>

Attention Students! As part of the R5 TPSC Conference, a Student Professional Awareness Conference (S-PAC) is planned - it will be Saturday, April 8 on the UTSA campus - see the 2006 R5 Conference website for details.

First Austin Conference on Integrated Systems and Circuits

will be held May 15-17, 2006. Abstract submissions are due 17 Feb. The conference website is: www.acisc.org

2006 World Congress on Information Technology

Brings Legacy to Texas. . The World Congress, which will be held in Texas May 1-5, 2006, will attract an estimated 2,000 global leaders from business, government and education to discuss IT policy, direct the future of technology, and drive social and economic development. <http://www.wcit2006.org>

7th Annual IEEE-UT EMC 2006: The Role of Technology in our Economy. August 10-11. *Call for papers:* Abstract deadline is **extended** to April 1, 2006. Conference website: www.ieeeUTemc.org for more details.

IEEE Int'l Systems-On-Chip (SOC) Conference 2006 will be held in Austin Sept 24-27. The *Call for Papers/Workshops/Tutorials* is due **April 14**. Conference website: <http://www.ieee-socc.org>.

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-- *Conferences affected by the Hurricanes of 2005*

IEEE PES Transmission & Distribution Conference &

[Member Forum](#)

4. [Local Conferences](#)

- [Conferences affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita](#)

2006:

- [IEEE Int'l Conference on Microelectric Test Structures](#)
- [IEEE Int'l Symposium on Performance Analysis of Systems & Software](#)
- [IEEE Region 5 Technical, Professional and Student Conference](#)
- [First Austin Conference on Integrated Systems and Circuits](#)
- [World Congress on Information Technology](#)
- [7th Annual IEEE-UT EMC 2006: The Role of Technology in our Econ](#)
- [IEEE Int'l Systems-on-Chip \(SOC\) Conference](#)

5. [Presentations of Interest](#)

-- 1. Section Activities

-- *Chairman's Column*

Things are busy in the Central Texas Section. Section and Chapter Officers have required to secure the Section rebate. The Section Rebate is an important element budget and funds a large part of our Section and Chapter activities. With reports complete our 2006 operating budget and schedule officer training.

In early February, Scott Atkinson and I had the opportunity to represent CTS to Conduct Committee when they held their meeting in San Antonio, TX. Chairmen about his committee's responsibilities and activities including the IEEE Student more at www.ieee.org/ethics.

Looking forward, I will represent CTS at the IEEE-USA leadership workshop 2006. All IEEE members are automatically members of IEEE-USA, too. The focuses on Professional Development for Electrical Engineers. Check it out at [y](#) back ideas to include in our officer and volunteer training focused on Professional

The 2006 Region 5 Organizing Committee is on the final stretch with the Region San Antonio, TX. Make your plans to attend <http://www.2006ieeer5conference.com>

As always, I want your feedback. Let me know what CTS can do for you. If you have comments, or would like to find out about volunteer opportunities, please contact

Clif

Clif Denny

c.denny@ieee.org
Senior Member IEEE
Central Texas Section Chair

Exposition. The IEEE Power Engineering Society Governing Board has come to the conclusion that the most reasonable course of action is to postpone the meeting until Spring 2006. Check the conference website for details.

5. Presentation of Interest

March 6 - "Wireless Local Positioning Systems" by Dr Seyed A Zekavat at the UTSA campus - BSE 2.102 at 2pm. For more information, contact [Dimitrie Popescu](#).

April 4 - "BlueGene/L, a Massively Parallel Supercomputer" by Paul Coteus, IBM TJ Watson Research Center, 6-8pm, at National Instruments, 11500 N MoPac, Bldg C, Room 1S15, Austin. See http://ewh.ieee.org/r5/central_texas/wie for more information.

Keeping Current - Part 2

By John R. Purvis III, P.E.

Last month I wrote about what a podcast is and how we can use it to expand our available time to keep up with technology. This month I want to address how to subscribe to a podcast, and what software you can use. I will also recommend a few podcasts that might be of interest.

As discussed last month, one of the defining characteristics of the podcast is the fact that new editions are delivered to you rather than you having to find and pull down the audio files yourself. Podcast feeds are described in an XML file that, once subscribed to, allow you to download each new edition using an aggregator. Typical aggregator software packages are [Apple's iTunes](#) and [ipodder](#). Both of these programs provide a long list of podcasts to

Chapter News

The *Engineering Management Society* wants to start a San Antonio affiliate group please contact [Nils Smith](#).

The *Power Engineering Society* wants to start a San Antonio affiliate group. If contact [Rheuben Hair](#).

The field of interest of the Education Society (<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/es/>) methods, educational technology, instructional materials, history of science and and professional development programs within Electrical Engineering, Comput disciplines. Oliver K. Ban (bano@us.ibm.com) has begun an effort to organize Education Society here in the Central Texas Section. If you are interested in as Chapter, please contact Oliver at the email address above.

Senior Members

If you see Brian Kelley or Weize Xiong, congratulate them - they were promoted January!

Continuing Education

Software Project Management Certificate Program (online or onsite) • or

Student Branches

St Mary's University - San Antonio ([for more information](#))
Faculty Advisor: Djaffer Ibaroudene, Email: dibaroudene@stmarytx.edu

Trinity University - San Antonio
Faculty Advisor: Farzan Aminian, Email: farzan@enr.trinity.edu
Branch President: Brandi House, email: brandi.house@trinity.edu

University of Texas at Austin ([for more information](#))

University of Texas at San Antonio ([for more information](#))
Faculty Advisor: Yufang Jin, Email: Yufang.Jin@utsa.edu

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2. Chapter Activities

Multiple Chapters

Joint Meeting between Engineering Management and Women in Engineering

Topic or Presentation Title: *Scanning the Marketplace - From Concept to Ca*
Speaker: [Phil Pompa](#), [Michael Shultz](#), Stephen Brown
Date and Time: Tuesday, March 28, 5:30-8:00pm
Cost: \$20 before March 22; \$25 after March 22.
Reservations: <http://www.eservicescorp.com/form.aspx?fid=1546>

subscribe to, or allow the address of a podcast to be entered directly. Many podcast web sites also contain icons for these aggregators that, when clicked, will facilitate the subscription process.

There are literally thousands of podcasts available, with more appearing each day. In addition to the list of podcasts provided within the aggregators, more can be found at [Podcast Alley](#), [Podcast Directory](#), and [Podcast Net](#).

Some podcasts that I can personally recommend are: [This Week in Tech](#), [Security Now](#), [NPR Science Friday](#), and [NPR 7AM News Summary](#), and [CBC Quirks & Quarks](#).

A more in depth version of this article we be posted to the [CTS web site](#) by April 6.

IEEE Activities and Links

[Your IEEE](#)

[Calls for Papers](#)

[IEEE Xplore](#)

[What's New at IEEE](#)

[IEEE Standards Association](#)

[About the IEEE](#)

[The Spectrum](#)

[IEEE-USA](#)

To contribute information to this electronic newsletter, please send it by e-mail to robersondj@ieee.org.

Meeting Location: Thompson Conference Center, Austin, <http://www.utexas.edu>

This month, we're at the end of our three-part series on [New Product Development](#). This series, offered in conjunction with [PDMA](#) and [PMI](#), will provide you with process for delivering new products. One of the most important tasks facing us is the efforts to deliver new products or services. To help our Central Texas members, offered in collaboration with other organizations, on *the process of delivering*

For the purpose of illustration, we will focus on the *hardware industry*, although other domains as well.

March 28, 2006 *Delivering*. Now that you've selected your product, what is the *delivering that product* to the market? This is where you finally turn your ideas

Questions: email Leslie Martinich lmartinich@ieee.org

Joint Meeting between Engineering in Medicine and Biology, and the IEEE San Antonio affiliate group

Topic or Presentation Title: How to look at data: Using visual analysis to understand synchronization in biological data

Speaker: Kay Robbins, Ph.D, Department of Computer Science and Cahal Neuman, UTSA.

Date and Time: Wednesday, March 8, 2006

6:30 p.m. - Networking; 7:00 p.m. - Dinner; 8:00 p.m. - Program

Cost: \$10 members/ \$2 students/\$13 non-members

Reservations: RSVP to [Garrett Polhamus](#)

Meeting Location: Loeffler Room, BSB 3.03.02, UTSA Campus

Directions: <http://www.utsa.edu/maps/1604/>

Abstract: New experimental techniques such as multi-electrode array recording, imaging and two photon laser scanning microscopy produce large space-time data sets with spatial recording elements and potentially millions of time points. Having acquired these techniques, scientists are then faced with the difficult task of understanding this data. Analysis techniques eliminate time, eliminate space, apply to a very small number of data points, not capture the dynamic nature of the data. In this talk we discuss how visual analysis is applied to make hypotheses and answer questions about space-time biological data. Visualization tools that we are developing to support this type of visual analysis

For further information, please contact Dawn Roberson, 210-458-5520, roberson@utsa.edu

Joint Circuits and Systems/Solid-State Circuits (New Chapter!)

Topic or Presentation Title: Invited panel on Patent Law as it relates to Integrated Circuits

Speaker:

Date and Time: Tuesday, March 14, 6:30PM

Cost:

Reservations:

Meeting Location: Pok-e-Jos on 5th Street in Austin.

Directions:

Subsequent meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm a

For further information, contact Mike Seningen at seningen@ieee.org

Computer Society - Austin [for more information]

Topic or Presentation Title: New Pragmatic Methods for Developing Software

Speakers: Dr Charles Kruger

Date and Time: March 15, 2006 at 6:30pm

Cost: Free

Reservations: None required

Meeting Location/Directions: [National Instruments, 11500 North MoPac, Bui TX 78759](#)

See <http://austin-cs.org/> for detailed directions and for last minute information. 7 public.

Computer Society - San Antonio [for more information]

Topic or Presentation Title: TBA

Speaker: TBA

Date and Time: Thursday, March 23, 2006

6:30 p.m. - Networking; 7:00 p.m. - Dinner; 8:00 p.m. - Program

Cost: \$10 members/ \$2 students/\$13 non-members

Reservations: Required by Monday, March 20 to Yu Zhang, yzhang@cs.trinity

Meeting Location: Skyline Room, Coates Center, Trinity University, San Anto

Directions: Please note that we have parking instructions on the Web site. The reserved for Alamo Stadium Event parking. Please check out the instructions a cts.org/meeting_details.htm for the parking by Laurie Auditorium.

We will also be participating in the March 8 meeting of the EMBS and affiliate ;

More information on the program is available at our Web site <http://www.ieee-c>

The meeting is open to the public.

.. Consultants Network [for more information]

Topic or Presentation Title: Improved Resolution Time Domain Reflectometry

Speaker: R. H. Flake, I. Lopez Jr. and S. J. Wang, ECE Department. UT at Au

Date and Time: Thursday March 9, 2006

Networking at 6:00 pm, Business and program from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Cost:

Reservations:

Meeting Location: China Star Restaurant, 6134 Hwy 290 E, Austin TX
(North side of 290E, east of IH 35)

Directions:

Topics to be covered: A new generation of high-resolution TDR instruments fi

discussed. The major advance in precision obtained with this new TDR is the non-sinusoidal TDR test signal, which does not undergo dispersion or change in lossy dispersive transmission lines. This special waveform, in its simplest form is an edge that is a positive exponential.

Speaker: Dr. Robert Flake is a Professor of Electrical Engineering at UT Austin and is the inventor of several patents on the new signal technology discussed in this talk.

The consultants' web directory has been updated. The directory is to be found at <http://www.alesu.com/xltp/ieecons/listzero.htm>

-- *Electromagnetic Compatibility Society* [[for more information](#)]

Topic or Presentation Title: Controlling Signal Dispersion and Attenuation in High Performance Lossy Interconnects

Speaker: Prof. Robert H. Flake, ECE Department, The University of Texas at Austin

Date and Time: Thursday, March 23, 2006, Social 6:30 PM, Meeting 7:00 PM

Cost:

Reservations:

Meeting Location: Tipping Point Software

Directions:

A primary challenge faced in the design of high performance lossy interconnect systems is to obtain and maintain signal integrity (SI) requirements on these lines in the presence of severe signal dispersion and attenuation. Further improving the data rate in these systems is a significant challenge.

The recent discovery of a special waveform, called Speedy Delivery (SD), with its unique dispersion and attenuation characteristics may significantly reduce the design challenge of improving the performance of the state-of-the-art HPLI data lines. The precise models for the SD signal attenuation and its propagation behavior provide analytical design tools for HPLI with tight SI limits in the presence of signal dispersion and attenuation.

A simple HPLI design improvement process utilizing the SD signal is proposed to achieve a higher data rate from an existing interconnect designed with conventional digital signaling.

Bio: Robert Flake is a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin and a member of the IEEE. He has a BS in Engr Phys, AM in Physics and DSc in Electrical Engineering from Washington University in St Louis. Upon completing his DSc he worked for Honeywell. At UT he has served as a consultant for Honeywell and numerous other companies. He and his students are the inventors of several patents for The University of Texas on the new signal technology discussed in this talk.

For more information, see the EMC website (above). **IEEE EMC Symposium**

For the first time since 1997, the IEEE EMC Symposium will be returning to the Central Texas EMC Society was recently awarded the 2009 Symposium and they are putting on another great event. If you are interested in assisting with this event, contact information.

-- *Electron Devices Society* [[for more information](#)]

Topic or Presentation Title: ITRS Update

Speaker: Peter Zeitzoff

Date and Time: Thursday, March 23, 2006 - 6 - 8 pm

Cost:

Reservations:

Meeting Location: Room FC, Ground floor, SEMATECH
2706 Montopolis Dr., Austin, TX 78741

Directions: <http://www.sematech.org/corporate/map.htm>

Entry Directions: The visitor lobby is open until 6pm. Anyone arriving before 6pm should park in the second parking lot on the right and enter near the flag pole, north side of the building. After 6pm, everyone needs to enter through the east lobby. Park in the first parking lot on the right through the door with the ATDF sign over it. **Refreshments: 6pm - 6:30pm**

-- [Engineering in Medicine and Biology](#) [for more information]

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Abstract: New experimental techniques such as multi-electrode array recording and two-photon laser scanning microscopy produce large space-time datasets with many spatial recording elements and potentially millions of time points. Having acquired the data, scientists are then faced with the difficult task of understanding its structure. Analysis techniques that eliminate time, eliminate space, or apply to a very small number of dimensions cannot capture the dynamic nature of the data. In this talk we discuss how visual analysis is applied to make hypotheses and answer questions about space-time biological data. We will also discuss visualization tools that we are developing to support this type of visual analysis.

For further information, please contact Dawn Roberson, 210-458-5520, [roberson@utsa.edu](#)

-- [Engineering Management](#) [for more information]

Joint Meeting between Engineering Management and Women in Engineering

Topic or Presentation Title: *Scanning the Marketplace - From Concept to Cash*

Speaker: [Phil Pompa](#), [Michael Shultz](#), Stephen Brown

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Reservations: <http://www.eservicescorp.com/form.aspx?fid=1546>

Meeting Location: Thompson Conference Center, Austin, <http://www.utexas.edu>

This month, we're at the end of our three-part series on [New Product Development](#). This series, offered in conjunction with [PDMA](#) and [PMI](#), will provide you with process for delivering new products. One of the most important tasks facing us is the efforts to deliver new products or services. To help our Central Texas members, offered in collaboration with other organizations, on *the process of delivering*

For the purpose of illustration, we will focus on the *hardware industry*, although other domains as well.

March 28, 2006 *Delivering*. Now that you've selected your product, what is the *delivering that product* to the market? This is where you finally turn your ideas

For other information about the Engineering Management Society activities, see http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r5/central_texas/ems/

For information regarding chapter activities (and those wanting to volunteer), contact leslie@competitivefocus.com (512-423-5121).

Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD)

Topic or Presentation Title:

Speaker:

Date and Time:

Cost:

Reservations: Kristi Hummel, khummel@ieee.org

Meeting Location:

Directions:

Please send an email to Kristi Hummel khummel@ieee.org if you plan to attend.

-- Laser and Electro Optics Society

Topic or Presentation Title:

Speaker:

Date and Time:

Cost:

Reservations:

Meeting Location:

Directions:

For more information, contact Ray Chen raychen@uts.cc.utexas.edu.

-- Power Engineering Society [\[for more information\]](#)

Topic or Presentation Title: *Tour of the Austin District Chilled Water Plant - A*

Speaker:

Date and Time: Tuesday, March 28

6:00pm Social

6:30-7:00 Dinner

7:00-7:30 Business Meeting

7:30-8:30 Program

Cost: Dinner is \$10.00 – IEEE Members

\$12.00 – Non-IEEE Members

Free for students.

Reservations: RSVP to [Rheuben Hair](#) at (512) 477-6937 ext 303 or go to our v
<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/pes/centraltexas/index.htm>.

Meeting Location: El Gallo Mexican Restaurant at 2910 S Congress

Directions:

Exciting 2006 Schedule:

April 25: *Switch Gear*

May 23: *Fire Stopping*, Mario Hernandez, 3M

June 27: *Reactive Power: Billing and Costs*

July 25: *Ethics Class* - CW Clark, Texas PE Board

August 22: *LCRA River Monitoring System*

Sept 26: *Anatomy of an Accident: How Lack of Documentation Will Cause P*
TXDOT

October 24: *Black Start: Recovery of Grid After Emergency Operations*

November: *Alcoa Plant Tour*

For further information, please contact Susan Thompson or Roy Matthews at 5.

Product Safety Engineering Society [\[for more information\]](#)

Topic or Presentation Title: International Market Access Solutions - An overview of market access schemes for key countries/regions including latest updates and practical compliance issues for effective market access.

Speaker: Helena Wolf, North American Regional Manager for International Compliance Laboratories (Northbrook, Illinois)

Date and Time: Tuesday, March 21, 6:30pm

Cost: None

Reservations: None

Meeting Location: Dell, Parmer Campus, Parmer South Building 4, Victoria Center

Directions: Call Dale Ritzen (512) 651-5338 for details and directions.

Exciting future meetings:

April 18: *The New Hazard-Based Safety Engineering Standards*, Lal Bahra of

May 16: *A Review of the Underwriter's Laboratories Amusement and Gaming*

David Ball of Multimedia Games, Inc.

We encourage you, others in your organization, or other interested parties to participate in our meetings every month. The PSES meets every month on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at 7pm, except in November/December. A combined monthly meeting is held in November/December for members and guests to enjoy the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. For further information, please contact Dale Ritzen at (512) 651-5338.

Chapter Chair: Daniece Carpenter (daniece_carpenter@dell.com).

Joint Signal Processing/Communications Society [\[for more information\]](#)

Topic or Presentation Title: Tentative - Radio Frequency Identification

Speaker:

Date and Time: Thursday, March 23 at 7pm (*different date due to Spring Break*)

Cost:

Reservations:

Meeting Location: AT&T Labs - Austin

Directions:

Exciting future meeting:

Thursday, April 20, Doug Landoll of Enpointe will be speaking speaking about Enterprises at AT&T Labs.

Women in Engineering [\[for more information\]](#)

Joint Meeting between Engineering Management and Women in Engineering

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domains as well.

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delivering that product to the market? This is where you finally turn your ideas

Questions: email Leslie Martinich lmartinich@ieee.org

Women in Engineering has been an Affinity Group of the Central Texas Sectio
Activities have been until now, Austin-based, with programs, events and membe
Austin area. We are delighted to announce that WIE is now expanding activitie
Mercy Luhanga, Yu Zhang and Dawnlee Roberson are leading the effort to ini
Antonio and have an exciting Spring planned! We look forward to establishing
San Antonio and evolving to two active groups. The San Antonio group has a
February 16 with the Computer Society-SA and Engineering in Medicine and I
University's Skyline Room, and more fun meetings planned for the Spring.

Additional details are posted on the WIE website at <http://ewh.ieee.org/r5/centr>

Editor's Notes

The goal of this newsletter is to provide the more than 5500 members of the Section with meaningful information. We welcome contributions and suggestions that will improve the newsletter. Please contact the editor, Dawn Roberson at robersondj@ieee.org if you have any thoughts. The deadline for submission is the 25th of the month.

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3. IEEE Info

THE INSTITUTE can be found at <http://www.ieee.org/theinstitute>

IEEE Member Benefit:

IEEE Members access the world of technology. Search more than 1,100,000 documents. Subscribe to IEEE Society publications at low, member-only rates. Purchase products - or save even more when you subscribe to the IEEE Member Digital Library.

Get the most from your IEEE membership -- find out how today:
<http://boldfish.ieee.org/u/market8+/04196044>

IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS : IEEE Career-Building Resources: *BOOKMARK career-building resources, including articles and product and service notices, via NAVIGATOR at: <http://ieeusa.org/careers/>. IEEE XELL [a.k.a. Expert Now SUPPORT

Partnership Agreement Signed with THOMSON

A Courseware Development and Distribution Agreement has been signed between IEEE and Thomson to produce and distribute a collection of courses entitled Expert Now IEEE. The agreement enabled Thomson and IEEE to undertake an official product launch on November 1, 2005. The Agreement is for one year beginning on the effective date of September 30, 2005, which began in July, 2005. During this period, the Director of Continuing Education and Professional Activities (EA) worked with Thomson to highlight the features and benefits and to develop a marketing process for Expert Now IEEE with Thomson regional sales teams. At this time, 155 Thomson sales Account Managers and Learning Consultants has been presented with Expert Now IEEE as a potential solution for many of Thomson's existing clients. A significant sales team has started to educate their clients about Expert Now IEEE.

Early sales negotiations have started with two corporate clients and one university. Modules have been developed by Thomson and agreed to by IEEE for institutional sales. As modules are complete and it is estimated that the collection will contain 50 modules. The development of an additional 24 modules is already being funded by 14 various sources. It is expected that this number will grow as we move into 2006 and sales of the product line is being developed cooperatively between IEEE and Thomson. It is scheduled for the 2006 Board meeting. Early in the first quarter of 2006, a meeting is being planned with the Director of Continuing Education and Professional Activities (EA) Liaisons to develop a system that ensures the very best Subject Matter Experts are selected and the quality review process is reviewed and expanded.

For more information on Expert Now, please go to <http://www.ieee.org/education>

For questions CONTACT Marilyn Catis, telephone +1 732 562 5323; "MailTo:Gallus, telephone +1 732 562 5499; "[MailTo: t.gallus@ieee.org](mailto:t.gallus@ieee.org)".

editor's note: I wandered through these, and they seem to be free at this time. eventually be a cost, but the topics varied from tutorial to more details, and a b

IEEE-USA Fly-In Opportunities

IEEE-USA is offering all American IEEE members an opportunity to talk to C security.

On March 14th and 15th we will be holding our first annual Retirement Fly-In. members an opportunity to discuss their concerns about Americas public and p directly with their Members of Congress.

Retirement security is high on Congress agenda for 2006. Reforms to Social S Benefit Guarantee Corporation, as well as changes to laws governing private p year by Congress. The best way to ensure that your views and concerns are co them to your elected representatives face-to-face. IEEE-USA is giving IEEE n

On the afternoon of March 14th participants will meet at IEEE-USAs office in participants will be briefed on pending legislation, political trends and the issue: At the end of the day everyone, even participants who have never spoken to a p to represent themselves to Congress.

Then on March 15th all participants will have private meetings with their mem IEEE-USA will arrange these meetings for all participants. These meetings off explain your personal concerns about our retirement system.

Engineers have a unique perspective on retirement security. It is essential that (perspective is and how it should impact their decisions. The best way to make you want is to tell them yourself.

If you are concerned about retirement policy or the future of your retirement, pl Washington, D.C on March 14th and 15th. There is no charge for the event, ot arrangements.

More information on the event can be found here: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/poli>

Congress will be considering major changes to Americas retirement system this input.

IEEE members who are worried about these issues are encouraged to come to 1 and 15th to make a difference.

For more information about this Fly-In, contact Russ Harrison at r.t.harrison@i visit

our Fly-In page here: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/flyin/retirement/>.

Call for EAB Award Nominations

The IEEE Educational Activities Board is accepting nominations of IEEE men The deadline for nominations is 30 April 2006. Awards include: IEEE EAB Se

Development Award, IEEE EAB Meritorious Achievement Award in Accredited Meritorious Achievement Award in Continuing Education, IEEE EAB Major Award, IEEE EAB Pre-University Educator Award, IEEE EAB Meritorious Student Award, IEEE EAB Employer Professional Development Award.

For award descriptions, honorarium details, and nominations packets, visit http://www.ieee.org/portal/cms_docs/education/EABAwards/index.htm. For more Awards contact eab-awards@ieee.org.

IEEE Foundation Announces 2006 Application

The IEEE Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the IEEE, will accept unsolicited innovative projects that seek to improve the worldwide technological literacy of youth through adulthood in three cycles in 2006. Projects should:

1. Improve primary and secondary math and science learning,
2. Prepare pre-university students to consider engineering as a career path
3. Increase active interest in engineering and science,
4. Preserve the history of IEEE associated technologies,
5. Tap the technological expertise of IEEE members,

Application deadlines:

Applications Due	IEEE Foundation Meeting Date
January 7, 2006	March 2006
April 15, 2006	June 2006
September 16, 2006	November 2006

To learn more about the IEEE Foundation's grant guidelines, and to submit an application, visit the web at www.ieeefoundation.org.

IEEE-USA and IEEE Precollege Efforts

Ralph Wyndrum, the current IEEE-USA President, appeared on the CBS Evening News comment on President Bush's American Competitiveness Initiative. He also recited a New York Times extolling the importance of science and engineering in the US's economic future. He spoke of EWeek activities that engineers do, and the Future Cities Competition as a way to involve middle school students.

This letter was written in response to an Op-Ed piece that appeared in the New York Times by David Brooks entitled "The Nation of the Future." Instead of the normal doom and gloom future resulting from the growth of technology super-powers in Asia, Brooks predicts a bright future. He agrees that there has been substantial growth in the technological capabilities of the US but the hard numbers he quotes are enlightening. According to Brooks the US country, invests the most in R & D, and is the largest contributor to world G.D.P. There will be no shortage of technical professionals, at least so far. He concedes that there are still some of its problems, but our post 12 education institutions are second to none.

All in all, Wyndrum and Brooks predict a bright future for engineering in the US. You can read more about this on our web site at <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r5/central>.

IEEE membership portal

We hope all Section members are taking advantage of the new IEEE Members Center. The Center is supplying interesting content which will be featured on the main page.

<http://www.ieee.org/myieee>.

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