



IEEE Boise Section Newsletter February 2001

Upcoming Events:

February 18-24 - National Engineers Week

Wednesday 21 February – Talk: Power Pricing & Deregulation

Time: 7pm

Location: BSU MEC 106

Speaker: **Mr. Greg Said**, Director of Revenue Requirement for Idaho Power Company. Mr. Said will speak on current power costs in Idaho, the rate impacts that customers will see in 2001, and major factors driving current market prices such as the deregulation efforts in California. Mr. Said will discuss short-term measures that Idaho Power is pursuing in response to higher market costs as well as longer-term acquisition of generation resources to satisfy future loads.

Mr. Said has worked for Idaho Power Company since 1980. He graduated from BSU in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. Mr. Said began his Idaho Power career as a Resource Planning Analyst developing power supply cost simulations for use in resource planning and revenue requirement proceedings. Mr. Said's simulations were used in establishing the Company's revenue requirement after the addition of coal-fired generation units in 1981 and 1985.

In 1989, Mr. Said became a Rate Analyst within what is now called the Pricing and Regulatory Services Department. In 1992, Mr. Said was asked to lead an effort to establish a Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) mechanism that is used to adjust customers' rates annually depending upon projected streamflow conditions. In 1994, Mr. Said was asked to cross train as the Meridian District Manager. The Meridian District was the fastest growing area in the Company's service territory.

After his return to Pricing and Regulatory Services, Mr. Said was asked to lead a team of Pricing Analysts and was promoted to his current Director position. Most recently, Mr. Said lead efforts to produce the Company's Integrated Resource Plan, IRP, develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) to acquire output from generation resources to satisfy future deficiencies as identified in the IRP, and select the successful bidder in the RFP process.

This talk is jointly sponsored by the Boise section and the newly formed joint chapter of the Power Engineering and Industry Applications Societies.

We hope you will join us for this talk. Refreshments will be served.

April 13 –EDS quarterly technical Presentation. Speaker TBD from Applied Materials. 1:30pm, at Micron Technologies, contact Fernando Gonzalez, <fgonzalez@micron.com> 368-3784, for information on location and how to get entrance to Micron.

Recent Events:

December Awards Banquet: The awards banquet on 5 December 2000 was a big success. Approximately 85 people, including spouses and guests, were present. Everyone said they had a great time. Ward Parkinson treated us to a talk titled “The Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle as applied to Patents and Startups”. This included stories about the formation of Micron, and how in so many places in business and life there are uncertainties, not just in quantum physics.

Also at the awards banquet we were pleased to have the opportunity to recognize and honor some of the people who have put in time to keep this section alive throughout the years through the Millennium Medal. Our awardees are:

Syed S. Ahmad	David C. Cutbirth
H. Norris Lynch	William R. McCann
Stephen A. Parke	Gailen B. Soule
Dennis G. Zattiero	

Congratulations and thank you for all your efforts!

HP Tour & GOLD Social Dinner: The IEEE Boise section joined the BSU IEEE Student Branch in a tour at HP Boise in the afternoon on December 13th. After the Tour the GOLD Affinity group sponsored a dinner at a restaurant near HP.

EDS January Technical Talk: The EDS held a technical talk at Micron on January 19th. Dr. Jake Baker, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at Boise State University, presented an overview of DRAM Circuit Design. Over 100 people attended this talk. It was open to EDS, non-EDS IEEE and non-IEEE members. They have another talk scheduled for the near future, see page 1.

E-mail:

If you haven't been receiving the newsletter or event notices electronically, check what we have for your email address on your mailing label please notify both the IEEE (<http://services1.ieee.org/membersvc/coa/intro.htm>) and the Boise section (EBarneySmith@boisestate.edu) so we can add you to our electronic mailing list (we get address corrections only once a month from the IEEE). Plans came about for the EDS talk and the HP tour & dinner after the last newsletter and this newsletter wasn't ready to send (and arrive at your houses) before these events. We are aiming at quarterly newsletters unless volunteers to make more frequent publications can be found. To assure that you get timely information about IEEE Boise events, please make sure we have your correct email address in our address database.

Chapter & Branch News:

Electron Device Society Chapter: The Boise EDS plans to hold a couple of technical talks this spring. More information will be posted to the Boise IEEE website as it is available.

Joint Chapter of the Power Engineering and Industry Applications Societies:

Signatures have been collected and the paperwork is being processed by the IEEE to officially form the Power Engineering and Industrial Applications Society chapter. Contact Said Ahmed-Zaid (426-4073, SAhmedZaid@boisestate.edu) if you want to get involved in suggesting events to be held throughout the year. If you are interested in Power Engineering and Industry Applications but aren't a society member, consider joining. Power Engineering costs \$22 per year, Industrial Applications costs \$18. Activities of the local chapter is funded by part of the Society dues.

Computer Society Chapter:

Joe has the names of the first dozen interested people that contacted him and is interested in more. This list will be used to help gather the signatures required for our society chapter application. The Computer Society has the largest membership of any society within the Boise Section. Why should you want to form and join a Computer Society Chapter? Chapters provide the opportunity for Societies and their members to network at a local level. Chapter activities may include guest speakers, workshops, and seminars. Contact Joe Hartman (joehartman@ieee.org, 426-5714) if you are interested.

BSU Student IEEE Branch: The student branch went to Micron on Feb 6th for a 4 hour tour and meeting with engineers to see what engineers do in their job. They also toured HP with the professional section on Feb 13th. Now they are actively involved in a service project to create a toy for a severely disabled girl. They will be helping with Engineers week at BSU through the Robot Expo to be held during the day on Wednesday 21 February.

GOLD Affinity Group: (Graduates Of the Last Decade)

The GOLD Affinity group recently lead a dinner a Lindy's Steakhouse after the HP tour.at 5:30 pm on February 13th. Ideas for other GOLD events are sought, some of which may be financially sponsored by the Boise section or IEEE Region 6. Contact Randy Wolff by phone at 363-1764 or by email at rrwolff@micron.com.

News & Notes:**Expanding Your Horizons:**

Expanding Your Horizons is a one-day career program that buses ~700 9th and 11th grade young women to Boise from throughout southern Idaho to attend sessions with topics that include engineering and math, the military, sports, law, business, science, communications, etc. It will take place this year on April 11, 2001 in the BSU Jordan Ballroom. They are looking for women engineers to help facilitate the activities for the Engineering and Math sessions. Registration starts at 8am and welcome starts at 9am. Sessions run from 9:45am - 1:45pm. Facilitators who work the sessions around lunch will get lunch provided. Contact Judi Steciak" <jsteciak@uidaho.edu> if you can volunteer.

Report from Region 6 Meeting (San Diego Feb 3, 2001)

Officers from most sections in Region 6 convened in San Diego on the 3rd to get information from Region 6 and IEEE and to share news on section status. Below are some highlights.

- Much of Region 6's financial income comes from the WESCON trade show. That amount almost matches the amount R6 gets from IEEE in rebates & allotments.
- Section members can be part of IEEE-USA policy committees. Do you want to correspond over email with your professional opinion about technical issues and how they would affect US policies?
- Scholarships are available for high school juniors. \$5000 1st prize, \$3000 2nd prize. If your child or niece/nephew, neighbor is a high school junior, get him/her to enter. See <http://coe.isu.edu/ieee/wescon/>. R6 needs people to help review entries also. Each reviewer would be sent 3-6 entries to score. Contact <gene.stuffle@isu.edu> if you want to help.

Notes from Region 6 PACE meeting (San Diego Feb 3, 2001)

Engineering education was the main topic of general discussion and also was the main part of the activities reported by sections. There are numerous opportunities to advance engineering in our communities, from visits to classes to teacher training, which can be taken advantage of by the Boise section. Additional examples are participation in career fairs, Math Counts, State Engineering Council, Future Cities Competitions, Science Fairs, Scholarships for seniors, student paper contests. All these opportunities are exciting but to participate in them and to take advantage of all opportunities available, we need many more volunteers that are available currently. If you want to participate or organize any of

these or similar activities, please contact us. Numerous of the above mentioned activities are being successfully conducted in other IEEE sections.

IEEE is providing a CD which introduces careers in engineering. Boise section will obtain the CD and evaluate it to determine how and where it should be distributed for optimum effect.

PACE – Profesional Activities Committee for Engineers (IEEE-USA)

The Boise section will soon be planning some professional development activities. One idea was a ½ day or full day workshop on Project Management or Leadership. We would make these workshops open to all people in the Treasure Valley, but offer a significant price discount to IEEE members. If you would be interested in these or any other professional development topics, contact the Boise section's PACE chair, Syed Ahmad <SAhmad@micron.net>

What do you want from the Boise section?

If you are receiving this newsletter, you are aware that some of your IEEE dues goes to the Boise section (such as to pay for this letter). What else do you want for your money? Let your officers know. You just might get it.

Current Officers

IEEE Boise Section:

Chair: Elisa H. Barney Smith, 426-2214
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Vice-Chair: Sunish Gupta:
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Secretary: Stephen Parke:
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Treasurer, PACE: Syed Ahmad:
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Boise EDS Chapter:

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FGonzalez@micron.com

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<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r6/boise>

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