

Joint VT & AES Greece Chapter creates educational network

THE IEEE Joint VTS & AESS Greece Chapter is creating a network of groups at each educational institution in Northern Greece.

You can visit the main International Hellenic University site at www.ihu.edu.gr. Other institutions involved are: Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (www.auth.gr), University of Macedonia (www.uom.gr), University of Western Macedonia (www.uowm.gr), Technical Educational Institute of Thessaloniki (www.teithe.gr), Technical Educational Institute of

Serres (www.teiser.gr) and the Centre for Research and Technology of Hellas (www.certh.gr).

A workshop on 'Modern Information Systems and Wireless Telecommunication Issues' was organised for 23 March 2010, at the International Hellenic University, Thessaloniki.

The workshop gathered an audience of 350 from universities and government. The Chair spoke to the audience (including about 30 members of the IEEE) on IEEE and its Chapter ac-

tivities. She received a lot of questions especially on the benefits of joining IEEE community.

This workshop inspired the formation of an IEEE Student Branch at Dept. Informatics and Telecomm. Eng'g. at the Univ. of Western Macedonia, Kozani, Greece.

More events in various capital cities of Northern Greece are being planned by the Chapter.

For more information, visit us online at www.ieee.org/r8/greece/avtc.

George Papadopoulos



Some 350 people attended the workshop in March.

UAE, Ghana, Italy and Egypt win website contest

THE IEEE Region 8 announced the results of the IEEE Region 8 Section Website Contest in April 2010.

The goal of this Contest is to give a motive to all Sections to create or improve their own website that will serve as a reference point for all their members. This will help the Sections place their mark on the map and facilitate their future actions and activities.

The United Arab Emirates Section grabbed the first prize with \$500 cash to the Section and a plaque to the webmaster that will be given in person at the next IEEE Region 8 meeting.



Ghana Section, Italy Section, and Egypt Section won the second, third and fourth prizes respectively.

The rest of the winning Sections of the Contest will receive the following prizes: Second place \$500, third place \$250, and fourth place \$250. All get a plaque dedicated to the Section's webmaster.

SIBIRCON 2010

<http://sibircon2010.sibsutis.ru>

11–15 July 2010 • Irkutsk, Russia

SIBIRCON 2010 is one of IEEE Region 8's flagship events – an international conference focusing on computational technologies in electrical and electronics engineering.

Energy conference focuses on efficiency

THE 2ND German American Energy Conference, organized by the German American Chambers of Commerce and the German Energy Agency, took place on 22–23 March 2010 at the House of German Business in Berlin.

The conference focused on renewables and energy efficiency. Our representatives included Uwe Jungfer, the head of Standards and More, the IEEE's sales entity in Germany, Paul Canning, IEEE HQ and members from IEEE Germany Section and IEEE Power Engineering Germany Chapter.

Chapter vice chair, Wilfried Fischer, moderated the Energy Efficiency Block which comprised introductions by US and EU officials, a panel on 'How to Increase Efficiency Capabilities in Industry', and a presentation on best practices: 'The energy efficiency field is a real challenge for the future'.

IEEE's information booth was set up by staff from Piscataway. Other notable organizations included the US Department of Energy, Bundesverband BioEnergie eV, and the Solar Energy Industries Association.

IEEE members contributed much expertise on technology, standardization and education. There was significant exchange of ideas regarding energy efficiency optimization and renewable energy expansion.

The two-day event was also a great opportunity for people to network within numerous energy relevant programmes and institutions. A wide spectrum of topics



brought much discussion, including the following:

■ Rainer Brüderle, Federal Minister of Economics and Technology, on 'Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency – keys for a sustainable energy supply in the US and Germany'.

■ Richard O'Neill, Chief Economic Adviser USA Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on 'Integration of Renewables into National Grid – extension of power grids, storage and smart grids'.

■ Scott Gregory Minos, US Department of Energy, on 'Current National Incentives for Energy Efficiency in the USA'.

■ The German Energy Agency's Chief Executive, Stephan Kohler, wrote in his welcome note to the conference's attendees: 'Energy efficiency and renewable energies are essential industries for the 21st century'. What we have heard during the event only proves him right.

More information is available on our website: www.gae-conference.com.