

Region 3



<http://ewh.ieee.org/reg/3>

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IEEE - Our Professional Home

In this newsletter, we recognize IEEE as our professional home. We review a successful SoutheastCon, the contributions of many of our members and we celebrate each other.

We find how IEEE supports us throughout our career and our professional activities, including: Employment & Career Services, Women In Engineering, Sections Congress, PACE, upcoming Award program deadlines, and our region special project, VIP (Volunteer Integration Process.)

SoutheastCon 2014 in Lexington was a spectacular event. Many thanks are due to Chair, Don Hill and his entire team. We sometimes forget how multi-faceted this conference is. It includes:

- Student Competitions
- Technical Paper Presentations
- Multi-day Region Leadership meeting
- Awards Banquet
- Training

The energy level displayed at SoutheastCon was truly inspirational. The students showed great enthusiasm and drive in their contributions, as did other participants, faculty, coaches, mentors, and award winners.

Perhaps one of the least visible activities is the multi-day Region Leadership meeting. This year, nearly 60 volunteer leaders from around the southeast US and Jamaica gathered Friday, Saturday and Sunday to train, share experiences and plan the future.

These dedicated volunteers spend countless hours planning and engaging IEEE at your local level. These local units are called sections and they work best when in concert with society chapters, student chapters, affinity groups, outreach programs, and educational programs – all the different ways we interact with IEEE.

My challenge to each and every one is to see what other IEEE activities are available in your local area and see how you can help. Your career and life will be enriched



Mary Ellen Randall
Director, Region 3

Inside this issue of the Region 3 Newsletter

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by your IEEE contacts.

Don't forget to say "thank you" to those volunteers who work so diligently to make IEEE our "professional home." Today, I add my thanks for a job well done!

Director-Elect Musings

By Jim Conrad [jmconrad@uncc.edu]

As mentioned in my first newsletter column, I will recount my experiences at IEEE meetings that I attend as a Director-elect (which our Director, Mary Ellen Randall, also attends). First of all, this is a very active year for meetings. These are:



- February: IEEE Board Meeting Series (5 days)
- March: SoutheastCon (4 days)
- May: IEEE-USA Annual Meeting (3 days)
- June: IEEE Board Meeting Series (5 days)
- August: Sections Congress (6 days)
- November: IEEE Board Meeting Series (6 days)
- The director will also attend a January retreat for 3-4 days. There is also a call-in Board Meeting in May.

The Region Directors sit on the IEEE Board of Directors, the IEEE-USA Board of Directors, and the MGA (Member and Geographic Activities Board Meeting) Board. Each board has other members which participate. These members are elected or appointed to perform specific jobs. The IEEE Board of Directors also has Directors elected from the Societies.

During the IEEE Board Meeting Series, many different groups meet: the Technical Activities Board (TAB), some Society Board of Governors, and of course,

the Board of Directors. Over the five or six days of the meeting series, the directors and director-elects will participate in the following meetings:

- Wednesday (if needed) - Training or committee meeting (8am - 6 pm)
- Thursday - Training or committee meetings (8am - 6 pm)
- Friday -IEEE USA Board of Directors Meeting (8am - 6 pm)
- Saturday - Member and Geographic Activities Board Meeting (8am - 5pm)
- Sunday - IEEE Board of Directors (8am - 6pm)
- Monday- IEEE Board of Directors (8am - 6pm)

The meeting space is organized as a large square of tables where the directors sit, all facing each other. There are other people interested in the meeting, so they sit in rows in the back. Mary Ellen Randall has called this "the United Nations".

The meeting agendas look very similar to the Region 3 business meetings. There are many Director and committee reports which are posted but are not conveyed during the meetings – these can be read before the meeting. Most of the time is spent on strategic issues and opportunities.

What is some of the business transacted during the meetings? That is the subject of my next column! Feel free to contact me at jmconrad@uncc.edu if you have any questions about or comment on IEEE.

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Region 3's Suggested Sections Congress Recommendations

David Green [d.green@ieee.org]
Past Region 3 Director

As Chris Hardy elaborates elsewhere in this newsletter, every three years section leaders from all over the world come together and in addition to other activities, they create a set of recommendations for action to move IEEE forward from their perspective. This cycle (as in 2011), things start with each Region submitting a collection of up to four recommendations. Region 3's recommendations were arrived at by a process that began with suggestions from Region 3 volunteers, review, refinement, and finally prioritization by the Region 3 Leaders attending SoutheastCon 2014. An advocate for each recommendation was identified and the advocate, working with Chris Hardy, completed the forms to submit the recommendations, and Chris submitted the recommendations on May 16 this year.



The four final recommendations and their advocates are, in no particular order:

- Develop an opt-in calendar listing for Section events that will work with popular calendars, such as Google, Outlook, Yahoo, iCal, etc. (Ken Dunn)
- Produce and maintain a catalog of humanitarian efforts throughout IEEE for use by members and the global community. (Butch Shadwell)
- Provide members visibility across geographic lines: "Members Without Borders" (Jennifer Ammentorp)
- Develop consistent global engineering and technology outreach (to pre-college students) tools that can be easily implemented within sections. (Jim Conrad)

The Sections Congress committee will receive the recommendations from all 10 regions, reconcile duplications and ambiguities, and produce a final list of up to 40 recommendations for the Primary Delegates (from the sections) to prioritize as

one of the activities of the congress. They have stated that they will work with advocates so as to not lose the essence of the original region recommendation.

Before (electronically) and during the congress (both electronically and face-to-face), delegates can discuss the recommendations with each other and the IEEE world. During the congress, primary delegates will be asked to electronically prioritize the recommendations and at the end of the congress, the Sections Congress committee will announce the top 5 recommendations and forward these to IEEE MGA for action. It is expected that the Region 3 delegates will advocate and explain for the Region 3 suggestions as well as become familiar with the other recommendations so that good decisions are made.

The main page for Sections Congress [is](http://www.ieee.org/sc2014) <http://www.ieee.org/sc2014> and the final 5 recommendations (and the IEEE actions on them) are located at <http://www.ieee.org/sc2011>

Volunteer Integration Process Project

By Jill Gostin [jgostin@ieee.org]
Region 3 Awards

The Volunteer Integration Process (VIP) project is a Region 3 initiative to provide training and support to volunteers stepping into a new volunteer position. The project concept was formulated in December of 2013, with a kick-off meeting in February, 2014. This assistance provided to the volunteer will include an on-boarding document detailing the new responsibilities, a calendar of duties that occur throughout the entire year, monthly reminders of upcoming responsibilities, a list of other available resources, a trained mentor, and a feedback loop to continually improve the process and the information. A few Sections will serve as test cases. The project team is coordinating with MGA to ensure that we best utilize the resources that are available to us, and don't duplicate any efforts that are already being undertaken elsewhere.

A survey of the Chairs of the test case

Sections was made and provided some helpful insight into what is needed:

- Positions to focus on – Chair, Treasurer, MD Chair and PACE chair. After those 4 were Secretary and Vice Chair.
- All have used IEEE online training resources
- All had assistance from their predecessor
- Some prefer webinars, some prefer documents, some just want a mentor
- Challenges they face:
 - ◊ Locating info on IEEE website is difficult
 - ◊ No initial training – need training BEFORE they start
 - ◊ Don't know what they need to do/ know until it's asked for (need to be more proactive)
 - ◊ No schedule of what needs to be done throughout the year

The VIP project team identified additional areas that need to be addressed. Key issues that came out of that meeting include **storage location** for the information repository, **how to automate the process** of sending information to the volunteers, setting up **training for mentors**, creating an **inventory list** of what information is already available (to avoid duplication), creating a **“big picture” overview** to help volunteers understand how all the offices/committees fit together and how they fit into IEEE, making sure the repository is **scalable** to a larger group than currently anticipated, and working with MGA to obtain a **monthly list of new volunteers** for each section.

At SoutheastCon in March, a breakout session on the VIP project was held. Interest in the project was great -- we overflowed the room and had to bring in extra chairs for everyone! The attendees provided extensive feedback on what information needs to be shared with new volunteers – feedback specific to individual volunteer positions. That feedback is being used to generate the information for the repository.

The VIP Technical Team had a meeting on May 9 to discuss a location for the information repository, how to allow editing of documents in that repository, how to provide calendar capabilities (monthly reminders of upcoming responsibilities) and how to automate the process of sending out the information to those that need it. Some draft documents have been created for Chair, Treasurer, PACE Chair and MD Chair. When the documents are more fully developed, they will be sent out for review by appropriate R3 members. For now they are being used to test document access and will be used to begin attempting automated mailings. Currently, the plan is to make use of IEEE's free access to Google Apps (mostly Google Drive). The meeting ended with everyone being tasked to investigate methods of automating the process of sending out the information. If you have skills in this area, or helpful suggestions, please contact me, Jill Gostin (VIP Project Manager), at jgostin@ieee.org.

I believe this project will have a positive impact on each volunteer's experience and will not only help them transition into a new position but will make them more effective in that position. A Section's success is dependent on the effectiveness of those in leadership roles, thus **the ultimate goal of this project is to build stronger, more successful Sections.**

IEEE WIEC

By **Cathy Freeman** [c.freeman@ieee.org]

The IEEE Women In Engineering Committee (WIEC) recently held their annual in-person meeting in San Francisco, CA, USA. Nita Patel, the WIEC Chair, presided over two days of discussions, planning, award selections, and working groups. Almost 40 WIEC officers, Region Coordinators, and Technical Society Liaisons participated, including several IEEE members from Region 3 serving in various roles: the WIE newsletter editor Paulette January, TAB Liaison Deborah Cooper, Broadcast Technology Society Liaison Christine Di Lapi, Computer Society Liaison Jane Prey, the Region 3 WIE Coordinator, Cathy

Freeman, and others. The in-person meeting was held immediately following the first ever WIE International Leadership Conference (WIE-ILC 2014) which was held May 2/3 in the same location.

Since 2014 is the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Women In Engineering Standing Committee of IEEE, WIEC is planning several special events and activities. They will be sending out cards to all the Affinity Groups and asking them to take a photo with the card and send it to women@ieee.org. The photos will be collected into a book to commemorate the anniversary. WIEC would also like a short video in your native language:

"To celebrate our 20th anniversary, we are compiling a video montage to be shown at Sections Congress. Please send a short video (15-30 seconds) in your native language (English, Spanish, French, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Chinese...) with a message about IEEE Women in Engineering. Please submit videos by May 31, 2014 to women@ieee.org.

Recommended message: Hi. My name is... I am a student/professional/professor at...I love IEEE Women in Engineering because...

Example message: My name is Nita Patel. I am the WIE international chair. I love

IEEE Women in Engineering because it's such a vibrant collection of passionate individuals making a difference in their communities."

The WIEC discussed the just completed, very successful ILC. Some numbers:

- 364 attendees
- 150 career fair attendees
- 85 great speakers
- 23 partners from industry and academia
- 14 international student travel grants

The intended audience is mid- and upper-level professional women in technology. There were four tracks of speakers and panels addressing Inspiration, Empowerment, Work/Life Balance, and Engagement. See <http://ieee-wie-ilc.org/agenda/> for more details. The attendees heard from a spectrum of high-level women executives and professional business consultants who shared their stories and advice for achieving career success, leading global teams, and for increasing the number of women and minorities in the technical career pipeline.

Preliminary plans are to hold the second annual WIE-ILC in 2015 in San Francisco. Please stay tuned and consider allocating funds to support your section AG chair's attendance at this inspiring conference next year.



The IEEE Women In Engineering Committee attendees

The WIE roster shows 6 Student Branch Affinity Groups in Region 3:

Alabama A&M in Huntsville, AL-welcome!

Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA

University of Central Florida in Orlando, FL

University of Florida in Gainesville, FL

University of North Carolina at Charlotte in Charlotte, NC

Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC

and 8 Affinity Groups:

Atlanta

Charlotte

Eastern North Carolina

Florida West Coast

Memphis

Northwest Florida

Orlando

Richmond

Welcome also to the most recently formed Student Branch Affinity Group at Mississippi State University, whose chair was able to attend the inaugural ILC.

From the database, the following sections already have enough members to form their own Affinity Groups: Huntsville, Alabama, East Tennessee, Miami, Hampton, Gainesville, and Melbourne. If anyone from those sections is interested and need assistance, feel free to contact the Region 3 Coordinator or WIE to begin the process.

Contact information:

Cathy Freeman, c.freeman@ieee.org

Women in Engineering:

ieee.org/women

<https://www.facebook.com/ieewomeninengineering>

Region 3 Awards at SoutheastCon 2014

Jill Gostin [jgostinieee.org]

Region 3 Awards

Jim Anderson [jim.anderson@ieee.org]

Florida Council Chair

Region 3 enjoyed an exciting night in Lexington, KY at SoutheastCon, celebrating the accomplishments of our Region 3 Award winners! Awards were given to professionals and students, awards were given for Best Technical Papers, winners of other IEEE awards were recognized, and we congratulated the new Region 3 2014 Fellows. Congratulations to all the winners.

The 2013 Region 3 awards and recognitions are:



Joseph M. Biedenbach
Outstanding Engineering Educator Award presented to Dr. Robert Cox, for extensive contributions to energy and power education, inspiring enthusiasm for engineering among his students.

Dr. Robert Cox is currently an Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at UNC Charlotte. Since arriving at UNCC in 2006, he has been actively engaged in teaching courses in power electronics, electric machines, signal processing, and engineering design.



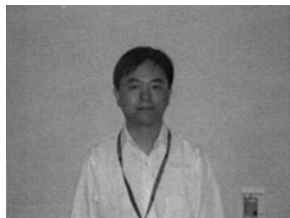
This year's Outstanding Engineer Award went to Dr. Frederick D. Esenwein for distinguished contributions to automotive electrical systems and electronic development. Frederick D. Esenwein (M'92-SM'00) received B.E. and M.S. degrees in electrical

engineering (EE) from Youngstown State University in 1975 and 1980, and the Ph.D. degree in EE from the University of Pittsburgh in 1992.

He is past treasurer of the Charlotte Section. He received the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society Best Paper Award in 1995 and the IQPC Six Sigma Excellence Award in 2007. He has served on the

MIT/Industry Consortium on Advanced Automotive Electrical/Electronic Components and Systems, the SAE Hybrid (Electric Vehicle) Technical Standards Committee, and the Youngstown State University Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Industrial Advisory Board.

Outstanding Service presented to Dr. Donghui Wu, for exemplary service to IEEE at the local, state, Region 3 and Society level.



Donghui Wu, Ph.D. (S'98, M 1 99, SM` 01) is currently Senior Director of Predictive Modeling, LexisNexis Risk Solutions I Healthcare Group. He was director of

predictive model and principal scientist of Elsevier Clinical Solutions.

Dr. Wu currently is serving as past Chair of the IEEE Florida Council, PACE Chair, Employment Coordinator, and Strategic Planning Chair of the IEEE Orlando Section, and Chair of the Orlando Joint Chapter of Control Systems/Robotics and Automation/Systems, Man, and Cybernetics. He was the recipient of the IEEE Orlando Section 2013 Outstanding Service Award, and the IEEE Florida Council 2008 Outstanding Engineer Award. He earned his Ph.D. and M.S. degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY.

Employer Professional Development Award presented to Southern Company, for outstanding achievement and long-term dedication to innovative and diverse Employee Professional Development.



Director's Choice Award presented to Dr. Regina Hannemann, for leadership in Student Activities and establishing the Region 3 Fall

Training Program for Students

Within IEEE, she has served as Chair, Vice Chair and Student Activities Chair in the Lexington Section. She has served as the Student Branch Counselor of the University of Kentucky Student Branch since 2005. On the regional and international level, she has served as the Region 3 Student Activities Chair and has served as Associate Editor for IEEE Potentials Magazine.



The Director's Choice Award was awarded to William B. Ratcliff for outstanding counsel and support to the Region 3 Director and members. Bill Ratcliff (M'74, SM'92, LSM'10) began his career in 1965 and for over four decades has

experienced first-hand the evolution of information technology as a corporate tool along with the opportunities and problems it has surfaced.

He has served Region 3 on the SPC (Chair), N&A, Executive Committee, and as Director (2008-09) and Director Elect (2006-07). In his local Section, the Savannah Section, he has served as Vice Chair, Awards Chair, and Section Support (Webmaster and SAMIEEE Representative).

James Beall SoutheastCon Recognition presented to Don Hill, for his significant and long lasting contributions to Region



Region 3 2013 Award Winners

3's conference activities.

Other Region 3 award winners recognized at the banquet include

IEEE Medals

2013 Richard W. Hamming Medal: **Robert Calderbank**

2013 James H. Mulligan, Jr. Education Medal: **J. David Irwin**

2014 Medal of Honor: **Bantval Jayant Baliga**

2014 Jack S. Kilby Signal Processing Medal: **Thomas P. Barnwell, III**

IEEE Technical Field Awards

2013 IEEE Biomedical Engineering Award: **Robert Plonsey**

2014 James L. Flanagan Speech and Audio Processing Award: **Biinghwang Juang**

2014 IEEE Charles Proteus Steinmetz Award: **Mark McGranaghan**

IEEE USA Award for Regional Professional Leadership: **Susan Donohue**

IEEE Educational Activities Board Award for Employer Professional Development: **Georgia Tech Research Institute**

Congratulations to all the winners! We plan to push many of these winners forward to other awards within IEEE.

There are many opportunities for awards within IEEE, including the Region 3 Awards. It is my goal as Awards and Recognitions Chair to help all of you, our Region 3 members, nominate your colleagues for any of these prestigious awards (you don't need to win at the Region level to be nominated for other IEEE awards). If you ever need assistance with a nomination, please feel free to contact me at jgostin@ieee.org.

Some IEEE Award Deadlines:



Georgia Tech Research Institute, 2013 Recipient of both the Region 3 and the EAB Employer Professional Development Awards



Chattanooga Section, recognized with a banner for their 50th anniversary



A few of our many student award winners

Region 3 2013 IEEE Fellows, Class of 2014

Mohammad Alam	Robert Kozma	Guillermo Sapiro
Gautam Biswas	Charles Melcher	Raghupathy Sivakumar
Kent Brown	Unakisho Ramachandran	Mircea Stan
Judson Clements	Robert Reed	John Stasko
Liyi Dai	Michael Reiter	Solveig Ward
Aly Farag	Martin Richardson	Sudhakar Yalamanchili
Roger King		

- **IEEE Awards:** Recognitions and Medals deadline 1 July 2014 <http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/index.html>
- **IEEE USA Awards:** deadline 31 July 2014 <http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/awards/index.html>
- **Member and Geographic Activities (MGA) Awards:** deadline mid-October http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/awards/index.html

IEEE Region 3 Employee Assistance Ed Kirchner [ed.kirchner@ieee.org] Chair and Region 3 representative to the IEEE-USA Employment and Career Services Committee

Greetings to all my fellow Region 3 IEEE members! The great organization that we have chosen to join has a wealth of resources available to us to help us achieve our career goals, from finding employment all the way through helping us get the most from our careers – no matter what career stage we may be in.



IEEE has the IEEE Job Site, which is a searchable database of jobs available in the electrical, electronic, engineering, and computer-related fields. IEEE-USA has a number of resources, including the IEEE-USA Salary Service, webinars, e-books and PACE modules that include career information on resumes writing, interview preparation, etc. All of this info is most easily accessed by going to the Career Manager at www.ieeeusa.org/careers. I encourage you to go and check it out.

Your home region, Region 3, does not stop there, however! We have some unique tools

aimed specifically at helping Region 3 members. Go to the Region 3 homepage at www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3. There, under Region 3 Services, you will find a link to the Region 3 Employment Assistance website. Here, you'll get access to employment and career info specifically meant to help us in Region 3.

Finally, Region 3 has one special service, available only to Region 3 members. The region has a database of employers that includes specific company information – the exact type of data you can use as part of a targeted job search. The database includes not only such general information as company addresses and telephone numbers; it also includes the contact info for high level leaders within the organizations. If you are looking for a job in a specific area, this information can be invaluable. Send me a request, to ed.kirchner@ieee.org, specifying what areas you are looking in, and I will be happy to run a query for you.

If you have any questions about any of the services IEEE offers in the areas of employment assistance and career management, please contact me. As an IEEE volunteer, it is important to me to help my fellow members get the most out of the wealth of resources our organization has.

Ed Kirchner
Region 3 Representative to the IEEE-USA
Employment and Career Services
Committee
2014 Chair of the IEEE-USA PACE Committee

IEEE Sections Congress 2014

IEEE SECTIONS CONGRESS /// 2014

IEEE Sections Congress 2014 registration is open

Registration is now open for [IEEE Sections Congress 2014](http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/sections_congress/2014/index.html) (SC2014).

http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/sections_congress/2014/index.html

SC2014 will be held 22-24 August 2014, at the RAI Convention Centre, in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The primary audience for IEEE Sections Congress is IEEE members who are volunteering within the MGA structure (Region, geographic Councils, Section, Subsection, Chapter, and affinity group), but volunteers from other IEEE units are encouraged to attend as well.

The SC2014 theme is "Inspiring Our Leaders of Tomorrow," and the breakout sessions will correspond with the three program tracks: Enhance Member Satisfaction, Improve Volunteer Experience, and Reach Globally with Local Touch. In addition to attending five 75-minute traditional breakout sessions throughout the weekend, attendees will be offered several new program options, including Learning Labs and Ignite Sessions.

[Register now](http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/sections_congress/2014/index.html)

Information about the program, sponsorship opportunities, and travel logistics are also available:

http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/sections_congress/2014/index.html

[FAQs & Assistance](#)

Additional SC14 information can be found on the Region 3 website:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/>

For additional SC14 support please contact:

Chris Hardy

IEEE Region 3 SC14 Coordinator

c.hardy@ieee.org

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IEEE WIE Honors Rainy Taylor
By Cathy Freeman [c.freeman@ieee.org]

Region 3 congratulates Rainy January for being selected by the IEEE WIE Executive Committee as an Honorable Mention for the 2014 Inspiring Student Member of the Year award "for her passion and dedication to the mission and vision of IEEE Women in Engineering". The purpose of the award is to recognize student members who have made outstanding contributions to WIE, their community and the engineering community through dedication and involvement in projects or activities directed toward fulfilling one or more of the WIE goals and objectives. The award includes a cash prize of \$50USD, and a certificate of recognition.

Rainy is majoring in Computer Science at Alabama A&M University (AAMU). She is a charter member and 2013-2014 chair of the IEEE WIE Student Branch Affinity Group

(SBAG) there, and was the 2013 President of the AAMU IEEE Student Branch. She recently co-authored an article in the December

2013 issue of IEEE Women in Engineering Magazine: "IEEE WIE Charter on 'The Hill' at AAMU". She has helped her mother, Paulette January, edit articles for the WIE newsletter the past few years. The two of them share a passion for technology.

Besides her inspiring work to form the new SBAG at AAMU and organize valuable activities for its members, Rainy has been active in her community in activities to encourage youth to follow their dreams and provide them with information about entering college and considering STEM careers. She has contributed to local Chamber of Commerce events, tutored youth, and is active in her church youth

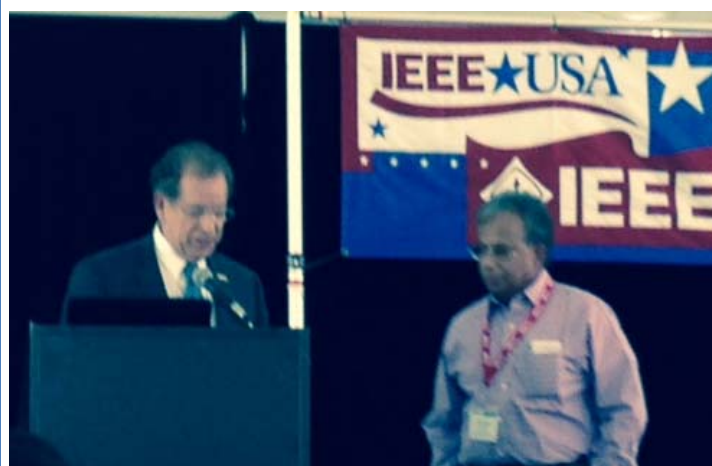


ministry. In high school, Rainy excelled in a number of activities, including band where she was the leader of the saxophone section and the marching band drum major.

Region 3 is proud of her and her accomplishments to date, and wish her continued success in her career.

Central Tennessee Section Honored at IEEE-USA Meeting

At the IEEE-USA Annual meeting, Abraham George represented the Central Tennessee section when IEEE-USA President Gary Blank highlighted the section's success in recruiting new members. Congratulations Central Tennessee! Keep up the good work!



IEEE-USA President Gary Black (L) and Abraham George

*Professional Development Activities:
Financial Support to Sections and
Chapters in Region 3*

John Montague [j.montague@computer.org]

Region 3 receives an allocation from IEEE-USA for use in providing funding to Sections in support of the Section's Professional Development Activities. These funds, about \$12,200, come with guidelines for their use: funds from the Section's budget may be matched, up to \$500. However the Region Director has discretion to approve higher amounts of



John Montague
IEEE Region 3
PAOC

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matching funds when the benefits delivered to members warrant the exception.

So, what is the difference between Professional Activities and Technical Activities? Professional Activities are events and programs that benefit members in their professional and personal lives that focus on subjects that do not address the primary area of technical competence of the majority of participating members. All Professional Activities should be reported as a meeting in the vTools Meetings application and this definition should be used to select the Meeting Category (Professional, Technical, Nontechnical, Administrative). Note the actual audience determines whether a specific meeting topic is Technical or Professional.

The primary objective of Professional Development funding is to benefit IEEE members, heighten their satisfaction with IEEE, and to promote their engagement in Section and Chapter activities. A wide range of topics fall into Professional category: Technical Overview, Personal Planning, Career Planning, Business Processes, Interpersonal Relationships, Employment, and similar topics. Pre-college STEM activities may be classified as Professional Development if they result in soft-skill development for a significant number of IEEE members, otherwise they are Section projects that should be funded wholly by Section funds. College activities are funded through S-PAC funding available from the Region Student Activities Coordinator and the S-PAC Coordinator.

Professional Development Funding Process

1. The Section Professional Development Activities Committee Chair (or other Section entity) defines a Professional Development Activity at a high level with an estimated budget, then socializes the concept with the Section ExCom and Section members. This should be done at least 6 weeks before the proposed event, perhaps 9-12 months in advance. The event should be discussed with the Region 3 Professional Activities Operations

Committee (PAOC) Chair to obtain input about similar activities held by other Sections and to ascertain if the Region budget is likely to be able to support requested funds.

2. A somewhat detailed plan for the event is prepared with a fairly accurate budget. Presenters should have agreed to participate with at least an abstract for their presentation. This plan is reviewed with the Section ExCom and approval of Section funds perfected. Preferably complete this 6 weeks before the event, but no later than 4 weeks before, this allows time to publicize the event and to submit the Section Project Funding Request Form (prepared as part of the planning process using the template at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/pace/funding.asp>) to the Region 3 PAOC Chair with the 4 week lead time required for Region review and approval. This also allows time to discuss and resolve issues that may exist.
3. PAOC reviews the Section funding request for completeness and appropriateness, then forwards the request to the Region 3 Director with a recommendation for or against approval. When the request falls within guidelines, the topic is appropriate, and funds are available in the Region 3 budget, then Director approval is highly likely. Requests outside guidelines will be judged on the magnitude of resulting benefit to IEEE members (think of \$25 per member served as a way to justify more than \$500 matching funds). Approval must be obtained before the start of the event for Region 3 funds to be available.
4. Request is returned to the submitter with approval or disapproval. Early consultation with the PAOC Chair will help ensure approval.
5. If there are fixed costs (expenses that do not depend on the actual number of participants) then an advance payment may be made to the Section, if requested.
6. The event is held.
7. Within 20 days of the completion of the event:

- a. Submitted a meeting report in vTools (or if the meeting was scheduled in vTools then finalize the automatic meeting report in vTools)
 - b. Submit the Final Project Report (this template also available at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/pace/funding.asp>) to the PAOC Chair for approval.
8. Committed Region 3 funding not already paid is disbursed to the Section.

Some notes:

- Project Title should be short and descriptive, starting with the Section or Chapter name, e.g., "Atlanta Computer Chapter Agile SW Dev. Workshop"
- Treasurer is the sponsor Section Treasurer and the contact information must be complete and correct as this is where funds will be sent.
- Project Manager is the IEEE member who is managing the event and with whom all project correspondence will be exchanged (other than payments).
- Project Funding Sources must account for all project costs. Add a Budget worksheet to the Funding Request template if need.
- A project seeking Professional Development Funds must be organized and controlled by the requesting Section(s) and/or Chapter(s), i.e., it is an IEEE project, not a project of another organization to which the Section is making a contribution. Section contributions come from Section funds, except for exceptional circumstances that have been thoroughly reviewed and approved well in advance by the Region Director (perhaps also by the Region ExCom).
- Projects that under-run their budget must credit that under-run equally to the Section/Chapter and to Region 3. Discuss any repayment due Region 3 with the PAOC Chair before submitting your Final Report.

Professional Development Activities can take the form of a presentation at a regular Section, Chapter, or Affinity Group meeting (the primary meeting topic), a

special unit meeting, or a workshop with multiple sessions over a half day to multi-day period (most of which are Professional Development topics). Every Section should strive to hold at least two Professional Development Activities each calendar year, better yet one each quarter. The Section Professional Activities Committee should present a plan for the following year's activities to the Section ExCom at the end of each year (coordinated with the development of the Section budget), a courtesy copy to the Region 3 PAOC Chair would be appreciated. When there is no Section Professional Activities Committee Chair appointed then the Section Chair, or the Section ExCom as a whole, should undertake the development of the year's Professional Development plan and undertake development/submission of Professional Development Funding requests to Region 3.

The time required to plan, arrange, and hold a Professional Development Activity depends on the scope and complexity of the event(s), regardless the desire/necessity of Region 3 funding. Once the plan is complete then completion of the Section Project Funding Request Form should take about an hour, no more than two. Tending to the approval process may take another hour. Assuming proper records of expenses and attendance were maintained then completing the Final Project Report should take at most one hour (much of it is just copied from the Funding Request). A well and timely planned, and well run, Professional Development Activity that falls within the funding guidelines should incur no more than 2 or 3 hours additional effort to obtain Region 3 funding, those requiring exceptions to the guidelines a little bit more.

John Montague
Region 3 Professional Activities Operations
Committee Chair
IEEE_USA PACE Committee, Region 3
representative
montague@ieee.org

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Lee Stogner

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Jill Gostin

To contact any of the above members, please go to this website

<http://ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/comp.html>

Other Region 3 Address:

R3 Web Site: <http://ewh.ieee.org/reg/3>

Facebook: Search for “IEEE Region 3”

Blog: <http://ieeer3.blogspot.com>

Twitter: r3ieee

Calendar: r3ieee@gmail.com (Region 3 planned meetings)

Calendar: <https://meetings.vtools.ieee.org/meetings/ical/0/90/asc/3>

(all meetings in Region 3 in vTools)

R3 Online Community: <https://region3.oc.ieee.org> (uses IEEE Credentials)