

Sections Congress 2005

October 14, 2005

Eastern NC Section Report

- Section Meeting activity has been continuing strongly. The Section level has been successful at operating meetings on a monthly basis. Subjects have ranged from hardcore technical, to soft technical, to personal/professional improvement. The latter of this continues to draw fewer attendance than the others, but I believe offering the membership these occasional opportunities is worthwhile.
Chapters are on schedule for meeting their minimum or better meeting counts.
- One of the Past Chair's strongest suggestions for improvement was in regular and timely communication with the membership. I believe we have done a consistently good job of this in the past year.
- The Section's WIE Affinity group has been too quiet this year. Although I think they may have met their required meetings count, the group's bylaws require the Chair position to be changed every 2 years. Our current WIE Chair will complete that this year, and I have not heard of her plans for succession. I will be asking her for recommendation for a new Chair.
- Mentoring future Section-Leadership.
 - I've been keeping my attention to providing the next 'generation' leaders exposure to IEEE volunteer operations inside and outside the Section. In April, our Section Secretary attended SECon with me. I have the Section's Vice-Chair attending the Sections Congress 2005. I had planned on bringing the Section Membership Development chair to SC'05 as well, but she recently announced she would be stepping down from this position (after very successfully operating the role for the past 2 or 3 years).
 - I feel pretty strongly about the value that bringing 1 or 2 secondary Section officers provide to the health and vitality of the individual sections. I realize it is an expense that can be difficult to support, but would nonetheless recommend that Region consider subsidizing at least a part of this at future Region meeting events like SECon and regular R3 in person meetings. This action would speak loudly towards the value IEEE holds in leadership-mentoring. Perhaps this is even a request that should be brought up to IEEE in NJ for all Sections (not just R3). Could this fit into the category of a "special project"?
- Our Lower-Cape-Fear subsection has effectively ceased. The previous sub-section chair is willing to meet with us in an effort at revival, and I hope to do that between now and the end of November. If this meeting proves fruitful, we have continuing strength there. If it does not, we will conclude that the subsection goes inactive. Periodic attempts to revitalize will perhaps occur, but will not happen frequently.
- With each event and each newsletter, I put out a call for ideas and volunteers. The volunteers have been coming slowly but definitely. We now find ourselves in a position of having more volunteers than we have tasks to assign, a dilemma we are pleased to need to cope with, and one which I hope shall be remedied with not too much time.