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Subject: IEEE North Carolina Council Report for August 2010

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▶ 1 Attachment, 13.9 KB

The report from the **North Carolina Council** for our August meeting finds all 5 Sections working hard and busy as can be expected. Only one Section (Charlotte) is experiencing a bit of a let-down following their fantastic showing during SouthEastCon 2010 (See their full report below).

A query was sent out to each of the Sections to see if we could determine to what extent the job market was impacting North Carolina. The results have been less than what we anticipated. We anticipated that we might require extra volunteers in each of the Sections to handle all the input from our members. This has not been the case, however. We have seen only a modest return and in some cases none whatsoever. This may be due to the manner in which we approached the subject. In most cases an email was sent to each Section member inquiring about their job status and if they were actively "looking" and stating that the IEEE is actively working to find a job for any member that is out of work (or something to that effect). In one Section we had more job openings returned to us that we had people without jobs. I hope that's a good sign.

The following are the reports for each of the individual Sections, as noted:

Charlotte Section (David Wallach – Chair)

Issues requiring action by the Region 3 Committee or ExCom:

No issues or concerns to report at this time.

Successes/Opportunities for Engaging the member, volunteer, non-member, public:

We have opportunities to report that Charlotte is becoming an "Energy" center. Many engineering firms are moving to Charlotte to support energy infrastructure. The PES has an opportunity engage existing members and attract new members. While our section is large in membership, we struggle to get existing members to engage in meetings and other opportunities. This remains one of our main focuses and we look for opportunities and ideas to support member engagement.

Notable section activities (positive and negative):

A positive is the Charlotte Section actively supported the hosting of SoutheastCon 2010 both financially and also leg work. Jim Conrad is the General Chair and has been devoted for months to plan a great meeting. Others such as Tom Weldon, Rob Cox, Charles Lord and others on the steering committee have also provided many hours of support.

On the negatives, as mentioned in the earlier section of this report, our section struggles to get our existing 600+ existing members to engage. Officer positions are difficult to fill and when meetings are arranged we have minimal attendance (10-20 attendees on average). We are seeking ideas and opportunities to add value to our members. Adding value for existing members will aid in attracting and retaining new members.

Regards,

David Wallach
Chair, IEEE Charlotte Section

Western North Carolina Section (Fred Orland – Chair)

1. All our section officer positions are filled as well as Professional Chair, Membership Development Chair, Student Activities Chairs and Webmaster.
2. We have a functioning Power and Energy Society and a Consultants Network Affinity group.
3. We have monthly EXCOM section activity planning meetings.
4. So far this year we have had 5 Technical presentations, 2 plant tours.
5. We have strong involvement in the engineering programs at WCU and UNCA.

This includes providing technical review teams for student projects.

Supporting ABET review efforts.

Support to Industrial advisory groups.

IEEE Student branch support.

Support to WCU SECon 2010 student hardware contest entry.

6. Developing relationships with several area Community Colleges technical departments, CCCTI has started a IEEE student branch

6. Annual volunteer recognition social.

7. Technical meetings and plant tour are planned for the remainder of this year.

This is a brief summary of the section activities for 2010 to date.

Fred Orland

Section Chair

IEEE Western North Carolina Section

IEEE Life Senior Member

Winston-Salem Section (Bob Jackson - Chair)

The Winston-Salem Section meets 9-10 times per year. We don't meet in July and December. Our student group in EMBS won an international award for best performing group or club for 2009.

We sent out a query on unemployment and received two responses. We post local job opportunities on our website.

We have programs scheduled for the rest of the year. We will send out our Grit and Grin newsletter in September.

Regards, Bob Jackson, Chairman

Eastern Section (Jim Ray – Chair)

Our Eastern NC Section is having our annual member/family picnic next weekend that is our largest event of the year. We are engaging with NC Biotech Center to form an intellectual exchange group with quarterly meetings focused primarily on biotech. Our wiki has member survey capability; however, no one has responded. I think it will be necessary to directly solicit input from our membership instead of simply putting up a survey and letting folks find it. The proof of concept is sound.

That's it for us!

Regards,

Jim Ray

Central North Carolina Section (Dr. Claude Hargrove - Chair)

The Section has been working to provide a summer program run by OPEAT and sponsored by the Central North Carolina Section. The final report of that program is attached.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Corr

James L. Corr

IEEE Senior Member
Chair - North Carolina Council
SoutheastCon 2010 PR Chair
WNC Section - Past Chair
Student Activities Co-Chair
Local Consultants' Network Chair
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