

AREA 9 REPORT FOR AUGUST 18, 2011, REGION 3 EXCOM, SAN FRANCISCO

Introduction

The Jamaica Section continues to be very active in 2011 following on the return from a very successful participation at SoutheastCon 2011 and plans to attend Sections Congress 2011.

Member Engagement Activities:

e-Membership

As you are aware Jamaica is now eligible for the IEEE e-membership programme.

The full list of members was extracted from SAM IEEE with the view to contacting members whose IEEE membership was no longer active as well as members whose membership fees were in arrears. The plan is to contact the persons by email and telephone and encourage them to renew their membership and take advantage of the e-membership rates. We plan to focus on this during the remainder of the year to improve our membership.

Jamaica Section Activities:

Jamaica Section Bid Proposal for SoutheastCon 2015.

Following Southeast Con 2011, the updated Bid Proposal for Southeast Con 2015 was submitted and reviewed by the Region 3. Section representatives are expected to meet with members of the Region 3 Conference Committee in San Francisco to further examine and develop a budget for SoutheastCon 2015.

James M. Conrad, PhD, PE, PMP, Associate Department Chair and Associate Professor, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, UNC-Charlotte, NC, jmconrad@uncc.edu, has agreed to serve as our “mentor”.

This month the IEEE Excom met via Skype to respond to additional questions raised regarding our Bid Proposal for SoutheastCon 2015. The conference facilitators have been working assiduously to ensure that the draft of the budget is completed and queries regarding the proposed conference accommodation answered.

ComSoc

The IEEE Communications Society (COMSOC) and the Jamaica Section hosted this years Distinguished Lecture Series. The Lecture by George N. Rouskas, Professor of Computer Science at North Carolina State University was entitled: Power - Aware and Computationally Efficient Optical Network Design and took place on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at the Virtual Physics Lab, University of the West Indies, Mona

PACE Activities

Planning started for the PACE Activities for this year with a special meeting by the PACE Chair, Dr. Halden Morris on Monday June 13, 2011. The plans are still in their early stages but the Section is expected to have at least one workshop in October 2011. Logistics are still being worked out for the programme.

Student Activities

The Student Branch of the University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica, remains committed to the ideals of the IEEE and we are in the process of identifying candidates for the post of Student Branch Councilor. Mr. Vincent Hewitt the longest serving Student Branch Counselor in the IEEE Jamaica Section (since 2001) has indicated that he will not be continuing to serve in this capacity.

Education Society

Last year the Jamaica Section started an Education Society and meetings were held jointly with the Section. It is anticipated this society will have regularly scheduled meetings this year.

Power Society

The Section also started the process for creating a Power society in the later part of 2010. There has been a great deal of interest in this area and it is anticipated that this year it will be officially formed.

Consultancy Affinity Group - Jamaica

The group was approved on December 30, 2010. Note that no activity was undertaken during the year except the workshop/seminar on Consultancy in October at which this group was formed. The financial activity for this event is reported through IEEE Jamaica Section.

Website - IEEE Jamaica Section

Webmaster Milverton Moore continues to keep the website current and provides valuable information for the Jamaica Section and Region 3. Milverton is now spearheading the change from the current IEEE web template to the new web one. The IEEE Jamaica Section Website serves as our newsletter and the URL is as follows: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/jamaica>.

Barriers:

At present the Section has a few core persons who are members of the Excom that are very active however, there are positions within the Excom that need to be filled and the challenge is to have other IEEE members take on these leadership positions.

Respectfully submitted:

Wilfred A. Roberts
Region 3, Area 9 Chair,
e-mail: waroberts@ieee.org
Tel: (876) 928-6713, (876) 319-1007
URL: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/jamaica>

Daniel Tulloch-Reid
Jamaica Section Chair
e-mail: dtullochreid@hotmail.com
Tel: (876) 990-1064
URL: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/jamaica>