

## AREA 9 REPORT FOR DECEMBER 05, 2011, REGION 3 EXCOM

### **Introduction**

The year 2011 has been very active for the Jamaica Section, following on the successful participation at IEEE-USA Annual Meeting 2011, SoutheastCon 2011 and Sections Congress 2011. As a result the section has agreed with the Nominations Committee that the current officers should be returned to maintain the continuity of the activities into next year.

### **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The full list of members was extracted from SAM IEEE with the view to contacting members whose IEEE membership was no longer active as well as members whose membership fees were in arrears.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:**

#### **IEEE-USA Annual Meeting 2011**

The Jamaica Section was represented by PACE Chair Dr. Halden A. Morris at the IEEE-USA Annual Meeting held in Austin Texas March 3-6, 2011.

#### **SoutheastCon 2011**

Despite several challenges, such as logistics, financing, among many others, the UTech Student Branch participated in SoutheastCon 2011 Student Conference. In attendance were Student Branch Chair, Kimroy Bailey, and eleven other student members. Representing Jamaica were Section Chair, Daniel Tulloch-Reid, Student Activities Coordinator, SoutheastCon 2003 Conference Committee, Dr. Dave Muir and Region 3, Area 9 Chair, Wilfred A. Roberts.

#### **Jamaica Section Monthly Meeting / Presentation**

The Section's monthly meeting/presentation was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011. The presenter was Mr. Gregory Gauntlett, of Advanced Energy Solutions (AES). His topic was - Sources of Alternate Energy: Building a Wind Turbine. AES is one of the primary players in the alternate energy solutions industry in Jamaica. Practical demonstrations were given of the equipment and process involved in creating wind turbines.

#### **ComSoc**

The IEEE Communications Society (COMSOC) and the Jamaica Section invited IEEE Members & Guests to attend a meeting /presentation on Wednesday November 23, 2011. The presenter was Mr Andrew Fazio of Columbus Business Solutions (CBS). CBS is the recently announced business arm of Columbus Communications Jamaica Limited (parent company of Flow). The presentation showed how CBS fits in with the wider Columbus Networks, discussed the history of the business department, and provided an overview of the new solutions currently being offered. These solutions included: cloud computing, video surveillance, media solutions, business continuity/disaster recovery, and video conferencing

#### **Annual Social**

IEEE Jamaica Section members joined with the St. Boniface Anglican Church in their Harvest Fiesta by the sea, for the Jamaica Section End of Year Social. The Section thought that incorporating the annual social with this community based activity it would provide us with an opportunity to contribute to the humanitarian efforts being made by the church, and help address Global Humanitarian Challenges through "Engineering for Change".

#### **Student Activities**

The Student Branch of the University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica, remains committed to the ideals of the IEEE and new officers were elected for 2012. The student branch has continued to have regular meetings and have also had tours of industry organizations.

The Student Branch is also in the process of planning their SPAC for early next year

#### **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>.

#### **Jamaica Section Bid Proposal for SoutheastCon 2015.**

Following Southeast Con 2011, the updated Bid Proposal for Southeast Con 2015 was submitted and reviewed by members of the Region 3 Conference Committee in San Francisco to further examine and develop a budget for SoutheastCon 2015. The committee provided an excel spreadsheet to be used for creating this budget and the Section has agreed to submit the completed spreadsheet. James M. Conrad, PhD, PE, PMP, Associate Department Chair and Associate Professor, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, UNC-Charlotte, NC, [jmconrad@uncc.edu](mailto:jmconrad@uncc.edu), has agreed to serve as our “mentor”.

**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:

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