

AREA 9 REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 9, 2013, REGION 3 EXCOM

Introduction

The Jamaica Section has actively participated in Region 3 meetings and plans to continue to actively participate for the remainder of the Year as we have in past years to achieve the goals and objectives of the Section and Region 3.

Goals & Objectives:

Our objectives for last year (2013) were as follows:

- Increasing membership attendance and participation in meetings
 - Push e-membership for existing and new members.
 - Increase involvement by Standing Committee Chairs
 - Introduction of Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary officers
- Push Member Engagement in collaboration with Region 3 and MGA
- Host a successful SPAC
- Increase Student Branch attendance & participation in SoutheastCon 2013 to maintain or exceed previous attendance and performance
- Participation in Regional & PACE Activities pertaining to the IEEE USA Annual Conference in 2013
- Implement succession planning for current Officers, Chapters and Standing Committee Chairs

Member Engagement Activities:

Monthly Section Meetings

On Wednesday September 4, 2013 the Section had a presentation by IEEE Student Branch member, Kristoff Howell entitled: "Robot Design Review for SoutheastCon 2014". The meeting was held at the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science & Technology, University of the West Indies (UWI). A student at the University of Technology and member of the robotics team at SoutheastCon 2013, Kristoff did an in-depth presentation on the requirements for the 2014 robot and recommendations on the design.

On Wednesday July 17, 2013 the Section had presentations at the Faculty of Engineering, UTech on two research papers:

1. Comparative analysis of two instructional strategies and their impacts on selected university engineering students' performances in particle technology
2. Correlates of students' attendance to class, participation and performances in engineering modules

The presenter was Dr S.M.Yalams, Director UTech /UNESCO-UNEVOC Centre for Research and Sustainable Development, University of Technology (UTech.).

The Annual IEEE-USA Conference in Portland, Oregon

The Jamaica Section's PACE Chair, Dr. Halden Morris attended the Annual IEEE-USA Conference in Portland, Oregon from August 1 – 4, 2013. The inaugural IEEE Conference on Technologies for Sustainability was reported by the PACE Chair to be an excellent one and the Section plans to utilize the new opportunities for professional activities in Jamaica.

Dr. Morris reported on his trip to the IEEE USA Conference at the Jamaica Section Meeting on September 4, 2013.

IEEE UTech Student Branch

The IEEE UTech Student Branch has recently embarked on a programme of promoting STEM education in high schools.

e-Membership

Jamaica is eligible for the IEEE e-membership programme.

The members were encouraged to utilize the early membership registration for 2013. Members who have not renewed this year, members who were found to be inactive and other interested persons will be contacted by email to extend to them the opportunity to utilize e-membership. We have seen positive results with the appointment of a new Membership Development Chair, Christopher Udeagha - particularly with student membership. We plan to continue to focus on this membership drive during the remainder of the year to improve our membership.

Website - IEEE Jamaica Section

Milverton continues to keep the website current and provides valuable information for the Jamaica Section and Region 3. Milverton implemented the new IEEE web template in March 2012 and it has received very positive feedback. It is expected that another member will be identified to assist our website in the near future. 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 2016.

The Jamaica Section met with IEEE Region 3 Conference Chairman, Sean Haynes and other members of the Conference Committee on April 6, 2013 to discuss the Jamaica Section proposal for hosting SoutheastCon 2016. Sean gave significant guidance for organizing the Conference and also provided data and estimates that have proven very helpful in developing a budget for the hosting the Conference. The Conference Committee has since communicated via email with the Jamaica Section. Sean along with IEEE Corporate has spearheaded the establishment of a contract between IEEE and the Hilton Rose Hall, Jamaica. This contract has been submitted to Region 3 and will be reviewed by Region 3 and Corporate prior to final approval.

The Hilton has also extended an invitation to have R3 Conference Committee members enjoy a complimentary visit to the Hotel Resort. The dates for this will need to be finalized.

Barriers:

The general challenge is to improve the level of participation by the Section members. However, new persons have been appointed to positions within the Excom for 2013 and it is expected that there will be increased participation over the course of the year.

Respectfully submitted:

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