

IEEE Region 3 – ExCom Meeting  
 Web Conference – Minutes  
 22 January 2024  
 8:00-10:00pm

<https://ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/excom/meetings/2024-01/agendas.html>

Attendees (\* denotes ExCom voting member):

Eric Grigorian*	x	Sonya Dillard*	x	Pat Donohoe*	x	Joe Pennisi *	x
Theresa Brunasso*	x	James Imanian*	x	Wyman Williams*	x	Raul Ortega *	x
Paul Kuban*	x	Daniel Diaz*		Nelson Lourenco*	x	Andrew Seely*	x
Joe Juisai*	x	Kristin Bing*	x	Gregg Vaughn*	x	Sharlene Brown*	x
Dave Green*	x	Bailey Heyman*	x	Alessio Medda	x	Bill LaBelle	
Eric Ackerman		Patrick Kung		Bill Ratcliff	x	David Fillion	x
Evelyn Licona		Lucas Sweet		Devon Gayle	x	Damith Wickramamayake	x
Brian Page		Vishwas Powar		Hulya Kirkici		Stephen Hopkins	
Tamseel Syed	x	Ebonee Walker	x	Chan Wong	x	Charles Lord	x
Jim Conrad		John McDonald		Jill Gostin	x	Will Goins	
Jacob Kulangara	x	Hermann Amaya		Binesh Kumar		Mark Torres	
Allen Jones	x	Steve Kemp		Elizabeth Hayes		Arup Kumar Ghosh	
Kennedy Mays		Chase Battaglio		Brad Kicklighter		Lee Stogner	
Jiayi Lin		Mary Ellen Randall		Dave Conner		AJ Burke	x
Paul Belussi		Larry Adams		Raj Gurupur	x	Annette Burney	
Grayson Randall		Bob Hobbs		Don Hill		Earl McDonald	
Matt Horrer		McCauley Osaisai	x	Rich Kent		Christopher Burge	
Derik Pack		Angelo Ferraro	x	Eric Cramer		Rajeev Agrawal	x
Leandro Barajas		Warren Mackey		Mike Puckett	x	Bob Bush	
David Griffith		Demetris Geddis		Allen Zheng		Jason Finn	
Stephen Morris		Dave Irons		Christopher Udeagha		Masood Ejaz	
Dan Bishop		Erica Simmonds		Melody Richardson		Regina Hannemann	
Jeff Bevan		Magreth Mushi		Paul Nyffenegger	x	Sudhir Shenoy	
Bruce Magruder	x						

Agenda:

- 1) Director Grigorian called the meeting to order at 8:00pm.
- 2) The meeting agenda was approved.
- 3) The consent agenda was approved which consisted of the minutes from the 27 November 2023 ExCom Meeting and reports listed in the information agenda.
- 4) Officer Reports
  - a) Director Report
    - i) Director Grigorian recently participated in the 2024 Rising Stars event and the IEEE-USA BoD Retreat which were held in Las Vegas, NV. IEEE-USA is planning for an Alaskan Cruise in September.
    - ii) The IEEE BoD retreat was held in Montego Bay, Jamaica, and was followed by a workshop entitled “Towards Expanding Access to Quality Engineering Science Excellence Opportunities in Jamaica”.
    - iii) The next IEEE BoD Series is scheduled for mid-February.
    - iv) Region 3 is working with IEEE-USA to host the Innovation, Workforce, and Research Conference (IWRC) in Huntsville, AL in the late October/November timeframe.
  - b) Director-Elect Report
 

Director-Elect Dillard has attended Region 3 FinCom and SOSC meetings, and met with the Region 3 Area Chairs. Director-Elect Dillard serves as mentor for the Member

Communications Committee and has been appointed as the Region 3 Coordinator for the Region Vitality Committee. In addition, Director-Elect Dillard is still active in many local activities with the Huntsville Section.

c) Secretary Report

Secretary Donohoe thanked everyone for submitting their ExCom meeting reports and went through the roll call for the meeting.

d) Treasurer Report

Treasurer Pennisi gave a summary of the 2023 Region 3 budget showing that \$54.5K of reserves were spent as planned but the amount was far less than that budgeted (\$164.1). Our current bank balances are \$177K in the main account and \$670K in our investment account. Only one Section Chair expense report is outstanding for SoutheastCon 2023 and the IEEE corporate audit is complete. The 2023 Sections Congress expense reporting is almost complete.

e) Past Director Report

Past Director Brunasso noted that the Region 3 N&A is searching for 2026-27 Director-Elect candidates. The nomination deadline is the end of March.

5) Action Agenda

a) ExCom Endorsement of 2024 Region 3 Budget

Treasurer Pennisi provided an executive summary for the 2024 Region 3 budget, which was approved by the Region 3 ExCom at the November meeting, and is being brought to the 2024 ExCom for endorsement. One change that has been made is the return of support for the Atlanta Science Festival to \$5K. Treasurer Pennisi noted that the revised budget has been approved by the Region 3 FinCom. Treasurer Pennisi made a motion for the 2024 ExCom to endorse the 2024 Region 3 budget as presented. The motion passed.

b) Approval of the 2024 Region 3 Strategic Plan

SOSC Chair Dave Green provided details on the proposed 2024 Region 3 Strategic Plan. This strategic plan was based on our previous strategic plan and was developed by the attendees of the 2024 Planning Meeting in December 2023. The theme for the proposed strategic plan is "Your Professional Home in Region 3". Chair Green made the motion for the Region 3 ExCom to approve 2024 Region 3 Strategic Plan as presented. The motion passed.

c) Approval of Projects Proposal

Region 3 Projects Coordinator Allen Jones presented a funding proposal for the 2024 Region 3 projects in which several changes to the funding process were proposed. The scope of projects is to be expanded from only Climate Change to humanitarian problems related to any of IEEE's Future Directions Initiatives (which includes Climate Change). To attract more applicants, the grants will be advertised more broadly than in the past. Sections will be allowed to receive more than one grant and, with sufficient justification, receive grants larger than \$1,000. Applicants will be encouraged to start with a humanitarian problem and identify how technology could be used to address the problem. Coordinator Jones made the following motion: The Section Support Committee moves that funds from the 2024 Initiatives Budget be used to support the Region 3 Project initiative as described. Region 3 will fund accepted proposals through grants transferred to the group's Section NextGen Banking Account upon acceptance by the Project Review Committee and the Region 3 Director's concurrence. Funded groups are required to produce monthly reports and expected to participate in publicity efforts. The motion passed.

d) Approval of Student Activities Committee Proposal

Student Activities Committee Chair Bailey Heyman presented details of proposed changes to the Region 3 Student Travel Policy for this year (SoutheastCon 2024). The wording of the

policy is changed to make clear that the subsidy is provided to the Student Branch and is not meant for particular individuals. The Student Activities Committee (SAC) recommends that Student Branches should attend the Awards Banquet to receive the subsidy, and the wording of the travel policy should be changed to connect the mileage rate to IEEE guidelines. SAC also recommends that the per diem be increased from \$40/day to \$50/day. Region 3 SAC is hosting an industry night event on Thursday (3/21) and proposes adding a \$200 per Student Branch component to the travel subsidy contingent on attendance at the industry night. Chair Heyman moved that the changes to the Region 3 Student Travel Policy be approved. The motion passed.

6) Discussion Agenda

a) Committee/Member Role Assignments

2023 Nominations and Appointments Committee Chair Jill Gostin provided an update on the current list of Region 3 volunteers for 2024-25.

b) SoutheastCon 2024 Update

SoutheastCon 2024 Chair Alessio Medda provided an update on planning for the conference. A total of 405 papers have been submitted with approximately 275 accepted papers projected. Conference registration is open. The Thursday room block at the conference hotel may need to be increased. The conference sponsorship total currently sits at \$27K. Preparations for all student competitions are on track. A total of 30 hours of tutorials are scheduled. Several conference side events are planned including and panel on the ethics of artificial intelligence, the industry night event, Future Labs, a WIE dessert reception and a YP event.

c) SoutheastCon 2025 Update

SoutheastCon 2025 Chair Charles Lord provided an update on planning for the conference. The conference will be held 27-30 March 2025 at the Embassy Suites and Concord Convention Center in Charlotte, NC. Virtual paper sessions will take place on Saturday/Sunday 22-23 March. Planning for the student competitions is progressing.

7) Review of Action Items from Last Meeting

During the November ExCom meeting, a question was raised concerning the Region's plans for promoting Engineers Week in February. Director Grigorian suggested that Sections should send information on Engineers Week activities to Member Communications Committee Chair Andy Seely.

8) Old Business – none

9) New Business – none

10) The next ExCom meeting will be held on 26 February 2024 from 8:00-10:00pm EST by Webex.

11) The meeting was adjourned at 10:01pm.