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THE 2007 IEEE EUROCON 'International Conference on Computer as a Tool' was successfully held on 9-12 September 2007 in Warsaw, Poland.

EUROCON is the largest IEEE conference in Europe and belongs to the flag IEEE Region 8 conferences. together with AFRICON, ME-LECON and, recently, SIBIR-CON as well as HISTELCON. Recent EUROCONs were held in Bratislava, Slovakia in 2001, Ljubljana, Slovenia in 2003, and Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro in 2005.

The topics covered by EUROCON 2007 included system design, signal and image processing, measurements and sensors, computation intelligence and control, telecommunications and multimedia, photonics, power systems and power electronics, electrical machines and drives, electron device, modeling and simulations,



Gala dinner at Main Aula of Warsaw University of Technology

and education. Over 670 abstracts were submitted in response to 2007 EUROCON call for papers, out of which 477 from 53 countries were selected. Thirty-four oral sessions and three poster sessions gave plenty of interest for everyone during the four days.

Warsaw EUROCON

is a great success

Invited talks by specialists from industry and scientific establishments were added. Participants from Europe, the Middle East, Africa. North and South America, China, Japan and Australia ensured interesting and lively proceedings.

Tutorials by well-known specialists gave new perspectives, including Rainer Leupers (RWTH, Aachen, Germany), Miroslav Skoric (University of Novi Sad, Serbia), Levent Sevgi (Dogus University, Turkey) and Bogdan Wilamowski (Auburn University, USA).

A traditional Student Paper Contest was organized by the IEEE Region 8 Committee (see http://www.sps.ele.tue.nl/ members/m.i.bastiaans/spc).

Conference calendar 12

EUROCON 2007 took place in the historical Main Building of the Warsaw University of Technology constructed in the first half of 19th century. We had the opportunity to experience Warsaw - one of historical centers of Europe. A Welcome Concert by Academic Chorus of the Warsaw University of Technology was held in Saint John Cathedral of Warsaw's Old Town.

We met at the end of the second conference day for a Gala Dinner in teh beautiful Main Aula of Warsaw University of Technology. At the dinner, a University ensemble of Engineers Band, together with a singer, gave a concert. More information including

[continued on page 2]



Guests were entertained at the dinner with a concert

Semaphore signals the launch of **R8** History Conference

IEEE

HISTELCON 2008 (History of Telecommunication Conference) will take place in Paris on 11-12 September 2008. The theme of the Conference will be: 'From semaphore to cellular radio telecommunications'.

The event is being organized by the IEEE Region 8 History Council with technical co-sponsorship of France SEE and UK IET.

The transmission of messages faster than a man could run or a horse could ride was based for many centuries on drums, fiery beacons, smoke and the like. Greeks and Romans developed different telegraph systems to send military messages.

The Chappe brothers in France did much in the late 18th century to develop the visual telegraph through a system of semaphore arms that could quickly be manipulated to form different codes. During the 19th and 20th centuries, signal transmission and encoding followed major technological and sociological developments, to the point that today millions of users make contact through cellular telecommunications and the internet.

Optical and electronic communications have had a profound role in shaping the modern world. From Chappe, through Morse to the Inter-[continued on page 2]

ELECTROTECHNICAL MELECON'2000 **CONFERENCE** Palais de Congrès 'François Lanzi', Ajaccio, France Web: www.melecon08.iut-amiens.fr E-mail: melecon08@iut-amiens.fr

MELECON'2008

5-7 May 2008

SIBIRCON

2008

MEDITERRANEAN



and Electronics Engineering

Novosibirsk Scientific Centre, Novosibirsk, Russia

21-25 July 2008

Web: http://sibircon2008.sibsutis.ru E-mail: sibircon2008@gmail.com



EUROCON 2007

[continued from page 1]

a photo gallery can be accessed on the website: www. eurocon2007, isep.pw.edu.pl.

We would like to warmly thank all the attendees, reviewers, sponsors and volun-



Welcome by Co-Chairs Marian Kazmierkowski and Józef Modelski

teers who made this conference possible. Special thanks go also to the Members of the Honorary Committee: Baldomir Zajc (Region 8 Past Director, Slovenia), Tadeusz Kaczorek (Poland), Michal Kleiber (Polish Academy of Science), Wlodzimierz Kurnik (Rector of Warsaw University of Technology) and Jean-Gabriel Remy (Region 8 Director, France).

Finally, we like to invite you to the next EUROCON 2009 Conference which will take place in Saint Petersburg, Russia on 18–23 May 2009.

> Marian Kazmierkowski Jozef Modelski General Co-Chairs Andrzej Pacut Poland Section Chair



History conference

[continued from page 1]

net, this is an important topic of historical study.

The intention of the IEEE Conference is to help build a comprehensive view of Optical and Electronic Communications through papers investigating formative developments in this over 200-year-long history.

These developments may include the opening of a new area of application, the invention of a major technique, or the gradual replacement of one dominant technique by another. An important feature of this Conference is the participation of people with different backgrounds – engineers, historians and others – that should make discussions particularly fruitful.

Please visit *www.isep.fr/ histelcon* for further information.

> Jacob Baal-Schem HISTELCON 08 Co-Chair

This issue's Photo Quiz takes on a history theme – turn to page 11 for details.

Tutorial concludes 2007 Technical English Program

STUDENTS OF the IEEE Technical English Program (TEP) in St Petersburg, Russia were recently treated to an all-day tutorial by Moshe Kam and Ryan Measel from Drexel University (Philadelphia, USA). Kam is a Professor at Drexel and has also served as the 2005-2007 IEEE Vice-President for Educational Activities. Measel is a Research Assistant.

Already in its third year, TEP is an exclusive benefit for IEEE student members. The purpose of the program is to increase technical literacy in English, and improve the readability of manuscripts, papers and specification sheets by non-native speakers of English. The TEP tutorial is given at the end of an instruction cycle and is an important milestone for both students and instructors associated with TEP. In 2006 the tutorial featured Professor Kurt Richter from Austria. who spoke about development of leadership skills.

The 2007 tutorial took place at the St Petersburg Electrotechnical University on a sunny Saturday (24 November). 23 participants were exposed to a lecture and workshop on 'Cracking the Bar Code' and to a demonstration entitled 'Concepts of Analog and Digital Signal Processing'.

The program included a theoretical introduction, in-class exercises, and a music-based demonstration. The demonstration allowed



Left to right: Ryan Measel, Moshe Kam and Alexander Mikerov

participants to experience digital signal processing concepts through their vision and hearing senses.

Before focusing on the technical subject, Professor Kam spoke about IEEE's history, and about its activities worldwide. He emphasized IEEE activities in countries that exhibit new emerging roles in technology creation and consumption, including China, India and Russia. Kam pointed out that IEEE has a significant potential to grow in Russia. Though Russia is the largest country in the world by territory, and its population is about 140 million, there are now only 800 IEEE members in the whole country. The Russia Northwest Section, where the tutorial was given, has only 200 members, including about 50 student members. It turned out that about half of all the Section's student members were part of TEP and were present that day.

In addition to the tutorial (which was fully funded by the IEEE Educational Activities Board), Kam and Measel stopped by the Alexander Popov Museum, and met with university administrators led by the Vice-Rector Sergey Karmanenko. They discussed opportunities to extend the TEP beyond the Northwest Russia Section, and exchanged opinions on the question of First Professional Degree in Engineering.

This is a topic that raised some controversy lately, and was the subject of a recent article in the IEEE publication *The Institute* (M. Kam and A. Peskin: 'What should be the first professional degree in engineering?' Vol. 31, #3, 2007). Russia now faces this question following its decision to adopt the principles of the Bologna Declaration.

In 2007, the TEP has seen a few changes:

• TEP classes are provided only to IEEE members

• There is a (modest) tuition fee

• Trainers are remunerated

In addition, pre-TEP classes (General English) were introduced for those who need them.

Russia Northwest Section and St Petersburg Electrotechnical University are very grateful to the IEEE Region 8 and the IEEE Educational Activity Board for organizing the tutorial, and for their generous support of the Technical English Program as a new and very powerful benefit of the IEEE Membership.

Alexander Mikerov, Russia Northwest IEEE Section Vice-Chair



TEP outside St Petersburg Electrotechnical Univ. Control Dept

THE IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB) organised a special conference in Munich in November 2007 on the subject of 'Meeting the Growing Demand for Engineers and Their Educators 2010–2020'.

The meeting attracted about 120 attendees from 26 countries, representing academia, industry and government.

Region 8 Educational Activities Board hosts summit in Munich

The focus was on the current shortages being experienced in North America and the European Union, and the worrying projections of a future crisis unless aggressive action is taken. Delegates reported on their current experience and the different approaches being adopted to counter the lack of interest in students in high schools and universities in engineering and physical science. The need to involve school science teachers more closely with industry, and to provide more opportunities for engineering students to work in industry during their degree programs,

that emerged from breakout sessions. Final recommendations for future action will be pub-

for future action will be published by EAB as a conference report early in 2008, and will be widely distributed to policy makers in North America and the EU.

Charles Turner Region 8 Educational Activities Chair

Membership rises again in fastest growing region

IEEE REGION 8 is geographically the largest of all IEEE Regions. Our membership has been growing steadily for many years. However, this trend has increased in 2007.

In early 2007, we had just reached 60,000 members, and in early 2008 we had over 65,000 members in the region.

As IEEE members, we are a part of the world's largest technical professional society, with access to the industry's most essential information, networking opportunities, career development and many other exclusive benefits. However, many of the local benefits have been developing recently in many local Sections, Chapters and Affinity Groups throughout Region 8.

We can now safely conclude that engineers, scientists and other professionals throughout Europe, Middle East and Africa value their IEEE Membership more then ever before.

IEEE Membership Activates team is a group of highly motivated and enthusiastic volunteers who strive to improve Region 8 member satisfaction by developing and increasing local services and benefits; foster members' awareness of IEEE activities and existing benefits; provide possibilities to enhance member's careers; develop non-technical



IEEE activities in the Region (including workshops, contests, awards and promotion programs); provide a platform for co-ordination, motivation and interaction among R8 members and organisational units; help in formation, organisation and development of IEEE organisational units (including affinity groups); represent R8 members' interests and voice their concerns; as well as promote and support member grade elevation.

For more detailed information on what we do, please visit http://ieee.org/r8.

Here's where we ask for a little help from you – there's no better person to present the IEEE to your friends and colleagues than you. For more information please visit http:// ieee.org/mgm.

Marko Delimar IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chair Membership Activities m.delimar@ieee.org



Innovative courses give you the edge

IEEE HAS produced a set of over 70 one-hour modules in technical fields ranging from aerospace to wireless networks. There are also some modules on management topics.

Best of all, this year you can enjoy a free trial by applying through the website at *www.ieee.org/expertnow*.

So think about organising a Section, Chapter, or Student Branch meeting around one of these modules this year.

These courses can help you keep your professional edge. The innovative new Expert Now product is just part of a growing service known as the Education Partners Program which is designed to help meet your continuing professional development needs.

To review the course catalogue visit: http://ieeexplore. ieee.org/modules.modulebrowse.jsp

The IEEE Education Partners Program can prove helpful in your search for continuing professional development opportunities. Exclusive for IEEE members, there are more than 6,000 online courses, certification programs and graduate degree programs, with up to 10% discount from providers.

View the current list of partners at: www.ieee.org/ web/education/partners/ eduPartners.html

IEEE is an Authorized provider of CEUs through the International Association for Continuing Education and Training IEEE's Continuing Education products and services. Please visit *www.ieee. org/web/education/home* for more information.

Specific inquiries can be directed to me via email or by phone +1 732 981 3425. Celeste Torres

c.torres@ieee.org

FREE Trial Get a first-hand look at how IEEE can drive your company's business with a FREE CORPORTE TRIAL Request Now Activities in Region 8 THE 2007 Professional Activities Sub-Committee (PASC) focused its efforts on developing new products and services for members in Region

Professional

8. Following negotiations with IEEE-USA, a number of the programs and publications developed for US members have been made available to members in Region 8.

Some of these are free to individual members. Others are available at a modest charge and are more suitable for use with groups. The IEEE-USA website gives the details.

All Sections are invited to host the workshops on leadership skills and project management, presented by Kurt Richter and Matej Zajc respectively. Further topics are being introduced this year, including the management of design, innovation and intellectual property. Another subject being actively pursued is the use of web-based delivery of PA materials, especially for the benefit of members who live or work away from large population centres.

PASC's objective for 2008 is to ensure that every Section in Region 8 appoints a PA organiser. If your Section is without one, why not volunteer your services?

> Charles Turner 2008 Chair PASC

Local groups form the main attraction



Your editors: Başak Yüksel and Roland Saam

THROUGHOUT THE year, the content and the scope of the articles sent to Region 8 News changes and extends. When you read here about our members and students you clearly see that their activities attract more and more people in our region.

One of the biggest regional conferences, Eurocon 2007 was a great success - attendance from 53 countries! More Region 8 conferences in 2008 - Melecon, Sibericon, Histelcon - are announced and will be reported in future issues.

The dynamics of the IEEE entities locally are interesting to look at. Sometimes, the IEEE Sections are the leading organizers of IEEE events in that area; sometimes, it's the IEEE Society Chapters or Student Branches running the IEEE events. But it's a fact that all bodies of IEEE need to be presented locally and also that cooperation between them is necessary to be a successful section, and this results in a global success at the end. That said,



this issue also includes the news about how Greece Section takes action to initiate the establishment of student branches locally.

It's time to introduce the new parts in our newsletter. On page 10, you can read a book review by Martin Bolton on the biography of Michael Faraday. This is quite interesting in the sense that this review looks at Faraday's life from the perspective of an Arts historian. Also in this issue, 'OPINION' discusses one member's views on the accountability of software engineers in today's world. Elsewhere please read about Madrid's first 'GEEK Dinner' with the Tecnorati guest; and our regular 'MyIEEE' personal profile which looks at how a German student got started in IEEE volunteering.

We've brought back the Photo Quiz too! Turn to page 11 and follow the signs.

Your news from all entities of IEEE in Region 8 is welcomed for the next issue. Please feel free to share your inputs with us.

regionsnews

March 2008

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REGION 8 OPERATING COMMITTEE

Bylaws and descriptions of the committee offices — refer to www.ieee.org/r8

EMAIL ADDRESSES OF REGION 8 COMMITTEE OFFICERS 2008

Officers and Vice Chairs

Director Jean-Gabriel Remy jean-gabriel.remy@ieee.org

Director-Elect Jozef Modelski modelski@ieee.org

Secretarv Costas Stasopoulos costas@ieee.org

Treasurer Brian Harrington b.harrington@ieee.org

V/C Membership Activities Marko Delimar m.delimar@ieee.org

V/C Student Activities Martin J Bastiaans m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org

V/C Technical Activities

George Paunovic

g.paunovic@ieee.org Appointed Members

Awards & Recognitions Victor Fouad Hanna victor.fouad@ieee.org

Counsellor to the Director



News & articles r8news@ieee.org

Student News email R8StudentNews@ieee.org

Advertising For rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

IEEE Region 8 website www.ieee.org/r8

Editors

Başak Yüksel basak@ieee.org Roland J. Saam

r.saam@ieee.org

Alistair Dabbs www.dabbsnet.com

IEEE Publications Dept.

Section Development Vlatko Stoilkov stoilkov@ieee.org

Section Presentation Baldomir Zajc b.zajc@ieee.org

Student Representative Pablo Herrero pablo.herrero@ieee.org

Voluntary Contribution Fund

Membership Development Rolf Remshardt

Professional Activities Charles Turner c.turner@ieee.org

basak@ieee.org

Electronic Communications thomas.watteyne@ieee.org

Section Congress 2008

GOLD Coordinator Eva Gutsmiedl eva.gutsmiedl@gmx.net

Women In Engineering Maryam Al Thani mthani@ieee.org

Life Members Peter Hill p.c.j.hill@cranfield.ac.uk

History Activities Jacob Baal Schem j.baal.schem@ieee.org

Chapter Coordinator Gérard Capolino Gerard.Capolino@ieee.org

Conference Coordinator Francisco Sandoval sandoval@dte.uma.es

Educational Activities Charles Turner c.turner@ieee.org

Industry Relations Rami Al Mushcab rami.mushcab@aramco.com

Standards Coordinator David Law David_Law@ieee.org

Information helpdesk

member-services@ieee.org

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers 3 Park Avenue, 17th Floor, New York 10016, USA

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Extra copies If you would like extra copies of Region 8 News for distribution at your IEEE events, please email a request to the editor before the deadlines below, specifying quantity and delivery address. Please put R8 News Extra Copies in your email subject line.

Submitting articles We welcome news, articles and letters from any member of the IEEE. Please send these to the editor as plain text by email to r8news@ieee.org, remembering to put Region 8 News in your email subject line. If sending photos or graphics, please make sure they are high-resolution files. Read our full guide to writing and submitting articles at www.ieee.org/go/r8news.

Deadlines for upcoming issues

June 2008 issue	deadline: 1 April 2008
September 2008 issue	deadline: 1 July 2008
December 2008 issue	deadline: 1 October 2008
March 2009 issue	deadline: 1 January 2009

Have you tried out TryEngineering.org?

THE WEBSITE sponsored by IEEE, IBM and the New York Academy of Sciences at www.TryEngineering.org is a truly impressive web-based project aimed at bringing all types of engineering to the attention of students, teachers and parents. It is now available in seven languages and contains data on en-

gineering programs compiled from a host of countries around the world, including 10 in Region 8.

Take a look for yourself, and make sure that your country is fully represented! And don't forget to tell your friends about it!



Editorial production

Printing & mailing Director: Bob Smrek r.smrek@ieee.org

Christine Nora c.nora@ieee.org

Tony Davies

Christine Nora c.nora@ieee.org r.remshardt@ieee.org

Editors, Region 8 News Roland Saam r.saam@ieee.org Basak Yüksel

Coordinator Thomas Watteyne

tonydavies@ieee.org





IEEE Germany Section visits world's biggest automotive fair

THE INTERNATIONAL Automotive Exhibition (IAA) in Frankfurt is the world biggest platform for all automotive companies to show their newest car and engine technologies. This year's main topic covered all issues concerning energy and drive efficiency.

The IEEE Germany Section were sent 20 tickets by BMW for the exhibition which were given to student and IEEE GOLD members. On Friday 14 September 2007 the group met in Frankfurt and had a great visiting time.

In the afternoon we were invited to the BMW Lounge for a private talk and a discussion about the new BMW technologies within the automotive environment.

Michael Schoen IEEE Germany Section

GOLD Coordinator Manuel Kennel IEEE Germany Section

Public Relations Officer Manuel.Kennel@ge.com

Portuguese and Spanish EdSoc meet for first time

ON 21 November 2007, the Education Society Chapters of Portugal and Spain met in Covilha-Portugal under the scope of the 4th Portuguese conference on engineering organized by the local university (*www.confeng.ubi.pt*).

The morning of first day of the conference program was dedicated to engineering education. Prof Manuel Castro (IEEE Fellow Member), founder and former chair of the Spanish Chapter, was invited as distinguished lecturer. In his talk, entitled 'Distance and on-line Engineering Education Evolution through the EHEA', Castro presented the importance and the emerging learning paradigms using e-technologies, which was attended by around 50 people.

Taking that opportunity, Prof Edmundo Tovar, chair of the IEEE Education Society – Spanish Chapter, and Prof José Salvado, co-chair of the IEEE Education Society Portuguese Chapter, presented their chapters and its activities to the conference delegates. The meeting between the two chapters also served to exchange experiences and to prepare future initiatives to approach the educational community.

Future events are being prepared for 2008 in both countries, organized by the respective chapters or as result of common initiatives. These synergies will surely reinforce the impact of IEEE Education Society on the Iberian geographical space.

> Jose Salvado IEEE Portugal Education Society Chapter Co-Chair josesalvado@est.ipcb.pt



Left to right: Jose Salvado (Ed Soc Portugal Section co-chair), Edmundo Tovar (Ed Soc Spanish Section chair), Jose Metrolho (Ed Soc Portugal Section co-chair) and Manuel Castro Gil (IEEE fellow, founder and former chair of the Spanish Chapter



Professor Manuel Castro during his talk

Croatia extends annual awards with 'friends'

IEEE CROATIA Section has extended its new annual award program by introducing a 'Friend of IEEE Award' for companies contributing to Section activities.

The 2007 awards were presented to recipients at the second Annual Award Banquet, held on 28 November 2007 in Zagreb with about 150 members attending.

This year's recipients were as follows:

Branka Zovko – Cihlar

2007 IEEE Croatia Section Nikola Tesla Award for outstanding contribution to wireless communications and university education

Marko Delimar

2007 IEEE Croatia Section Distinguished Service Award for outstanding volunteer work

Juraj Bartolic

2007 IEEE Croatia Section Outstanding Educator Award for excellence in educational work in microwave electronics and electromagnetism

Srecko Seljan

2007 IEEE Croatia Section Outstanding Engineer Award for software development for mobile communications operators

Croatian Power Authority

2007 Friend of IEEE Award for outstanding contribution to IEEE Croatia Section

Sven Loncaric IEEE Croatia Section Chair sven.loncaric@fer.hr www.ieee.hr

Annual gathering of MTT-S Chapter Chairs takes place in Munich

IN REGION 8, there are no less than 38 Microwaves Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) Chapters and Joint Chapters. With such a number, it has become a regular event for the Chairs to meet up and share ideas.

The annual meeting of the Chairs traditionally takes place in conjunction with the European Microwave Conference (EuMC), held in Munich, Germany.

The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange the experience of individual chapters, to share best practices and to clarify the requirements expected from the chapters.

Jan Machac, Region 8 Chapter Coordinator, opened the meeting and welcomed the 2007 MTT-S President Steve Kenney and by Fred Schindler, MTT-S past-president. Wolfgang Heinrich, General Chair of the 10th European Microwave Week 2007 (EuMW), Chairman of the German MTT-S Chapter and the host of the CCM welcomed the participants.

Operation Committee of IEEE Region 8 was represented at CCM by its Director, Jean-Gabriel Rémy. Józef



Józef Modelski (left) and Jan Machac (right)

Modelski, President-Elect of the MTT-S, informed participants about conferences organized or co-organized in Region 8 by MTT Chapters.

Across the world, MTT-S now has a total of 118 Chapters, including our 38.

Jan Machac Region 8 Chapter Coordinator machac@fel.cvut.cz Daniel Pasquet R8 MTT Chapters vice-coordinator Daniel.Pasquet@ensea.fr gold news

Decade celebration for IAS/PELS/IES

THE JOINT IAS/PELS/IES German Chapter recently celebrated its 10th birthday with a two-day meeting in Hannover and Hameln.

It was in May 1998 that Prof Rik De Doncker, later IEEE Power Electronics Society (PELS) President, announced the approval of IEEE Industrial Applications Society (IAS) German Chapter effective 18 December 1997.

He invited the members to meet at the RWTH Aachen University in Aachen, Germany, to elect the first Chapter Board and to start the Chapter activities. Founded in 1997, the IEEE IAS German Chapter was merged with IEEE PELS in 1999 and IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IES) in 2001 to become the IEEE Joint IAS/PELS/IES German Chapter.

We have 300 members and organize more than three technical meetings per year. We are one of the most active chapters within the IEEE Germany Section.

On 15–16 November at the Leibniz Universität, Hannover, we celebrated our first decade of achievement. Heinz van der Broeck, Axel Mertens and the president of the university, Erich Barke, opened the meeting and after presentations we visited the laboratories of the institute, Refreshments followed with three birthday cakes decorated with the emblems of the three Societies.

At the evening event, Chapter officers told about the chapters' history in their humorous presentations. We plan to produce DVD records from presentations and pictures of past meetings.

The second day of meeting was hosted by Lenze AG near the city of Hameln, Germany. Founded in 1947 near Hameln, Lenze AG is now one of the leading innovative electrical drive manufacturers in Germany. Our Chapter celebrated together with the 60th birthday of Lenze AG.

Three meetings in 2008 are planned: visit *www.ewh. ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels.*

Dr Omid Forati Kashani PR Chair, IEEE Joint IAS/ PELS/IES German Chapter omid.forati_kashani@ siemens.com



IEEE Joint IAS/PELS/IES German Chapter board members cut birthday cakes decorated with emblems of all three Societies

Brighton welcomes Power Engineering conference in 2007

THE 42ND International Universities Power Engineering Conference (UPEC 2007) was held on 4–6 September 2007 at University of Brighton, Brighton, United Kingdom.

Julian Crampton, Honorary UPEC Chair, Vice Chancellor, University of Brighton opened the conference. During the sessions, 217 papers selected from more than 30 countries were presented.

The first conference was held at the University of Glasgow, UK, in 1967. The 43rd conference will be hosted by the Università degli Studi di Padova (University of Padova), Padova, Italy on 1–4 September 2008.

Tom Hammons *t.hammons@btinternet.com*



Benelux and Germany GOLD hold joint weekend event

THE FIRST IEEE Benelux GOLD Weekend, organized in cooperation with GOLD Germany, Student Branch Leuven and WIE Leuven, took place in Leuven, Belgium on 19–21 October 2007.

During this event, entitled 'Finding your Career Path', a mixture of presentations about design management, career development and technical subjects was offered.

Five companies participated in this event. After an introduction about IEEE and GOLD by the Benelux Section GOLD and Professional Activities Chairman Emre Ayranci and the Germany Section GOLD Chairman Michael Schoen, Manpower Professional explained which aspects should be taken into account when searching for a job, and how to choose the career that suits you best. They also explained what can be expected during a career. An engineer from ASML illustrated this by explaining his choices during his career path and he told about the daily work of his current job.

Google and Septentrio gave a presentation on a technical subject, related to our GPS fun activity.

Lastly, a three hour workshop about controlling cost in digital system design was given by Prof Dr Michael Wahl of the University of Siegen.

Social and cultural activities were part of the program as well. We visited the beautiful old Leuven city center, tasted famous Belgian beers and played an interactive GPS City Game in Antwerp, Belgium.

Workshop in Sarajevo

ON 3 and 4 November 2007, the Faculty of Electrical Engineering Sarajevo hosted an interesting workshop organized by Bosnian GOLD Affinity Group with the help of IEEE Bosnian Section.

The distinguished training was supported by EU TAC NGO that provides business courses for company managers.

On the first day, IEEE GOLD members could learn important details about communication skills, as well as introduction to negotiations techniques. During the second day, all members enjoyed lectures on strategically planning issues.

We want to give special thanks to Jasmina Sijercic,

the Regional Administrator of EU TAC, who provides us these widely recognized lectures.

Also, many thanks goes to Erol Mujanovic and Halil Gutosic, not only for keeping the audience interested in the topic during both days but also for their effort providing us many useful information.

Finally, we want to thank the chair of Bosnian IEEE Section, Professor Branislava Perunicic, who supported the event and gives us the encouragement for all IEEE initiatives and activities.

Adnan Tahirovic Chair of Bosnian IEEE GOLD Affinity Group adnan.tahirovic@etf.unsa.ba The event was a great success. There were 53 subscriptions and the participants were all happy with the quality of the meeting. It had a good technical content, lots of networking opportunities and sufficient social activities.

Ralph Wijshoff

IEEE Benelux Section Secretary R.W.C.G.R.Wijshoff@ieee.org

Greece Section forms GOLD Affinity Group

ON 21 October 2007, the formation of IEEE Greece Section – Gold Affinity Group was approved. The members of the first council are: Apostolopoulos G, Dagiuklas T, Kitsos P, Koutras Ath, Sklavos N, Touliou N, and Fotopoulou E. The Chair is Nicolas Sklavos (pictured below).

Networking meetings with other branches of Greece, as well as networking meetings between members of similar councils are on the agenda for 2008.

Dr Nicolas Sklavos – IEEE Greece Section GOLD Affinity Group Chair nsklavos@ieee.org



region 8 student news www.ieee.org/r8sac

DEAR IEEE FRIENDS.

Being an IEEE member has been a delightful journey for me. During my involvement, IEEE activities gave me opportunities to get to know the people within IEEE world for technical and professional matters and to learn how I can contribute to this society. I am grateful for my appointment as the Region8 Student Branch coordinator and I will do my best to reach you to support your efforts in spreading the IEEE spirit.

Forming and running a student branch is certainly not an easy task. It needs courage, perseverance and patience, so I would like to congratulate student branch executives by recognizing their efforts and dedication.

Members have many resources within IEEE from which you can get support. Each student Branch is linked to an IEEE Section. The sections can allocate funds, can provide IEEErelated materials, and can help you to reach academics in your region. The Region 8 Student Activities Committee (SAC) represents all students within Region8 and gives support and guidance.

IEEE Foundation aims to encourage scientific and educational innovative programs. Region8 student branches which were granted awards in 2007 are Leuven SB, University of York SB, Middle Each Technical University SB. I certainly encourage all the Student branches to apply if they have such ideas (www.ieee.org/organizations/ foundation).

IEEE Student Branches Industry Relations is a new program in 2007 that tries to leverage industryrelated student activities within IEEE. ISBIR aims to strengthen the link between IEEE, Academia and Industry by providing support to Student Branches in many ways (www.isbir.org).

This is certainly not a complete list, but I hope it shows that there are many different resources within IEEE waiting to hear from VOU.

I would like to tell you about the forthcoming Region 8 Student Branch Congress in London. It will be held in Queen Mary University of London from 28 August to 1 September 2008.

Located in the heart of London, the Congress will be close to many sightseeing spots such as Buckingham Palace, the London Eye, Big Ben, Oxford Street, etc. Queen Mary University Student Branch, together with SAC, GOLD and other volunteers from other branches in the UK, are working hard to make this an event to be remembered. The Congress schedule includes talks by IEEE seniors, workshops, a grand city tour, multi-cultural dinner, contests and many other fun activities.

After the Congress, those who wish to explore the career opportunities in the UK can also attend the Job Fair organized by IEEE Media. Registration is now open to all the student branches in Region8. Please see www. sbc2008.org for further details.

Hope to see you all in London during SBC2008.

Skodras gave an overview of

IEEE, its structure, the ben-

efits of IEEE membership,

and the procedure for estab-

lishing a Student Branch. Mr

Antoniou presented the activ-

ities of their Student Branch.

which is considered as a good

paradigm between those that

interesting discussion fol-

lowed the presentations.

It was decided to start the

formation of the new Branch

of the University of Ioannina

immediately. Dr C Kavousian-

os, Assistant Professor at the

Department of Computer Sci-

ence, will act as the interim

IEEE Greece Section

A Skodras

Vice Chair

skodras@eap.gr

Student Branch Counselor.

Many questions and an

are in operation.

Emine Gokce Aydal IEEE Region8 Student Branch Coordinator



Javier Fernandez Escribano (founder of IEEEdb), David Sifry, Israel Arribas Santolaya (President of IEEEsb ETSIT-UPM) and Jose Angel Fernandez

Universidad Politecnica de Madrid. Spain:

Technorati founder joins 'Geek Dinner'

LAST YEAR, we began an activity called 'IEEE Discussion Boards', which consist of roundtable discussions about topics related to technology. After the great success of the last two IEEEdb events ('Neutralidad de la Red' and 'Las TIC y su impacto en el sector audiovisual'), we wanted to know more about entrepreneurs and start-up founders.

On 15 November 2007. Javier Fernández Escribano (founder of IEEEdb) had the incredible luck to secure a visit by David Sifry (founder and chairman of Technorati) during the entrepreneur's visit to Madrid.

After the meeting, all the attendants were invited to our first Geek Dinner, where they had the opportunity to ask him and share opinions with him while having dinner in the city centre.

David Sifry is an American software entrepreneur and blogosphere icon most recently known for founding Technorati, a leading blog search engine that indexes over 94 millions weblogs. Sifry is a major open-source advocate.

He was also a founder of LinuxCare, and cofounder of Sputnik (a Wi-Fi gateway company). Technorati uses and contributes to open source software and it includes a public developers' wiki, as well as various open APIs.

His talk, 'Change the world in 30 people or less', was focused on the possibilities and even advantages that small companies have to make an incredible influence in the market place and even in the society. Technorati is a clear example of this philosophy. Sifry created it as a personal tool: "I just wanted to know what they said about me on the Internet", but nowadays there are more than 120 millions of blogs registered in Technorati with an increasing rate of 120,000 new users per day.

The reason of this peak is far from company profits, as it is clear that most of the bloggers don't get any economical profit. Nevertheless, they get other benefits: "A lot of people feel the need of communicate, write, tell a story... and one of the most interesting things of a blog is the answers you get".

So many millions of people participating and answering has to make an impact in the global communications. The traditional means of communication are beginning to change, turning paper into bits. This is a clear example of how a simple idea can turn into a social revolution.

Sifry ended his talk encouraging the attendants to become entrepreneurs.

If you want to know more about this event, you can download the video from: www.ieeedb.es/technorati. html#video-pane.

> **Israel Arribas Santolaya** IEEE UPM Chairman ias@ieee.org

SB Formation Initiative in Greece

22 STATE Universities operate in Greece, but only seven have IEEE Student Branches. Greece Section officers, in an attempt to stimulate membership, have decided to commence a Student Branch Formation Initiative.

The University of Ioannina in North-Western Greece started the ball rolling. The Vice Chair of Greece Section, Prof A Skodras, with officers of the University of Patras Student Branch, arranged a visit to this University on 30 November 2007.

The University of Ioannina, which was established in 1970, consists of 17 academic departments. It has 13,523 undergraduate students, 1,300 MSc students, and 2,217 PhD students. The Department of Compu-



The presenters and some of the participants

ter Science is well known for its research and educational activities, and the majority of the faculty members are IFFF members.

Presentations were organized in the main lecture hall of the Department of Computer Science, and a number of students (at different study levels) and faculty staff participated. The presentations were given by Prof Skodras, also serving as the Student Branch Counselor, and Mr C Antoniou, University of Patras Student Branch officer. Prof

IEEE and IET join forces for first GYMN conference

THE GYMN (Gold Younger Members' Network) Conference 2007 is the first joint conference of the IEEE and the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) in Nigeria with the theme 'Internetworking Education and the Industry for National Development'. This was held on 12–15 September 2007.

Participants of the fourday event comprised of students from Federal, State, Private Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Education, University dons, Private individuals, Company and Industry Specialists, Representatives of Corporate Organizations, Representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and policy makers.

The conference started with a press conference held at the board room of Afribank, Victoria Island, Lagos on 11 September 2007. The aim of the conference, benefits of attending, introduction of the organizers of the event were introduced, and the presentation ended with a question and answer session.



Left to right: Dr GA Aderounmu, Dr Komolafe and Gbenga Adeyemo

The Obafemi Awolowo University hosted eminent personalities, erudite scholars, vibrant students and efficient members of the press who had gathered to witness the opening ceremony of the GYMN 07 on 12 September 2007. The event was attended by Prof Taiwo (Dean of the Faculty of Technology, Obafemi Awolowo University), Dr SA Adeniran (Head of Department, Electronic and Electrical Engineering), Dr TK Yesufu (Director of Cooperative Information Network), Gbenga Adeyemo (IET YMN Chair), Prince Ibe (IEEE GOLD Chair), Jonathan Ogbekhilu (IEEE former GOLD chair), Dr MO Omoigui (conference chair) and IEEE and IET student representatives



Suleyman Demirel University, Isparta, Turkey: Activities begin at SDU

WITH THE support of IEEE Turkey Section, we organized our first activity on 30 November 2007 at the Suleyman Demirel University guest house.

Our activity was formed of two parts. First was a conference about 3G/4G technologies in GSM, with subject 'Recent Advances in Personal Communication, 3G-4G Technology'. The second was a dinner for our members. The conference was given by two participants from Turkcell. In this meeting, the IEEE activities and entities were introduced to the students of Electronics and Communications Department, and 10 new members were joined to the student branch by this activity.

Finally, we want to thank IEEE Turkey Section and other people who helped us to organize this activity.

Sitki Emre SOLAK IEEE SDU Student Branch Chair

emre2345@yahoo.com



Left to right: Bello Taofeek Olasunkanmi, Femi Badejo and Dr Omoigui

from most of the universities in Nigeria.

The keynote speaker, Dr GA Aderounmu of the Depart-

ment of Computer Science and Engineering, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, who represented the Director of Information Technology and Communication Unit (INTECU), Prof LO Kehinde, carefully highlighted the benefits of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on education.

The conference continued with paper presentations and workshops.

The conference ended on Saturday with a mountaineering exercise and visit to tourist sites on Africa's one of the most beautiful campus. The closing ceremony and conference dinner which was the high point of the event was well attended by all participants.

Bello Taofeek Olasunkanmi Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife bello@ieee.org

Belgian students visit Padova

IN JULY 2007, the IEEE Student Branch of Leuven, Belgium, went on a trip to meet the Student Branch of Padova, in the north of Italy. This was the culmination of five months of preparation. Luckily, engineers tend to enjoy preparation just as much as the actual event.

With 21 enthusiasts in three mini-vans, the journey through the Belgian Ardennes, the French Elzas region and over the Swiss Alps was a wonderful way to start a trip. The traffic on the Milanese beltway acquainted us immediately with the distinctive Italian driving style.

The north of Italy is rich in both industry and culture, and manages to combine these two without losing its typical character. We arrived in Padova at the weekend, so the first two days were cultural excursions. First Venice, city of water, a wondrous place where tourists come to see tourists from all the corners of the world and of course devour the rich architecture and the unique atmosphere. Then the Adriatic beach of Jesolo, with the finest sand in Italy. In the evening, the student branch of Padova introduced us to the local fish and meat specialties.

Monday started with a visit to the picturesque town of Sant'Agata Bolognese and its most famous industry – Lam-





borghini sport cars. A guided tour through the manufactory is a joyride, even for non-fanatics. In the afternoon, the student branches of Padova and Leuven met to discuss branch management and recruitment. After the serious meeting, a more relaxed visit to the city of Padua and its vivid student life completed the evening.

Tuesday comprised two company visits of opposites of electrical engineering – microelectronics and power transmission. A guided tour around a clean-room of ST Microelectronics and an overview of their current technology research was very inspiring. At Prysmion Cables in Milano, we were met by the company director and the heads of research and testAbove: Visit to Prysmian Cables in Milan

Left: An excursion to Venice, city of water

ing, who gave us an in-depth explanation of the construction and testing high voltage transmission cables.

A visit to Milano by night filled our last day in Italy, and the journey home was filled with rain to indicate that we had enjoyed the best time and left on the right day.

A few weeks later, over a nice plate of spaghetti with a suitable wine, the trip, the organization and the separate events were discussed. Not only the success of the trip, but also the opportunities for improvement were analyzed, so that next time will be even better. All in all, it was an opportunity for leisure and learning not to miss.

> Jan Verveckken jan.verveckken@esat. kuleuven.be



METU EESTEC, Ankara, Turkey: Robots follow the lines

'LET'S FOLLOW The Lines', organized by IEEE METU **EESTEC Committee-EESTEC** LC Ankara on 21-29 September 2007, was a workshop about robotics and line-followers. This workshop was the result of cooperation between EESTEC, EESTEC LC Ankara and IEEE METU Student Branch. 12 people from other local committees of EESTEC (Belgrade, Athens, Kaunas, Budapest and Aachen) and six from IEEE Student Branches (Saraievo and Eskisehir) participated. The main sponsor was Microsoft Turkey.

Microsoft Robotics Studio Training was conducted to the participants and members of IEEE Student Branches in Ankara. ISBIR training was conducted by IEEE METU VC Gokhan Celebi and two repesentatives from Gate Electronic and Labris Technology attended the round table meeting. The event was also supported by METU, Kebbapci, EMO, Cezzve, Minister of Culture and Tourism and IEEE Turkey Section.

Sightseeing in Ankara was also included.

Huseyin Ozcan IEEE METU EESTEC Committee EESTEC LC Ankara Chair ozcanhu@yahoo.com



J century'. It was clear from this visionary speech that enegineers will have to broaden their scope and include other sciences such as biology and ecology. Karel Uyttendaele, former assistant of the Belgian State Secretary for Informatics (his right hand), gave an insightful

right hand), gave an insightful talk titled 'WWW: Why World citizens Win' and made it clear that our flattened world isn't that big anymore.

The newly found Student Branch also unveiled its first project: the Stars for Science (SfS) initiative. This project, responding to IEEE President LH Jamieson's call to improve public awareness of engineering, has one major goal: to promote scientific research through show busi-



The audience at the opening event

Emmanuel Lesser and Tim Dams (founders) accepting an inauguration gift from Student Branch Eindhoven (NL)

Why world citizens win

University College of Antwerp, Belgium:

IEEE UNIVERSITY College of Antwerp Student Branch was recently officially inaugurated during the 'Homo Futuris' week at the University Col-

During the inauguration, Hugo De Man, IEEE Fellow

and co-founder of IMEC,

gave an inspiring talk titled

'Technology: an answer for

the challenges of the 21st

lege of Antwerp.

ness. Lieven Scheire, Belgian physicist and local celebrity known for his monthly Python-esque television shows, is godfather of the project. More information will follow, but feel free to check out www.starsforscience.org.

The founding of the new Student Branch and the Stars for Science project were both originally an initiative by Emmanuel Lesser (student), who is now vice-chairman of the Branch. Tim Dams (researcher), who is chairman of the Branch, made it all possible by putting huge amounts of time and effort into these projects, their organization and realization.

Along with the other members of the Board and all the staff at the University College, Tim and Emmanuel are constantly working on the Branch, its activities and projects.

For more information and more photographs, please visit *www.ieee-antwerp.be*.

Emmanuel Lesser IEEE University College of Antwerp Student Branch co-founder & vice-chair ieee.antwerp@gmail.com

Jordan University of Science and Technology: IEEE team observes the planets

AT THE beginning of the academic year 2007/2008, Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) departments' chairmen met the new students that have currently registered in the university in order to tell them about the fields of study and the nature of each field.

The IEEE team at JUST took this opportunity to meet the new engineering college students, to disseminate the vision and the missions of the IEEE organization. A presentation about IEEE that aimed to encourage those students to be members at this big institution was given. The presentation showed the benefits of being an IEEE member, and also presented the role of the IEEE student branch at JUST.

WIE committee members took a part in this meeting, speaking to the female students about WIE affinity and encouraging them to participate in their activities. Computer Chapter chairman did the same thing with the computer engineering students.

At the end of this meeting, IEEE–JUST teamwork gave each new student a folder contains a booklet about the student branch activities, along with a copy of *IEEE Spectrum* magazine.

Another event in JUST was a visit to the Jordanian Astronomical Society (JAS) by a group of 24 IEEE JUST WIE AG members. It was a



thoroughly enjoyable experience. After a lecture on how to observe the moon, we went to a place called Marj al-hammam where we waited for the sunset to go down and make our own observations. We saw a lot of magnificent things such as, Jupiter, Ursa Major, Cygnus, Pleiades and Saggitarius.

> Ahmad M Abu Al Haija'a IEEE – JUST chairman engahmad@just.edu.jo Hadeel H Awad awad1986@ieee.org

University of Sharjah, UAE: WIE-AG holds elections

THE IEEE University of Sharjah (UoS) WIE Affinity Group held elections on 7 November 2007 to appoint its student officers for 2008. Engineering professors and more than 30 student members were present to cast their votes.

The program of elections started with an introduction by Dr Mouna Nakkar, UAE WIE committee officer, followed by a talk on joining IEEE by Dr Elyes Bdira. Nominees then gave short speeches about their intentions and plans for upcoming year, after which votes were collected from eligible students.

On 3 October 2007, the IEEE UoS Student Branch held elections for the 2008

executive board. The head of the electrical/electronic and computer engineering department Prof Abdul-Kadir Hamid led an introductory meeting along with former president Sinan Al Sheikh. After that, interested students registered their names and the old executive board chose the ones suited for the branch.

The Executive Committee congratulates all the newly appointed officers and extends best wishes for a successful year ahead.

> Soha Jawabreh Secretary for WIE soha@ieee.org Abdullah I. Abu-Abdoun IEEE UoS SB Chair abuabdoun@ieee.org

MylEEE Profile – Andreas Koltes

In the second instalment of our regular focus on student volunteers in IEEE, our guest is Andreas Koltes.

I AM a student of Computer Science at the University of Passau in Germany.

My first real contact with the IEEE occurred when I attended some Student Branch events during my first year at university. I liked the local team and the atmosphere of the events. So I joined the IEEE and the branch and eventually became a member of the branch executive.

Cukurova University, Turkey:

transfer of experience and

knowledge from one branch

21-22 November, 30 mem-

bers from IEEE Cukurova

University Student Branch

were hosted by Bilkent IEEE

Student Branch. During the

activity, members of both

student branches had the

opportunity to transfer infor-

mation and have a debate on

the future plans of the two

Branch visited and inves-

tigated Bilkent NANOTAM

(Nanotechnology Research

Center) and Bilkent Ad-

vanced Research Laborato-

ries. Moreover, a technical

visit to TAI, a defense com-

pany was arranged to meet

the interests of the visitors.

After all the visits, the most

important visit was arranged to Turkey's one of the most

advanced and pioneer techno

parks CyberPark in Ankara.

inar entitled 'Do Computers

Besides the visits, a sem-

Cukurova IEEE Student

In the activity held on

to another

hranches

The first big project I was involved in was the organization of the IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Congress 2004 in Passau. The event was a big success and I got elected as branch chairman the following year. I held this position until I left Germany for an exchange year in the United Kingdom.

Following my return, I immediately volunteered in the Executive Committee of the Germany Section. I also joined the IEEE Student Branches Industry Relations (ISBIR) program in which I

Do computers fall in love?

am currently serving as IEEE Operations Coordinator. Besides this, I am involved in the GOLD team of the Computer Society.

Volunteering in IEEE is a great opportunity for personal development and leadership training, and it is a fantastic platform for making friends and business contacts from all over the world. You also get the unique opportunity to influence the future of the IEEE and of our engineering professions.

> Andreas Koltes koltes@ieee.org

Book Review: A Life of Discovery: Michael Faraday, Giant of the Scientific Revolution

Random House 2002 ISBN 1-4000-6016-8

features

WHEN WE met in London recently, Roland Saam and I resolved to read this biography of Michael Faraday, both of us having a copy in our personal libraries.

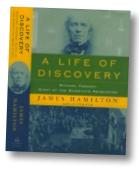
Hamilton's is not the most recent biography of Faraday (at least two more have appeared since this one was written), but this one approaches its subject from a rather different perspective, the author being an art historian rather than a historian of science.

The basic facts of Faraday's achievements are probably well known to most IEEE members, but what is illuminating about this book is its portrayal of the scientific and artistic environment of early 19th century London and its connection with other centres in Europe.

Faraday, born in London in 1791, had little formal schooling. While serving an apprenticeship with a bookbinder, he furthered his education by reading and attendance at public lectures. He possessed an "unquenchable interest in the natural world, curious about everything around." He had the good fortune to be talent-spotted and was given his first opportunity as the assistant to Humphry Davy at the Royal Institution, where he went on to make his career.

It is in the laboratory of the Royal Institution that he made his scientific discoveries, first in chemistry and later in electromagnetism. Much of the work he was called upon to do was what we would now term scientific consultancy.

His services were frequently requested upon by government bodies or individuals to help solve technical problems in a wide range of industries. At this time few



others had the abilities which could be applied to this type of investigation.

Hamilton does not give complete explanations of the science itself, but prefers to speculate on the process of scientific creativity, presenting it as the cousin of literature or painting. This analogy may have a grain of truth in case of Faraday, who was not skilled in mathematics.

Later in his career his public lectures at the Royal Institution were "as fashionable as an amusement at the Opera," and regularly attracted audiences of up to a thousand. In the 1850s, the only London figure who could compare in popularity to Faraday was Charles Dickens.

Faraday saw himself in the European context; he had a more productive correspondence with foreign scientists than with many British ones. However, many of the famous names of the era appear in the book, including some of the engineers and inventors (Brunel, Babbage, Fox Talbot). By the end of his active career he was possibly the most respected individual in world science.

I would recommend reading it as a sequel to a more conventional scientific biography of Faraday, which is likely to give more satisfying explanations of the experimental techniques and discoveries.

Martin Bolton

TWO FELLOW branches, Bilkent IEEE Student Branch and Cukurova IEEE Student Branch, organized a two-day activity in Ankara together under the Project of Fellow IEEE Student Branches (ITKK). The aim of this Project was to strengthen the relationships between student branches and the

> Fall In Love?' given by one of the Bilkent University professors, Prof Dr Haldun Özakta was held on artificial intelligence in an enjoyable and interesting conversation mood. Branches also had the opportunity to spend pleasant and enjoyable time by visiting beautiful and memorial places in Ankara.

> After an abundant activity, visitors from Cukurova University expressed their good opinions and appreciations on the activity and invited IEEE Bilkent University Student Branch to Cukurova University at Adana in return, for the second part of the activity.

> IEEE Bilkent University Student Branch's chair, Yavuz Kozak, summed up the event: "From beginning to the end, we enjoyed our time together."

> > C Serkan Baydın

IEEE Bilkent University Student Branch Vice-Chair serkanbaydin@gmail.com

University of Ibadan, Nigeria: Training day with Linux

TO FACILITATE effective use of the IEEE HP TELEcentre, the IEEE University of Ibadan Student Branch organized a one-day training seminar on the LINUX Operating System on 2 November 2007.

The training was led by Seyi Akanmo, and was well attended by students of the University. The branch promises to come up with similar events in the future.

> Olukunle Busayo Tolu Ige *fetoige@yahoo.com*



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I WOULD like to share with you my thoughts on the contemporary software engineers in a flat world that being flat is inspired from *The World Is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century* by Thomas L Friedman.

The way we study the computer science discipline needs an attention. I am not talking about the academic problem but the way we care to study the discipline, because it is a broad and interdisciplinary field.

What do we need for our study? The answer comes in many forms, but with one

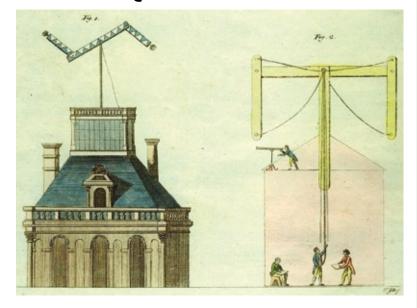
Photo Quiz

OPINION: Software engineers in a flat world

prerequisite: we first need to be caring for the science itself, interested in knowing every single piece of sand in it, and most importantly eager to integrate ourselves with the whole world. Now we come to the parameters. The technology is dramatically advancing; everyday there is a new idea, new conception, new approach, new practice, and new researches. We need to be knowledgeable about what's going on in our field and in technology in the world. Thanks to the 'flat' world this is very easy. Today we have online blogs and forums where we can discuss matters; we have online professional associations that deliver the news from its inception at your inbox.

Secondly, the way we think must be considered.

Email your entry to *r8news@ieee.org* with the subject **March08 Photo Contest** by 10 April 2008. An IEEE T-shirt goes to the winner.



TAKE A look at the diagrams above and read through the explanations on the right. Then have a go at answering these questions...

When did the Chappe brothers demonstrate operation of the semaphore telegraph between Paris and Lille?

How quickly could a message be communicated between the two cities?

Which IEEE event in 2008 recognizes this invention and the communications technologies which followed?

TELEGRAPHS

The Telegraph is machinery which is used at present especially in military business and warlike undertakings, to give a certain and speedy notice to a great distance.

The art which is called Telegraphy is ancient, but the contrivance of the present machine is new, and invented by the French, who particularly in the last war employed it to greatest advantage. The first Telegraph was erected at the Louvre in Paris; the second at Lisle in Flandres, and immediately proper correspondence was carried on.

Fig 1: The Telegraph of the Louvre in Paris

This figure represents the outside view of the Telegraph - Through the ceiling of a small room whose side-walls consist all around of windows... passes a strong pole, on the top of which the machine is erected and managed with cords, or strings. The Telegraph itself consists of a board or rather frame about 9 or 12 feet long and 14 inches broad. On the two ends of it two other boards of the same breadth but only half as long are joined. The whole machine is linked together with hinges and provided with cords, by which the various parts are moved, and the different angles and other figures produced which in Telegraphy are adopted for Letters or the signification of words.

Fig 2: The Telegraph of Lisle – the interior mechanism and contrivance along with the observatory Upon the roof stands an Officer who with a good Telescope observes the next Telegraph in motion. This officer dictates to a Secretary that sits under him all his observations from word to word. When the report is finished the Secretary dictates to the Machinist who manages the Telegraph, every motion and figure which is necessary, and in this manner a received report is instantly conveyed to the next Telegraph.

Most software engineering students have the wrong perception that they will always think technically. This is completely wrong: surprisingly, the giants of software now are the people who are thinking creatively in how to integrate software with today's business and life. This way of thinking is what made the world flat and is the same thing that requires

all of us to keep thinking like that because the world became flat.

Any computer science graduate can think technically and make software, but not all software engineers can be creative in integrating useful software in life and business. We need to keep watching the world as it goes, analyze it, think what the world needs, what points need to be strengthened; then, think how I am going to address these?

Ahmed El-Deeb

American University in Cairo woofa@aucegypt.edu

Newly elected IEEE Fellows in Region 8

BENELUX SECTION

Paul Van den Hof Rajan Srinivasan Benoit Macq Peter de Maagt Rene Smeets Bram Nauta

DENMARK SECTION Christian Jensen

FINLAND SECTION Markku Renfors Sergei Tretyakov

FRANCE SECTION

Philippe Loubaton Didier Massonnet Jean-Charles Bolomey Bruno Meyer Jean-Michel Tesseron Christian Jutten

GERMANY SECTION

Abdelhak Zoubir Reinhard Knoechel Walter Kellermann Bernd Becker

GREECE SECTION

Sergios Theodoridis

ISRAEL SECTION

Amir Boag Avraham Gover Raphael Kastner Ronny Ronen

ITALY SECTION

Massimo Rudan Parvis Marco Alfredo Testa POLAND SECTION Michal Mrozowski

PORTUGAL SECTION Paulo Verissimo Fernando Pereira

SOUTH AFRICA SECTION H Chan

Petroianu Alexander

SPAIN SECTION Manuel Castro Jose Capmany Felipe Catedra

SWEDEN SECTION

Spartak Gevorgian Gunilla Borgefors

SWITZERLAND SECTION

Hans (Teddy) Puttgen Richard Redl Roland Siegwart Colombo Bolognesi Mohammad Shokrollahi

TURKEY SECTION Levent Onural

UK & REP OF IRELAND SECTION Ann Bryce Roy Chantrell William Webb Robert Hawley

Robert Hawley Peter Blood Andrew Blake

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES SECTION Barkat Mourad

Conference calendar

Workshops, conferences & symposia in Region 8

MARCH

HRI 2008

3rd ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction Amsterdam, the Netherlands 12–15 March 2008 http://hri2008.org

ICMTS 2008

2008 IEEE International Conference on Microelectronic **Test Structures** Edinburgh, Scotland 24-27 March 2008 www.see.ed.ac.uk/ICMTS

APRIL

AICCSA 2008

IEEE/ACS International Conference on Computer Systems and Applications 2008 Doha, Qatar 1-4 April 2008 www3.cs.queensu.ca/trl/aiccsa08

NoCS 2008

2nd IEEE International Symposium on Networks-on-Chips Newcastle University, UK 7-11 April 2008 http://async.org.uk/nocs2008

ASYNC 2008

14th IEEE International Symposium on Asynchronous Circuits and Systems Newcastle University, UK 7–11 April 2008 http://async.org.uk/async2008

MAY

MELECON 2008

The 14th IEEE Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference Ajaccio, France 5-8 May 2008 www.melecon08.iut-amiens.fr

ISWPC 2008

International Symposium on Wireless Pervasive Computing Santorini, Greece 7-9 May 2008 www.iswpc.org/2008

ISBI 2008

5th IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging Paris, France 14-17 May 2008 www.biomedicalimaging.org

Note to Organisers

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MIKON 2008

17th International Conference on Microwaves, Radar and Wireless Communications Wroclaw, Poland 19–23 May 2008 www.mikon-2008.pl

ETS 2008

13th IEEE European Test Symposium Lago Maggiore, Italy 25–29 May 2008 www.cad.polito.it/~ets08

EUROVIS 2008

Joint Eurographics/IEEE VGTC Symposium on Visualization Eindhoven, the Netherlands 26-28 May 2008 http://bmia.bmt.tue.nl/EuroVisO8/ index.php

US/EU Baltic 2008

IEEE US/EU Baltic International Symposium on Ocean Observations, Ecosystem-Based Management & Forecasting Tallinn, Estonia 27-29 May 2008 www.us-eu-baltic2008.org

JUNE

IEEE COMM 2008

7th International Conference Bucharest, Romania 5-7 June 2008 www.comm2008.ro

ICOPS 2008

IEEE 35th International Conference on Plasma Sciences Karlsruhe, Germany 15-19 June 2008 www.icops2008.org

PESC 2008

IEEE 39th IEEE Power Electronics Specialists Conference Rhodes, Greece 15–19 June 2008 www.pesc08.org

ATC 2008

5th International Conference on Autonomic and Trusted Computing Oslo, Norway 23–25 June 2008 www.ux.uis.no/atc08

ISIE 2008

IEEE International Symposium on Industrial Electronics Cambridge, UK 30 June - 2 July 2008 www.isie2008.ing.univaq.it

JULY

IEEE SIBIRCON 2008

International Conference on **Computational Technologies** in Electrical and Electronics Engineering Novosibirsk, Russia 21-25 July 2008 http://sibircon2008.sibsutis.ru

IEEE SAM 2008

Sensor Array and Multichannel Signal Processing Workshop Darmstadt, Germany 21-23 July 2008 www.sam2008.org

AUGUST

IEEE RO-MAN 2008

17th IEEE International Symposium on Robot And Human Interactive Communication Munich, Germany 1–3 August 2008 www.lsr.ei.tum.de/ro-man2008

IEEE IWCMC 2008

IEEE International Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing Conference 2008 Chania Crete Island, Greece 6–8 August 2008 http://dropzone.tamu.edu/~xizhang/ IWCMC2008/IWCMC08.html

Optical MEMS & Nanophotonics 2008

2008 IEEE/LEOS International Conference on Optical MEMS and Nanophotonics Freiburg, Germany 11–14 August 2008 www.ieee.org/organizations/society/ leos/LEOSCONF/MEMS2008

SEPTEMBER

UPEC 2008

43rd International Universities Power Engineering Conference www.upec2008.org

LANMAN 2008

www.ieee-lanman.org

EMC Europe 2008

International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility Hamburg, Germany 8–12 September 2008 http://emceurope2008.org/cms

ELMAR 2008

50th International Symposium ELMAR-2008 Zadar, Croatia 10–13 September 2008 www.elmar-zadar.org

ICUWB 2008

2008 IEEE International Conference on Ultra-Wideband Hannover, Germany 10-12 September 2008 www.icuwb2008.org

IEEE HISTELCON 2008

IEEE History of Electrotechnology Conference Paris, France 11–12 September 2008 www.isep.fr/histelcon

IEEE ETFA 2008

13th IEEE International Conference on Emerging Technologies and Factory Automation Hamburg, Germany 15–18 September 2008 www2.hsu-hh.de/aut

IEEE PIMRC 2008

2008 IEEE 19th International Symposium on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communications Cannes, France 15–18 September 2008 www.pimrc2008.org

IEEE GFP 2008

5th International Conference on Group IV Photonics Sorrento, Italy 17–19 September 2008 www.ieee.org/organizations/society/ leos/LEOSCONF/GFP2008

IROS 2008

IEEE/RSJ 2008 International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems Nice, France 22–26 September 2008 http://iros2008.inria.fr

OCTOBER

CAS 2008

2008 International Semiconductor Conference Sinaia, Romania 13-15 October 2008 www.imt.ro/CAS

IEEE NSS 2008

IEEE 2008 Nuclear Science Symposium, Medical Imaging Conference and 16th Room Temperature Semiconductor Detector Workshop Dresden, Germany 19–25 October 2008 www.nss-mic.org/2008

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