

December 2009 Edition

View from the Chair

It's hard for me to believe, but my year-long tenure as chair of the Montana Section draws to a close this month. I'm a member of several professional societies, with foci that cover biology, Earth sciences, computer science, aeronautics and astronautics, and, to be sure, electrical and electronics engineering. With this broad menu from which to choose, and with my graduate degree in biochemistry, it's of interest to me that most of my volunteer time is spent with the IEEE. While I'm amply satisfied intellectually with all of my fields of endeavor, there's just something about engineering that excites me more than any other: The ability to look at real-world problems and to find or invent solutions to those problems resonates with me. My involvement with the MT Section and its Executive Committee has been incredibly satisfying, the challenges of working within the limitations of a small organization notwithstanding. Thank you all for your support.

—Mitch Hobish

IEEE Montana Section News

• Professor Hashem Nehrir – IEEE Fellow

The IEEE Board of Directors, at its November 2009 meeting, elevated Professor Hashem Nehrir to the status of IEEE Fellow, for his contributions to alternative energy power generation. Congratulations, Hashem!

• Vacancy Announcement

The Western Transportation Institute is looking for a Senior Research Associate/Engineer/Scientist in the area of communications, networking, and intelligent transportation. For details, visit:

<http://www.montana.edu/cgi-bin/msuinfo/fpview/p/1036-3>

• Don't forget to vote in the Section election!

<http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/montana/>



IEEE NEWS

• Fifteen Countries Collaborate on First Humanitarian Technology Challenge Workshop

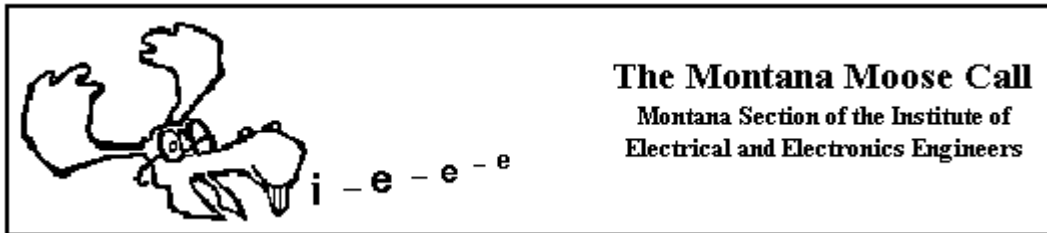
The First Humanitarian Technology Challenge (HTC) workshop was held 26-28 October in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. 70 people from 15 countries participated in a series of working sessions focused on defining plans for field tests to address the three selected challenges presented at the June HTC conference, sponsored by IEEE and the United Nations Foundation.

• How to Protect Personal Information

IEEE has brought together its security expert members to evaluate the most substantial threats to personal information, and to advise the public on how to best protect against security compromises online. As part of IEEE's global vision of advancing technology for humanity, IEEE members are working on improving ways to protect individuals' personal and financial information, as well as help secure the vast amounts of information captured by large organizations – and in the process, alert the public to the realities of the Internet.

MT Section Officers

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December Meeting Announcement

The Use of Driving Simulators for Research and Design

Nicholas J. Ward
Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and
Western Transportation Institute
Montana State University
Bozeman

This presentation will discuss the features and advantages of driving simulators in scientific research and design to support improved traffic safety. The discussion will also introduce the driving simulator facilities available at Montana State University

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

**Life Members Meeting 5:30 p.m.
General Meeting 6:00 p.m.**

**Montana State University, 108 EPS
(Near 7th and Grant, South of Cobleigh Hall)**

Free pizza!

Please call Richard Wolff at 994-7172 (or e-mail: rwolff@montana.edu) or sign up via the Section website, <http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/montana>, to make reservations by 6 p.m., December 8, 2009.