

IEEE Region 3 – ExCom Meeting  
Web Conference – Minutes  
19 April 2021  
8:00-10:00pm

Attendees (ExCom voting member\*):

Jill Gostin*	x	Theresa Brunasso*	x	Pat Donohoe*	x	John Balsam*	x
Gregg Vaughn*	x	Steve Kemp*		Charles Lord*		Jenny Palmer*	
Claude Pitts*		Justin Baba*	x	Danny Merkl*		Lee Stogner*	
Don Hill*	x	Damith Wickramamayake*	x	Kristin Bing*		Sonya Dillard*	x
Eric Grigorian*	x	Bill Marshall*	x	Bill Harrison*	x	Jacquelyn Cunningham*	x
Dave Green*	x	Bailey Heyman*	x	Nelson Lourenco	x	Grayson Randall	x
Chirat Pathiravasam		Bill LaBelle		Evelyn Licona		Lucas Sweet	x
Ebonee Walker		Hulya Kirkici		Glenn Parker		Sean Haynes	
Parag Upadhyay		Wyman Williams	x	Thomas Bellarmine	x	Hasala Dharmawardena	x
Amanda Sahlstrom		Sharlene Brown	x	Mark Torres		Jim Conrad	
Bill Ratcliff	x	Larry Adams		Rachel Wilson		Michael Smith	x
Devon Gayle	x	Bob Hobbs		Joe Pennisi	x	Bruce Harvey	
Matt Horrer		McCauley Osaisai	x	Rich Kent		David Fillion	
Derik Pack		Angelo Ferraro		Paul Goodson		Allen Jones	x
Mary Ellen Randall	x	AJ Burke		Paul Belussi		Bob Bush	
Raul Ortega	x	Nancy Mate'		John Doyle		Jason Finn	x
Leandro Barajas		Warren Mackey		Winfort Myles		Eric Ackerman	
David Griffith		Demetris Geddis	x	Mike Puckett		Erica Simmons	
Tamseel Syed	x	Dave Irons		Allen Zheng		Olugbenga Anubi	
Stephen Morris		Stephen Hopkins		John K. John			

Agenda:

- 1) Director Gostin began the meeting at 8:00pm.
- 2) After the discussion item of Student Activities (Bailey Heyman) was added to the meeting agenda, the agenda was approved.
- 3) The consent agenda, consisting of the minutes from the 15 February 2021 ExCom Meeting and reports listed in the information agenda, was approved.
- 4) Officer Reports
  - a) Director Report
    - i) Director Gostin updated the ExCom on the issue of potential realignment of IEEE Regions. There is still no indication that an agreement will be reached.
    - ii) Director Gostin noted that the June Board Series will be held virtually.
    - iii) The bylaws modifications approved by the ExCom and Region Committee have been sent to the Governance Committee for review. If approved by the Governance Committee in time, the bylaws modifications will be on the MGA agenda in June.
    - iv) Director Gostin thanked everyone who attended Sections Congress, and expressed her appreciation to Grayson Randall for his leadership in organizing and coordinating the teams in the Region 3 Exhibit Booth.
    - v) The formation of a committee on Diversity and Inclusion has been initiated by Director Gostin. The committee will be chaired by Bill Ratcliff.
    - vi) On May 13 (8:00pm EDT), IEEE President Kathy Land and IEEE Executive Director Steve Welby will present a webinar open to all IEEE members. President Land's presentation is entitled "My Personal Journey in IEEE" while Executive Director Welby's presentation is entitled "The State of IEEE". Director Gostin encouraged everyone to attend.

- b) Director-Elect Report
  - Director-Elect Brunasso noted that the Area Chairs held their second meeting earlier this month and are working on procedures for identifying and helping struggling sections. She is also continuing her work with the Conference Committee, the Strategic Operations and Support Committee and the Finance Committee.
- c) Secretary Report
  - Secretary Donohoe has posted all submitted reports to the meeting website. The roll call was taken for the meeting.
- d) Treasurer Report
  - i) Treasurer Balsam presented an update on the current Region 3 budget.
  - ii) The Region 3 Finance Committee has determined that merging our Conference Reserve account with our Long Term Investment Account would allow us to earn more interest overall.
  - iii) The NextGen Finance rollout is underway.
  - iv) Treasurer Balsam is considering adding some general ledger expense categories to Concur.
- e) Past Director Report
  - Past Director Vaughn noted that the Nominations and Appointments Committee has been selected for an operational audit this year and he is working on the reporting document, which is due next month.
- 5) Action Agenda
  - a) 2021 Funding of Projects
    - Region 3 Projects Coordinator Grayson Randall presented the request for proposals for Region 3 Projects in 2021. The guidelines for the 2021 funding center around “Supporting the New Normal”. Among the possible topics are hybrid meetings, hybrid K-12 education, virtual tours and family-based STEM experiences and interactions. Projects funding is one time up to \$1,000 per project. The specifics of the funding proposal were presented. The announcement will go out by May 1, project applications will be due June 15, and funded projects will be announced by July 1. Region 3 Projects made a motion requesting up to \$20K. The motion was approved.
  - b) Closure of the Tennessee Council
    - Justin Baba, current Chair of the Tennessee Council, reviewed the history of the Tennessee Council, and noted that the Council was currently outdated and ineffective, lacking in tangible value, and producing little engagement. All five of the Sections in the Tennessee Council are in agreement that Tennessee Council should be dissolved. Council Chair Baba made the motion to dissolve the Tennessee Council. The motion was approved.
  - c) SoutheastCon 2022 Budget
    - Conference Committee Chair Eric Grigorian presented the SoutheastCon 2022 budget motion. SoutheastCon 2022 is planned to be face-to-face with a hybrid component for technical sessions. The hosting committee presented the SoutheastCon 2022 budget to the Conference Committee in early April, and the Conference Committee presented the budget to the Region 3 Finance Committee, with both committees endorsing the budget. Chair Grigorian made a motion to approve the SoutheastCon 2022 budget. The motion was approved.
- 6) Discussion Agenda
  - a) Conference Committee Report
    - Conference Committee Chair Eric Grigorian presented an update on the latest activities of the Conference Committee. He first recognized the planning committee for SoutheastCon 2021 for a successful conference and many lessons learned. Chair Grigorian discussed the possibility of teaming with Region 9 on a technical conference to be held yearly in Jamaica or a traveling conference at sites in the Caribbean region, and the expansion of the Region 3

Student Hardware Competition model to other regions. Chairman Grigorian noted that the Conference Committee is currently soliciting proposals for interest in hosting SoutheastCon 2025 or 2026.

b) Strategic Operations and Support Committee

Strategic Operations and Support Committee (SOSC) Chair Dave Green provided an update on current activities of the SOSC. The duties of the SOSC were detailed. Chair Green shared a list of recent topics discussed at SOSC meetings. The SOSC is responsible for the Region 3 Strategic Plan, which was described in detail by Chair Green, including the associated responsibility grid. A discussion of the Next Normal was presented based on the Section experience during the pandemic. Ideas for going forward were also presented. Chair Green also noted the mentors for Region 3 committees.

c) SoutheastCon 2020 Update

No update provided.

d) SoutheastCon 2021 Update

SoutheastCon 2021 Chair Wyman Williams provided an update on closing out SoutheastCon 2021. All papers have been properly formatted for publication to IEEE Xplore. Publication content was submitted to IEEE on April 9. The goal is to complete the conference closeout by the end of May.

e) Student Activities Committee

Student Activities Committee (SAC) Chair Bailey Heyman presented ideas on how SAC can promote recovery of student engagement in the next academic year culminating in significant student participation at SoutheastCon 2022. SAC plans to strategize on student branches in different groups based on past SoutheastCon participation and reach out to branches accordingly. During the process of upgrading the traveling trophy for the student hardware competition, SAC is redistributing the individual “plates” as a way of reconnecting with student branches and schools. SAC plans to use Discord channels to help connect student branches with sections and professional members of IEEE.

7) Review of Action Items From Last Meeting

No actions from last meeting.

8) Old Business – none

9) New Business

- a) Dave Green noted that the IEEE Foundation will be hosting a program on April 22 at 1:00pm that will feature the MOVE truck.

10) The next ExCom meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2020 from 8:00-10:00pm EST.

11) The meeting was adjourned at 9:27pm.