

To: Region 3 ExCom  
Cc: Region 3 Committee  
From: Eric Grigorian, Region 3 Director  
Subject: Director's Report  
Date: 23 February 2025

Dear Colleagues,

February has been a very busy month as I have been involved with many activities, both at the Region level and at IEEE. If you haven't seen or heard, IEEE now has more than 500,000 members, and this increase is attributed to all your hard work in getting folks engaged. Region 3 has seen an average 3% year-over-year increase in numbers and now we have over 27,000 members.

Along with several Region 3 representatives that included Jill, Mary Ellen, Grayson, Sonya and me, we attended the February Board meetings in Seattle earlier this month in various capacities. Additionally, Mary Ellen and I also participated in the Region 10 Operational Committee meeting, which was learning experience and hope to implement how they conduct their meetings efficiently. Today, I am on a trip home from R10 meeting and hence will not be able to participate on the ExCom meeting and have asked Sonya to assist and lead the meeting.

As we are approaching end of February, I know SoutheastCon 2025 team has been actively engaged in the planning for the event. Many thanks to Jim Conrad and the Technical Paper committee for their excellent task of reviewing technical papers. Also, thanks to Charles, David, and Joe for working on logistics, registration, and planning for the event. Bailey, Sunny, and Ebony are also busy working with the students, YP and WIE, respectively, and I am planning to have more engagements in our SoutheastCon this year. Please review the Region 3 agenda in advance of the upcoming conference for participation in various sessions on Friday March 28, 2025. On Saturday and Sunday, my intent is to have all Region 3 participants to be in a single session. Additionally, I am working with Region 5 such that our presentation for various VIPs that will be attending Region 3 and Region 5 meetings, to have a joint WebEx presentations on Saturday Morning. If you haven't already made your reservations, please do so immediately as the early registration rates will be increasing and the Region will only be honoring the early-bird registration rates. Also please make sure you review Region 3 acceptable travel expenses and associated limitations. Travel guidelines are available on Region 3 website. All sections will need to identify their primary delegate for travel reimbursement and provide the name to Pat Donohoe and Joe Pennisi in advance of the travel.

In support of IEEE-USA and the upcoming Congressional Visit Day (CVD), I am planning to utilize Director Initiative funds to support 4 Sections to send YPs to CVD April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This is to allow engagement of YPs in learning the process and having the ability to learn and interact with congressional staff and congressional members. For each section that is willing to sponsor a YP, region will subsidize \$500 per participating YP. IF we have more sections that are interested in this engagement, I will consider providing support to additional sections, however, space for CVD is becoming full as 260 individuals have already signed up from folk in regions 1 through 6. If any Section is interested in supporting a YP, please register as soon as possible as space is limited.

Additionally, as my role as IEEE Audit Chair, we are navigating the process of getting all IEEE Organizational Units (OUs) to transition their external bank accounts to NextGen Banking. Since the beginning of the

year, I have been receiving requests for new Societies, Student Branches, Student Branch Chapters. As part of the approval process, I have started to include stipulation that any new entity request will require engagement with the local Section and having a concentration banking account that is associated with the Section. Section Chairs, please coordinate with your Section Treasurer for establishing associated concentration banking accounts for technical societies and student branches. Let's see if we can get Region 3 to be the leader in getting all of our entities brought into the fold of utilizing concentration banking accounts and close all external accounts.

Also, if you have not seen or heard, IEEE Medal of Honor Laureate recipient will now be getting a \$2M award. This increase in monetary award was approved by IEEE BoD last year and on Thursday, IEEE made the global announcement for the 2025 Medal of Honor recipient. The intent by IEEE is to increase the prestige of the award to be more than the Nobel prize winner. This year's award will be given out during the upcoming VIC Summit & Honors Ceremony Gala that will be held on April 23-24 in Tokyo, Japan.

Looking forward to seeing and connecting with you at the upcoming SoutheastCon 2025 in Concord!

Thanks to all of you for your continued support to IEEE!

Regards,

Eric Grigorian  
2025 IEEE Region 3 Director