

To: IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee or IEEE Region 3 Committee
From: Richmond Section
Date: 22/09/2025
By: Gokul Pandy - Chair

Activities Since Last Report

A Year of Teamwork, Growth, and Impact (Jan–Aug 2025)

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Since January 2025, under the leadership of Gokul Pandy as Section Chair (<https://spectrum.ieee.org/robotic-process-automation-gokul-pandy>), the IEEE Richmond Section has demonstrated remarkable momentum in membership growth, professional engagement, and community impact. This success reflects the collective strength of our leadership transition, volunteer commitment, and strong alignment with IEEE's mission of advancing technology for humanity, and his vision has already been translated into impactful initiatives, events, and collaborations across the section.

Leadership Continuity and Teamwork

The Richmond Section owes its stability and continuity to the collaborative leadership of Allen Jones (Past Chair) and Gokul Pandy (Present Chair). Allen's dedicated leadership established a strong foundation, ensuring a seamless transition. Even after his term, he remains proactive and eager to contribute, offering valuable guidance and support. Building on this momentum, Gokul has brought renewed energy, focusing on member impact, cross-section collaboration, and professional development opportunities. Our accomplishments are not the work of one individual but of a dedicated ExCom team— and many volunteers—whose collaboration has been instrumental in driving the Section's growth and engagement.

Key Accomplishments (Jan–Aug 2025)

- ✓ **Life Members Affinity Group (LMAG)** : One of the early accomplishments this year was the establishment of the Life Members Affinity Group (LMAG) petition and was approved to form in Richmond Section, and Gokul Pandy has been elected as a Chair for the same, creating a platform for experienced professionals to share insights, mentor younger members, and actively contribute to IEEE initiatives. This has strengthened the section's intergenerational engagement and knowledge-sharing culture.
- ✓ **Virtual Multi-Section Sessions**: Collaborative events with Boston, Washington, Northern Virginia, Baltimore, and Atlanta Sections, expanding knowledge-sharing and networking across regions by inviting speakers from distinguished organizations.

- ✓ **Richmond Section Gathering (June 2025):** An in-person event with 100+ attendees, fostering networking, celebrating achievements, and welcoming new members.
 - ✓ **Student & Career Development:** Partnerships with VCU and local institutions provided resume reviews, career guidance, and mentoring for 28+ students, supported by 12 volunteers.
 - ✓ **AI for Thriving Communities:** A signature initiative integrating AI into K–12 education in collaboration with VCU, AI Ready RVA, and Richmond Institute of Technology and Science. **Digital Outreach:** Launch of the IEEE Richmond Section LinkedIn page is a NEW initiative, enhancing visibility, communication, and engagement with both members and the wider professional community.
 - ✓ **Membership Growth :** Driven by these initiatives, the Richmond Section has welcomed/renewed 101+ new members since January 2025. This growth reflects not only the value of our programs but also the inclusive, collaborative culture built by our leadership and volunteers.
 - ✓ **Looking Ahead** With strong teamwork at its core, IEEE Richmond Section is poised to continue advancing innovation, mentorship, and community engagement. The leadership journey of Allen and Gokul, supported by an active ExCom team, underscores the importance of continuity, collaboration, and service. Together, we remain committed to building meaningful member experiences and strengthening the role of IEEE in our community.
- Received Credential for 2025 IEEE Membership Outstanding Recruitment and Retention Performance
 - Received 5th Place for the Senior Member Elevation and received a rebate.
 - Published in the recent Newsletter and also introduced the IEEE RICHMOND SECTION Social Media from this year June 2025.

Planned Activities

- ✓ LMAG Gathering in November 2025
- ✓ Webinar Series Continuation till Nov 2025
- ✓ Mission Tomorrow Event – Oct 2025
- ✓ Awards Within Section – It is still in the initial Stage and talk but not yet finalized thinking for 2026

Unit Goals and Current Status

- ✓ Volunteer engagement – focus on filling Chapter Officer roles – 95% Completed and Will be done by Oct
End

Action Items

None

Discussion Items

None

Appendix