3rd International Conference for Upcoming Engineers (ICUE 2004)

ICUE is a platform where students and faculty members work together in organizing the conference, and a forum to exchange ideas amongst undergraduates, graduate students and faculty researchers.

The ICUE 2004 was advertised in the IEEE Canadian Review that reaches about 16,000 subscribers (thanks to Dr. Vijay Sood) in Canada and the APEO Newsletter that reaches many more. Thanks to the students who created the professional web page at http://www.icue.ca and widely mailed the Call For Papers. ICUE web page was linked to the IEEE Toronto Section web page which is visited by an even larger audience. These efforts brought 85 technical paper submissions (32 international) and 29 design project submissions to ICUE 2004.

ICUE 2004 was held on May 13-14. It was a festival of students; we had 45 technical papers scheduled to present with participants coming from universities such as Toronto, Western Ontario, Carleton, Ottawa, Waterloo and Regina. There were five technical sessions:

- Shannon (Computers, Networks and Information Theory),
- Fourier (Signal Processing and Multimedia),
- Marconi (Wired, Wireless and Optical Communications),
- Edison (Power, Machines and Controls),
- Newton (Cross disciplinary and Emerging Areas).

There were five state-of-the-art tutorials delivered by experts such as Alberto Leon Garcia (U of Toronto), Muhammad Khalid (U of Windsor) and Xiang-Gen Xia (U of Delaware), Bin Wu and Peter Hiscocks (Ryerson).

In ICUE 2004, for the first time we had an integrated design demo with 10 student design projects from the University of Toronto, 10 projects from Ryerson and some from outside. Please visit the ICUE web site (http://www.icue.ca/icue2004album) to see the photographs and details. IEEE Canadian Review will cover the award winners and publish a follow-up on ICUE 2004 soon.

Funding for the ICUE was received from sources such as IEEE Canadian Foundation, IEEE Toronto Section, and RyeSAC. The IEEE student members paid $20 only if they were attending the banquet (non-members $30). This way, we made sure all other benefits were available to the students free of charge.

The ICUE committee appreciates the donation of four text books from **J.Wiley and Sons** as awards for the winning participants.

The ICUE 2003 award winner James Gaston won the first prize in the IEEE Canada Central Region Engineering Paper Competition. This year, "The Dr. Robert T.H. Alden IEEE Canadian Foundation Scholarship" which is co-sponsored by the IEEE Toronto Section was awarded to Litifa Noor who was also the Organizing Chair of ICUE'04. Likewise students benefited tremendously from ICUE.

ICUE 2004 Award Winners:

Best Undergraduate Technical Paper (see also article in this issue of the IEEE Canadian Review):

- "Source and Channel Coding Techniques for Faithful Transmission of Digital Mammograms" by Danoush Hosseinzadeh and April Khademi (Ryerson University)

Best Graduate Technical Paper:

- "Design and Development of a Liquid Level Transducer Using Sonar" by M. Mehrandezh, and V. Soman' (University of Regina)

Best Design Projects:

- "Self-Navigating Robot with Stereo Video Recognition" by Jonathan Waisman, Ekaterina Laskin, Valeri Kirischian and Colin Lee (University of Toronto)
- "A High Fidelity Audio Amplifier" by Gary Ali (Ryerson University)

We take this moment to thank all those helped and participated in this tech festival.

Xavier Fernando and Alagan Anpalagan

Co-Chairs, ICUE 2004