IEEE Education Society—News&Notes bulletin


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IEEE Education Society’s Web site

New IEEE Fellows Supported by EdSoc

We are pleased to announce that 3 of the candidates, which were evaluated by the Education Society, have been
elevated to the grade of IEEE Fellow. These three individuals have demonstrated expertise and commitment to a level
that warrants this honor. Please join us in congratulating and honoring these recipients!

Manuel Castro-Gil, Ph.D.
Professor Castro-Gil is an electrical and computer engineering educator in the Spanish University for Distance
Education (UNED). He has an industrial engineering degree and Ph.D. from the Industrial Engineering School of
the Madrid Polytechnic University. His doctoral thesis received the Extraordinary Doctoral Award and the Viesgo
Award. He is now Professor and Director of the Department and was serving as UNED’s Vice-Rector of New
Technologies. His contributions to the advancement of engineering applications can be evaluated in-light of his
continued and dynamic efforts to renovate curricula in electronics teaching throughout Spain, Europe and South
America. He has continued to integrate new tendencies, and innovations that are manifested as simulations and
multimedia tools, primarily oriented to distance and online learning. He has provided exemplary leadership, which
has fostered change through his writings and textbooks in Spanish.

Phillip Laplante, Ph.D.
Dr. Laplante has promoted the advancement and application of engineering science and technology through his
leadership and contributions in continuing professional education, associate, bachelor and master degree
programs both as a professor and as an academic administrator for more than 20 years. He has also a
distinguished author, scholar, and teacher in the areas of real-time systems and in real-time image
processing, the latter a sub-discipline which he helped to create.

Karen Panetta, Ph.D.
Dr. Karen Panetta received her B.S. in Computer Engineering from Boston University, M.S. in Electrical
Engineering and Ph.D. in Computer Systems Engineering from Northeastern University. She worked full-time for
digital Equipment Corporation as a Principal Engineer while completing her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. She worked
on many CPU design teams and developed simulation engines for fault simulation of digital logic systems. In
1991, Karen was selected as a Digital Fellow for the Engineer’s Into Education Program. This awesome program
allowed her to go to school full-time, with full salary for two years to finish her Ph.D. dissertation. She is the
recipient of the NSF CAREER Award and is a NASA Research Scientist Fellow. She is currently working on the
Nerd Girls*: Breaking the Stigmas and Stereotypes of Women in Engineering project. And, is the Chair of the
IEEE Women in Engineering Committee and the Editor in Chief of the IEEE Women in Engineering Magazine.

*Female Engineering Awareness and Retention

Newest Issue of MEEM Available Online

The official Student Publication of The IEEE Education Society
Student Activities Committee (EdSoc/SAC)

Click the banner to see the newest issue...

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EdSoc's RSS Feed: Its Cool, Try It!

It's a cool news and information feed that contains short well packed, quick to read items!!

This RSS feed was designed to provide one-stop-viewing of aggregated high-quality Podcasts items!!

It's a cool news and information feed that contains short well packed, quick to read items!!

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2008 ICL Conference Call For Papers

International Conference
Villach/Austria
Interactive Computer Aided Learning
ICL

The ICL 2008 Conference Chair has already enlisted a very respectable list of keynote speaker. They are:

- Kanji Akahori, President of the Japan Society of Educational Technology (JSET), Japan
- Erhard Busek, former Austrian Vice-Chancellor, President of the European Forum Alpbach, Chairman of the "Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe", Austria
- Muriel Dunbar, Director European Training Foundation, EU
- Judson Harward, MIT Center for Educational Computing Initiatives, USA
- Torsten Fransson, KTH Stockholm, Vice-Dean School of Energy and Environmental Technology, Sweden
- Nikitas Kastis, President of the European innovation and research network MENON, Greece
- Bernd Kreissig, CEO Brockhaus Duden Neue Medien GmbH, Germany
- P. Tapio Varis, University of Tampere, Chair Media Culture and Communication Education Hypermedia Laboratory, Finland

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EdSoc Administrative Committee Meeting Set

EdSoc President Joseph Hughes has announced that the next Administrative Committee meeting will be held at the ASEE's annual convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Monday, June 23, 2008 at 6:30-8:00 p.m. in room 401 of the Pittsburgh Convention Center. This meeting is open to the general public.

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North Carolina Chapter Co-Sponsors Senior Design Expo

"Pairing senior design student groups with industry projects has created the best advertising for our students' abilities we could have ever imagined."

— Jim Conrad North Carolina Chapter Chair

The Senior Design Expo dinner (photo above) is always well attended. The poster display of proposed solutions for the projects of this year and the display of Spring project results was on December 6th. Posters depicting planned solutions for Spring projects were displayed around the dining room and 7 completed projects, begun last Spring were displayed in the hall. Over 240 people attended the event this year. Mr. Troy Pate, Engineering Manager for UPS was the guest speaker and spoke of "The Value of Senior Design to Students and Companies".

(Above left) Team members describe the autonomous robot they designed and built. (Above right) The poster session allowed students to describe their design to over 80 industry representatives.

The UNC Charlotte College of Engineering's senior design program brings together students and industrial partners in a collaborative research environment. As they tackle real-world engineering projects, the engineering students and their industry sponsors are afforded unlimited possibilities for learning and achievement.

Engineering students profit from:
- practical real-world experience,
- the opportunity to learn design philosophies,
- the opportunity to initiate elective research projects,
- unlimited possibilities for learning and achievement.

Industry partners profit from:
- the opportunity to initiate elective research projects,
- unlimited possibilities for learning and achievement.

Click here to view the feed... Try it... you'll love it.
The obvious reasons for chapter development are:

- The EdSoc has some 70 Chapters scattered throughout the world. For a listing of those Chapters and to review what is available for Chapters, see: http://www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/es/chapter-list.html.

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- And, I might add, there are a number of Chapters that are just about to become official. They include: Harbin, Chengdu, Xian, Shanghai, Wuhan, Beijing, and Nanjing.

- All these chapters exist for a number of reasons—some obvious, some not so obvious. The obvious reasons for chapter development are:
  - to facilitate membership growth,
  - to provide community service, and
  - to promote collegial networking in various localities.

- However there are other very powerful reasons to develop chapters. Chapter development CAN ALSO provide a mechanism:
  - to foster the identification and development of LEADERS who can, for example:
    - represent their colleagues and present a unified position to their federal government, to their college administration, to the European Union Education Commission, to the United Nations education committees, etc., or,
    - represent their colleagues and formulate grant/funding proposals.
  - to establish VISIBILITY for the Education Society!

If there is no Chapter in your area, it is relatively easy to start one. The Chair of the EdSoc Chapters Committee can use the IEEE's e-Notice mechanism to send an email notice to EdSoc members in your area, which would inform them of the Chapter Formation Drive and ask them to consent to form a chapter. IT'S THAT SIMPLE TO GET ONE STARTED!

EdSoc Chapters exist for many reasons. Some IEEE Sections may not have a reason to establish one, some IEEE Sections may greatly benefit from having a Chapter. If you would like to lead an effort to establish an EdSoc Chapter in your IEEE Section contact the Chair or the EdSoc Chapters Committee via email — Rob Reilly at reilly@ihxe.net.edu.

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Are You an Associate Member of IEEE?

Take a look on your IEEE membership card. If it says ASSOCIATE under your name then you should consider upgrading to become a Member. There is no cost for this action.

For more details, click here to go directly to the IEEE self-upgrade web page.

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Southwest Russia: Bright Event Concludes the 2007 Technical English Program

"the IEEE Russia Southwest Section is led by Alexander Mikrov a terrific EdSoc leader..." — Manuel Castro, Vice Chair, Chapters Committee

Students of the IEEE Technical English Program (TEP) in St. Petersburg, Russia were recently treated to an all-day tutorial by Moshe Kam and Ryan Measel from Drexel University (Philadelphia, USA). Kam is a Professor at Drexel and has also served as the 2005-2007 IEEE Vice-President for Educational Activities. Measel is a Research Assistant.

Already in its third year, TEP is an exclusive benefit for IEEE student members. The purpose of the program is to increase technical literacy in English, and improve the readability of manuscripts, papers, and specification sheets by non-native speakers of English. The TEP tutorial is given at the end of an instruction cycle and is an important milestone for both students and instructors associated with TEP.

In 2006 the tutorial featured Professor Kurt Richter from Austria, who spoke about development of leadership skills.

The 2007 tutorial took place at the St. Petersburg Electrotechnical University on a sunny Saturday (24 November, 2007). Twenty-three (23) registered participants were exposed to a lecture and workshop on "Cracking the Bar Code" and to a demonstration entitled "Concepts of Analog and Digital Signal Processing." The program included a theoretical introduction, in-class exercises, and a music-based demonstration. The demonstration allowed participants to experience digital signal processing concepts through their vision and hearing senses.

Before focusing on the technical subject, Professor Kam spoke about IEEE's history, and about its activities worldwide. He emphasized IEEE activities in countries that exhibit new emerging roles in technology creation and consumption, including China, India and Russia. Kam pointed out that IEEE has a significant potential to grow in Russia. Though Russia is the largest country in the world by territory, and its population is about 140 millions, there are now only 800 IEEE members in the whole country. The Russia Northwest Section, where the tutorial was given, has only 200 members, including about 50 student members. (It turned out that about half of all the Section's student members were part of TEP and were physically present in the 24 November tutorial.)

In addition to the tutorial (which was fully funded by the IEEE Educational Activities Board), Kam and Measel stopped by the Alexander Popov Museum, and met with university administrators led by the Vice-Rector Sergey Karamenko. They discussed opportunities to extend the TEP beyond the Northwest Russia Section, and exchanged opinions on the question of First Professional Degree in Engineering. This is a topic that raised some controversy lately, and was the subject of a recent article in the IEEE publication The Institute (M. Kam and A. Peskin, "What should be the first professional degree in engineering?" Vol. 31, #3, 2007). Russia now faces this question following its decision to adopt the principles of the Bologna Declaration.
In 2007 the TEP has seen a few changes, including the following:

- TEP classes are provided only to IEEE members (a member benefit)
- There is a (modest) tuition fee
- Trainers are remunerated

In addition, pre-TEP classes (General English) were introduced for those who need them.

Russia Northwest Section and St. Petersburg Electrotechnical University are very grateful to the IEEE Region 8 and the IEEE Educational Activity Board for organizing the tutorial, and for their generous support of the Technical English Program as a new and very powerful benefit of the IEEE Membership.

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**Major Initiative to Create Chapters in China**

**IEEE Education Society—News&Notes bulletin**


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"There has been a ground swell of interest in forming Education Society chapters in China."

-- Ning Hua, Director, IEEE China Office

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Business Ideas Challenge Contest Sponsored by Gulf EdSoc Chapter

IEEE Education Society Saudi Chapter organized a special commemorative event on January 8, 2008 at the Dhahran International Hotel to celebrate the top winners of the Business Ideas Challenge Contest which was followed by a presentation on Saudi Arabian Smart Cities. The Ideas Challenge contest was organized jointly by the IEEE Education Society Saudi Chapter and the IEEE Students Chapter at KFUPM. Saudi ARAMCO’s Engineering Research & Development Center and Consulting Services Department were the main sponsors of the contest and the hotel event. The registration for the event exceeded all expectations with nearly 275 in attendance.

Dr. Bakr Hassan, Chairman, IEEE Education Society Saudi Chapter in his introductory speech highlighted the activities of the IEEE Saudi Arabia Section and the IEEE Education Society Saudi Chapter. He mentioned that the best chapter for year 2006 was awarded to the Saudi Chapter for Region 8 which includes Europe, Middle East and Africa. He also mentioned that the Saudi Education Society Chapter is also a candidate for the same award the year 2007 and among the contenders for the best IEEE Education Chapter award around the world for the year 2007.

The Business Ideas Challenge Contest was presented in detail by the Contest Coordinator Dr. Tareq Al-Naffouri, an Electrical Engineering Faculty member at KFUPM. He explained that the main objective of the contest, designed for university students, was to enhance the entrepreneurship spirit amongst students by encouraging them to perform a preliminary market analysis and come up with ideas that have business potential. A total of 45 student teams from KFUPM participated in the contest. A panel of distinguished judges from KFUPM and Saudi ARAMCO evaluated all entries and finalized 10 winning entries. The best 3 teams received cash prizes along with commemorative plaques.

"Saudi IEEE Leader, Dr. Bakr Hassan has done great work in developing an EdSoc presence in the Gulf region."

-- Rob Reilly, Chair, EdSoc Chapters Committee

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Editor-in-Chief Announced for New IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies

The Education Society and the Computer Society are co-sponsoring the IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies (TLT). The TLT’s Steering Committee is a joint committee composed of 15 members -- 8 from the EdSoc and 3 from the Computer Society. The EdSoc representatives to that committee are:

Matthew Ohland (USA) the Chair, and Martin Llamas-Nistal (Spain). The Steering Committee has appointed Wolfgang Nejdl (left) as the Editor-in-Chief of the new journal. He is a full professor of computer science at the University of Hannover in Germany since 1995. He received his M.Sc. (1984) and Ph.D. (1986) at the Technical University of Vienna, was assistant professor in Vienna from 1988 to 1992, and associate professor at the RWTH Aachen from 1992 to 1995. He worked as visiting researcher/professor at Xerox PARC, Stanford University, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, EPFL Lausanne, and at PUC No.

According to the TLT’s Steering Committee Chair, Matt Ohland: "Wolfgang and Associate Editor-in-Chief Peter Brusilovsky are putting together a team of Associate Editors who are clear leaders in the field of learning technology. There is no better way to signal their commitment to creating a high-quality publication." Click here for more information about the IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies.

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Portugal and Spain Chapters Hold Joint Meeting

The officers of the Spanish EdSoc Chapter and the Portuguese EdSoc Chapter met at the historic University of Salamanca, Spain in February 2008. Attending this gathering, which occurred in a stately 12th century building, were (in the photo below from left to right): Edmundo Tovar, Chair of the Spanish Chapter; Manuel Castro Gil, Past Chair of the Spanish Chapter and Vice Chair of the EdSoc Chapters Committee; Rob Reilly, Chair, EdSoc Chapters Committee; Jose Carlos Metrolho, Co-chair of Portuguese Chapter; Jose Salvado, Co-chair of the Portuguese Chapter.
"This is one of the more active areas within the Education Society, and, this activity is clearly due to the fine work of the leaders in both Chapters." -- Rob Reilly, Chair, EdSoc Chapters Committee

This event began with several IEEE Spain EdSoc Chapter events in Madrid, which included 2-days of workshops and seminars. Toward the end of the week-long event, there was a meeting of IEEE-Spain chapter officials and from the IEEE-Portugal chapter. The afternoon-long joint chapter meeting explored a number of existing projects and explored a number of potential initiatives.

The photo to the left shows some collegial exchanges among conference participants. From left to right, Lluis Vincente, a professor at University Ramon Llul in Barcelona; Professor Martin Llamas-Nistal, a professor at the University of Vigo and an active EdSoc leader; Manuel Caeiro, recipient of the Doctoral Award of the Spain Chapter; Pablo Orduña, recipient of the MSc End-term project Award of the Spain Chapter; and Professor Manuel Castro-Gil a professor at the National Distance Education University of Spain, who is a well-known EdSoc leader.

In spite of the political situation in the Gaza Strip, Palestine, our engineering colleagues there have accomplished a great deal. They offer professional development courses to in-service engineers and to students via traditional and state-of-the-art technologies.

Photo 1 shows a cluster of campus buildings at the Islamic University of Gaza campus in the Gaza Strip, Palestine. In photo 2 a seminar for university Alumni to explore about e-learning tools in one of the e-learning labs at the Islamic university of Gaza. Photo 3 shows Ms. Sana Aldabagh (center) and Professor Hatem Hamad (right) during a visit to Berzeit University in Palestine Palestine's West Bank.

Photo 4 shows Ms. Sana Aldabagh during a visit to the Islamic university of Gaza, Palestine. Photo 5 is a scene in front of an older building at the Islamic University of Gaza we see Professor Mohammad Mikki, (right), Professor Hatem Hamad (center) and Ms. Aldabagh (left). In photo 6 During a visit to Jerusalem, Dr. Neil and Ms. Aldabagh visit the Dome of the Rock.

Photo 7 depicts Professor Mikki during a visit to Petra in southern Jordan. Photo 8 shows Professor Kamaleen Shaat, President of the Islamic University of Gaza, presenting a graduation certificate to a student who was enrolled in a University e-learning course. Photo 9 shows Dr. Kamaleen Shaat (left), Dr. Mohammad Husein (second from left) and Professor Hatem Hamad (third from left) presenting graduation certificates.
IEEE and the Eta Kappa Honor Society Merge

**Eta Kappa Nu**

*Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society*

Eta Kappa Nu (HKN) is a unique membership organization dedicated to encouraging and recognizing excellence in the electrical and computer engineering field. Members consist of students, alumni, and other professionals who have demonstrated exceptional academic and professional accomplishments. Eta Kappa Nu is a nonprofit, public-service organization comprising nearly 200 university chapters, a variety of committees, many active member volunteers, and thousands of student members.

Recently the HKN and the IEEE have signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding that would merge HKN into the IEEE. The merged HKN honor society will fall within the IEEE Education Activities Board structure. The HKN President will be a member of the IEEE's EAB and the HKN will have representation on the IEEE Foundation Board. For further details please refer to the HKN's FAQ’s on this subject.

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Education Society Award Nominations Open—Deadline June 15

The Education Society offers several annual awards, which are typically presented at the Frontiers in Education (FIE) Conference. The nomination deadline for all Education Society awards is June 15 annually. All nominations should be submitted to both the Education Society Awards Committee Chair and the chair of the selection committee that oversees the specific award. Click on the link provided for detailed information and nomination instructions related to each award.

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FIE 2008 Conference: Saratoga, New York USA

Click the FIE 2008 banner to go to their Web site...

Be sure to attend the 2008 FIE Conference in Saratoga Springs, New York USA...

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Voltmer Leads Central Indiana Chapter

Longtime dynamic and energetic Education Society leader (and now retired) **Professor David Voltmer** has assumed the role of Chair of the Central Indiana EdSoc Chapter.

If you would like to contribute to the effort, or have any ideas, please contact Dave (voltmer@rose-hulman.edu).

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A Powerful Web-based Presentation Tool

**Impatica for PowerPoint** makes it easy to add narrated business presentations to your web site or e-mail marketing programs. Now you can deliver fully narrated and animated PowerPoint presentations to essentially any Internet device without plug-ins and even at normal modem speeds. It is the software of choice for the EdSoc’s Distinguished Lecture Series presentations.

**Impatica for PowerPoint** simply converts the PowerPoint file into a compressed format that is optimized for streaming over the Internet. The Impatica file is typically 95% smaller than the PowerPoint HTML files. **Impatica for PowerPoint** supports most of the features of PowerPoint, including text, graphics, transitions, animation effects and, of course, narration.

For more information, pricing, to view demos of the software, and to download fully functional trial software, go to: Impatica Web site.

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Review the Constitution and Bylaw Changes

During the past two years, the IEEE and its Technical Activities Board (TAB) have identified a number of requirements that must be included in the Constitution and Bylaws of IEEE societies and councils. These requirements are primarily administrative in nature and are intended to ensure that societies and councils are operating in conformance with IEEE policies and applicable laws and regulations.

The Education Society's Constitution and Bylaws have been revised to implement these requirements and the approval process has been completed. The full revised text is available on the Education Society web page at: www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/es/Jun2008-Const-Bylaws.pdf

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