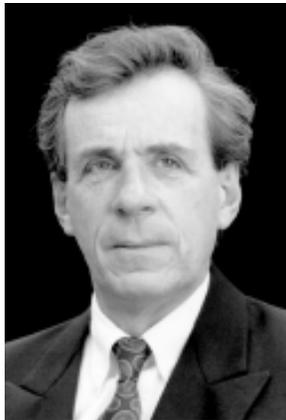




WAVELENGTHS

Can 1100 Posters Improve Attendance at a Section Meeting?

by Jim Woodyard, IEEE/SEM Vice Chair



The IEEE/SEM Fall Meeting is over! The meeting was held at the Wayne State University McGregor Conference Center on October 28th. It was co-sponsored by IEEE/SEM, Wayne State University College of Engineering and Globalstar.

The program committee put in long hours to plan and execute the meeting. There were many high and low points as the committee worked its way

through the arduous processes. I am sure the committee is relieved that the meeting is over and takes comfort in the fact that it did the best it could serving as volunteers and wrestling with many responsibilities. Members of the committee can now get back to the jobs that they get paid to do! The members of the program committee were: Rana Abrou, Shamala Chickamenahalli, Mark Hunter, Sandy Hunter, Tarek Lahdhiri, Heather O'Neill, Graeme Rogerson, Don Silversmith, Edzko Smid, Ece Yaprak and Jim Woodyard (Chair). The following Wayne State University IEEE Student Branch Members served as site hosts: Patricia Abi-Nader, Rana Abrou, Kevin

Arnold, Joe Gajda, Sandra Gumma, Brian Hillawi, Serif Ibrahim, Chris Jent, Maikel Kachouh, Ken Lord, Heather O'Neil and Shan Niroota. The section meeting photographers were Patricia Abi-Nader, Rana Abrou, Maikel Kachouh and Ken Lord.

I enjoyed working with the group and on behalf of IEEE/SEM express my sincere appreciation! A wrap-up and social meeting was held on the evening of November 14th at my home in Dearborn. Twenty-four program committee members, Wayne State University student hosts and "special others" attended the meeting. **On pages 4..7 is a report submitted by the program committee to the members of IEEE/SEM.**



Attendees enjoying the fare during dinner

Judges Needed for Future City Competition

by Don C. Bramlett, PE
IEEE/SEM Advisor

This year for the first time at the Future City Competition, IEEE/SEM will provide a dedicated team of judges and a *special professional organization award*. The award will be presented to the group presenting the most innovative application of electrotechnology in a future city design.

The 1999 Detroit Regional Future City Competition is on Thursday, January 21 at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn. The competition will be held from 8 - 11 a.m. The judges will be able to park free at the museum. Coffee, juice and sweet rolls will be provided throughout the event. Finally, lunch will be available to the judges after the event at 11 a.m. This pleasurable and fulfilling task will only take half a day of your precious time.

We need a team of eight or more volunteers; please volunteer to be one of the IEEE judges. You can obtain more

information on the Future City Competition in the September issue of *Wavelengths*. I encourage everyone with an interest in the science and math education of our youth or an interest in student outreach programs to consider being a judge at the Detroit Regional Future City Competition. As a general category judge myself in previous years, I have found the experience of talking with the students, finding out their interests and observing their presentations to be very rewarding. So please come out and spend the morning with us as we meet with future engineers, scientists and city planners.

If you are interested in obtaining more information on being a judge for the IEEE/SEM professional awards at the Detroit Regional Future City Competition, contact Don Bramlett at d.bramlett@ieee.org, business hours at 313-235-7549, night/weekends at 313-525-5422.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calendar of Events	3	Technical Activities	2	Computer Society Election	8
Fall Section Meeting Reports ...	1,4-7	Chapter IV (Trident) News	2	IEEE Web Addresses	3
Future CityJudges Needed	1	Help Identify Speakers	7		

Technical Activities Update

by Tony Will, Director Technical Activities



Greetings! It is my privilege to have this opportunity to introduce myself as the new director for technical activities for the IEEE/SEM section. I am honored to be able to serve our profession through the activities of IEEE. Please allow me to share with you my vision and plan to establish both working and meaningful technical activities within the section.

The international organization of IEEE is a premier organization with respect to its technical activities that range from conferences to publications to self study guides. These activities help keep our membership both intellectually challenged and also contribute to our technical acumen. The latter has a significant impact in our places of work, because our employers do value our technical training and they do value how current our technical training is. The key word here is value, and it is my hope to insure that our section aids its membership in providing information on local technical activities such as conferences, workshops, tours and other forums that are valuable to the needs of our local membership.

My vision for the section starts with hosting in 1999 at least one technical workshop that our membership can benefit from individually and yet have professional value. For example, a workshop on the topic "making effective remotely located technical presentations using the Internet" would be very useful and value added. Another part of my vision is to provide a calendar of events with the times, dates, locations and contacts for local technical activities of other professional organizations such as SAE, SME, ACM, and ASME to name a few. We would serve our membership as watchdogs for such activities by keeping this listing on our web page and perhaps from time to time in the *Wavelengths* newsletter. I also wish to see the section sponsor at least one tour in 1999 of a local plant, laboratory or design center. Last year with Chapter X, Engineering Management, a number of section members were able to tour the US Tank Command (TACOM) research facility. It was both enjoyable and enlightening, and an added value was that some of the engineers on the tour made contacts that aided them in their places of business. Conclusion - even tours can be value-added!

I hope to lead our section in growing in these areas of service to our membership. If you can assist me in identifying ideas and topics for technical workshops, presentations and tours, then please do not hesitate to contact me. I promise that I will not give you a job to do, but I might call you for some consulting. I would be grateful for any input.

I hope that you will have a very happy holiday season.

Contact Tony Will at 810-986-9557 or via e-mail LNUSTC1.xzcb9b@gmeds.com.

Chapter IV: Trident

Chapter IV (Trident) News

by Timothy Grotjohn, Chapter Chair

The Trident Chapter is the combined Southeastern Michigan chapter for three IEEE Technical Societies including Antennas and Propagation (AP), Electron Devices (ED) and Microwave Theory and Techniques (MTT). Our chapter currently has three officers including myself as Chair, Joseph Burns from ERIM International as Vice Chair for Technical Activities, and Lisa Anneberg from Lawrence Tech. Univ. as Vice Chair for Program Activities.



All three societies (AP, ED and MTT) that define our chapter have created web pages under the main IEEE web page and have updated information. These web pages contain both interesting information about each society and useful links to other sites on the Internet. All three technical society home pages can be accessed from www.ieee.org/tab/cur_soc_hps.html. I encourage all the Trident Chapter members to take a few minutes and check out these Internet locations.

The most recent activity of our chapter was a technical talk presentation at the IEEE/SEM Fall Meeting by Professor Virginia Ayres from Michigan State University. Her talk was entitled "The Use of Surface Microscopy for Electronics Development." It focused on the use of atomic force microscopy (afm) and scanning tunneling microscopy (stm) for understanding the electrical properties of developing electronic materials. The material she looked at in her talk was diamond. Diamond was described as an important electronic material with possible future applications in high-temperature and high-power electronics. These promising applications arise from diamond having a wide natural band gap and having the highest thermal conductivity at room temperature of any material. Her talk centered on studying the electronic and surface properties of polycrystalline diamond films grown using a chemical vapor deposition technique.

The Trident Chapter officers including myself are currently planning chapter activities for 1999. We are always interested in hearing your suggestions. Please send them to me at grotjohn@egr.msu.edu.

Best wishes to all Trident members during this new year.

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Technical Activities	Anthony Will	810-986-9557
Educational Activities	Ece Yaprak	313-577-8075
Membership	Maurice Snyder	734-973-1300

IEEE/SEM Chapters

- I Circuits & Signal Processing:** Acoustics, Speech & Signal Processing (ASSP-01), Circuits & Systems (CAS-04), Information Theory (IT-12) and Control Systems (CS-23)
- II Vehicular Technology:** Vehicular Technology (VT-06)
- III Comm. & Aero. Electronics:** Aerospace & Electronics Systems (AES-10) and Communications (COM-19)
- IV Trident:** Electron Devices (ED-15), Microwave Theory & Techniques (MTT-17) and Antennas & Propagation (AP-03)
- V Computer:** Computer (C-16)
- VI Geoscience & Remote Sensing:** Geoscience & Remote Sensing (GRS-29)
- VII Power Eng. & Ind. Apps.:** Power Engineering (PE-31) and Industrial Applications (IA-34)
- VIII EMC:** Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC-27)
- IX Power & Ind. Electronics:** Power Electronics (PEL-35) and Industrial Electronics (IE-13)
- X Engineering Management:** Eng. Management (EM-14)

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Section: www.ieee.org/regional/section/se_michigan

IEEE: www.ieee.org

IEEE Region 4: www.ieee.org/regional/r4/



Calendar of Events

January TBD	Meeting: Sponsor: Contact: Comments:	Tour of New High Definition TV Studio Chapter III, Comm. & Aero. Electronics Robert Desoff, r.desoff@ieee.org Final date and location will be posted on the section web page when available.
Monday January 18	Event: Speaker: Time: Location: Contact: Comments:	TETRA - Trans European Truck Radio An EMC Society presentation Graeme Rogerson, MIRA North America 6 p.m. (Snacks and refreshments at 5:45 p.m.) Eaton Corp., 26201 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Kimball Williams, 248-354-2845 Please note that the location of this meeting has changed from MIRA to Eaton.
Thursday January 21	Event: Time: Location: Contact: Comments:	1999 Detroit Regional Future City Competition 8-11 a.m. Henry Ford Museum 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn Don Bramlett, d.bramlett@ieee.org 313-235-7549 Office, 313-525-5422 Home See article requesting judges on page 1.
Monday February 1	Event: Time: Location: Contact:	Executive Committee Dinner at 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. Eaton Corp., 26201 Northwestern Highway, Southfield Kimball Williams, 248-354-2845
Sunday-Saturday February 21-27	Event: Web Site: Contact:	National Engineers Week www.eweek.org Don Bramlett, d.bramlett@ieee.org 313-235-7549 Office, 313-525-5422 Home
Wednesday March 24	Event: Time: Location: Contact: Comments:	42nd Annual Science Fair 8 a.m. - Noon Wayne Hall, Concourse Level, Cobo Hall, Detroit 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn Don Bramlett, d.bramlett@ieee.org 313-235-7549 Office, 313-525-5422 Home Judges Needed!
Wednesday March 24	Event: Time: Location: Contact:	IEEE/SEM Spring Section Meeting TBD Fairlane Training & Dev. Center, Dearborn James Woodyard, woodyard@eng.wayne.edu 313-577-3758 Office

Wavelengths

IEEE Southeastern Michigan

Fall Section Meeting Publicity

The meeting was publicized via:

- The September and October issues of *Wavelengths*
- Posters and letters mailed to 1100 company addresses in the IEEE/SEM membership database
- Posters and letters mailed to seventy-one Southeastern Michigan addresses provided by Globalstar of individuals that expressed an interest in Globalstar services
- Posters and letters mailed to officers of IEEE sections contiguous to IEEE/SEM requesting that they publicize the meeting to their members
- E-mail announcements sent by the program committee and IEEE/SEM ExCom to various lists within organizations
- Internal electronic bulletin boards of organizations
- Announcements on the IEEE/SEM Web site, www.ieee.org/regional/section/se_michigan
- E-mail and fax communications to the student branches in IEEE/SEM
- Personal and e-mail communications by chapter chairs
- Mailing to organizations soliciting participation in the Student Table Sponsorship, Vendor Table and University Showcase Table Programs

Aside from the poster mailings, most of the publicity activities have been carried out for past section meetings. Each poster included about ten tear-off pre-registration forms. Since the poster mailings cost about \$2,000 to print and mail, an attempt was made to evaluate their effectiveness in increasing meeting attendance. While the figures are sketchy, pre-registration forms from the following sources were identified: September *Wavelengths*/10, October *Wavelengths*/7, posters/23 and other/24. The total number of pre-registration forms was sixty-four which is about 38% of the total registrations. Poster forms account for 14% of the registrations. The attendance and registration figures below suggest there is no evidence that the posters had a impact on the number of meeting attendees.

Mailing of posters offers benefits to the section other than publicizing the meeting, distributing registration forms and increasing meeting attendance. One of the benefits relates to fund raising to support the meeting. The poster may be used to publicize the names of program co-sponsors which in turn makes co-sponsorship attractive to companies and organizations in Southeastern Michigan. The poster project played a major role in fund raising for the IEEE/SEM Fall '98 Meeting and should at least be considered in the planning of future section meetings.

Registration and Attendance

There were about 168 registrations, 149 attendees and 139 dinners served. About forty-three of the attendees were student members. Ten attendees did not purchase dinner. Our contract with the McGregor Memorial Conference Center required a meal count 48



The registration process in action

hours before the event; the meal count could be increased up to 5% of the pre-meeting count on the night of the event. The pre-registration count 48 hours before the meeting was 159. The program committee anguished over the meal count to be submitted. We realized that there would be no-shows and on-site

registrations. We opted for a meal count of 159. Since 139 meals were served, we paid for 20 meals that were not served! The no-show registration figures show that about ten members pre-paid the registration fee while about 10 agreed to pay the registration fee on the night of the meeting. Hence, the section did not receive registration fees for ten meals that were not served.

The program committee has billed the those that pre-registered but did not pay the registration fee. It is hoped that members will support this policy; there are financial pressures to reduce the net cost of the section meeting as section funds are becoming increasingly limited. It is suggested that the members make every effort to pre-pay the

registration and register at least one week before the meeting. It is also suggested that the section explore offering the payment of registration fees via credit card.

The available registration statistics on past section meetings are:

	# of Members	# of Students	Total Attendees	Total Registration
Fall 1996	78	60	138	unknown
Spring 1997	71	40	111	unknown
Spring 1998	107	41	148	unknown
Fall 1998	103	43	149	168
			(139 dinners)	

These figures suggest that the section should seek meeting venues and plan future meetings on an attendance of about 175. As the section strives to improve the technical program and meeting publicity, it is expected that attendance will increase.



Attendees engaged in the featured presentation

1998 Fall Section Meeting Reports

Meeting Program

The speakers, organizations, and abstracts for the IEEE/SEM Fall '98 Meeting were published in the October Wavelengths. Below is listed the speakers and titles presented at the meeting:

Chapter	Name of the Speaker	Title of the presentations
Featured Presentation	Dr. Fred Dietrich	"The Globalstar Satellite-Cellular Communication Satellite System"
Chapter I	M. I. Ismail	"Digitally Programmable RF Front Ends: Towards Universal Mobile Communication Service"
Chapter II	Prof. Subra Ganesan	"Current Vehicle Navigation Programs Developed by Siemens"
Chapter III and VI	Dr. Fred Dietrich	"Cellular Service Using Globalstar Satellite System"
Chapter IV	Dr. Virginia Ayres	"The Use of Surface Microscopy for Electronics Development"
Chapter V	Prof. Charles Severance	"Teaching Courses Using Video on the World-Wide Web"
Chapter VII	Mr. Tony Tomaino	"An Overview of the Midfield Terminal at Detroit Metropolitan Airport"
Chapter VIII	Donald R. Bush, PE	"Global EMC Requirements"
Chapter IX	Greg Wahl & Darrell Kolomyski	"DSP in Industrial Applications"
Chapter X	Dennis Ephlin	"Brand Management"
Student Track	Victor Rhoder	"Simulation in the Classroom-Designing Virtual Labs"

In addition to the ten parallel sessions held during the 5:45-6:45 p.m. period, there was a social period scheduled for 6:30-7:05 p.m. Some of the technical sessions ran late and the social period was extended to about 7:15 p.m. The featured presentation started shortly before 8:00 p.m. and the program was completed by 9:00 p.m. The program committee placed an emphasis on keeping announcements to a minimum and starting the featured presentation upon completion of dinner. It is recommended that this practice be further refined and employed at future section meetings.



Dr. Dietrich, the Featured Speaker

The Student Track Session in Progress



The preregistration figures for the chapter technical sessions were (chapter number/count): I/12, II/26, joint III & VI/25, IV/5, V/13, VII/28, VIII/10, IX/16 and X/7. Eight registrants selected the student track session and thirteen attendees did not sign up for a technical session. The actual attendance figures for the sessions were not available at press time. Considering the limited number of rooms available at section meeting venues, and room and media costs, the section should review the feasibility of offering technical sessions that consistently have small attendance. While it may be desirable to offer sessions with low attendance, there may also be benefits in chapters with low attendance exploring offering joint sessions, as did Chapters III and VI for this meeting.

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IEEE/SEM 1998 Fall Section Meeting Reports

Meeting Survey

The program committee distributed a survey at the meeting via registration packets. Forty-nine forms were returned, a return rate of 33%.

The survey resulted in the names of fourteen volunteers who indicated an interest in assuming leadership roles in IEEE/SEM. This is the largest number of volunteer names that have been assimilated in recent requests at section meetings.

Solicitation of topic preferences for the IEEE/SEM Spring '99 Meeting resulted in the following responses:

- Electric Power Generation Deregulation:
What it Means to Michigan? **18 Yes and 5 No**
- Automotive Electronics **22 Yes and 5 No**
- Year 2000 Concerns: Where Are We? **23 Yes and 6 No**
- Fuel Cells and Their Applications **21 Yes and 3 No**



The Eaton Corporation sponsored Student Table

The responses show no clear direction to the program committee for a topic for the spring meeting. Hence the committee will take the initiative and select a topic.



*The social period in full swing
Harry Bostic, the 1998 Region 4 Chair (center)
visited the section to attend the meeting*

The survey requested respondents to evaluate the meeting content and format using 1 for not good at all, 3 for moderate and 5 for extremely good. The average responses were:

- Meeting content **4.2**
- Facilities and planning **4.1**
- Chapter technical session **4.2**
- Session featured speech **4.2**

It is clear from the responses that the program committee has done a good job and a mandate to strive for 5.0!

Request for Advice

This report does not cover all the activities carried out in conjunction with the IEEE/SEM Fall '98 Meeting. I encourage members of the program committee to report on activities not covered in this report in future *Wavelengths* articles.

I request the members to communicate with me, 313-577-3758 or woodyard@eng.wayne.edu, on future topics for meetings as well suggestions for improvement of meeting format and venue.

Mark Your Calendars - The Spring Section Meeting is on March 24!

The IEEE/SEM Spring Section Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 1999 at the Ford Fairlane Training & Development Center in Dearborn. Vendor display tables will be available and companies can host student dinner tables. Student Branches are also encouraged to set up a display tables and show up in large numbers. More information will be available in the February and March issues of *Wavelengths* or contact James Woodyard at woodyard@eng.wayne.edu or 313-577-3758 (Office).

Wayne State University IEEE Student Branch Members
after a long shift hosting the Fall Section Meeting



Help Identify Speakers in the Area of Communications, Remote Sensing, or ...?

by Dave Horvath, Volunteer Coordinator

Do you have interest in technical talks, seminars or programs? As an engineer, of course you do! The Southeastern Michigan Section has been blessed with an incredible number of energetic volunteers, who behind the scenes have been helping to make our technical programs a continuing success story. However, we are always looking for more section members to help out in this particularly valuable part of our section's activities.

Specifically, we are looking to help identify speakers for future meetings in any of the following areas: Remote Sensing, Communications, Aerospace Electronic Systems (including radar), Geoscience, Power or Industrial Electronics, or Engineering Management.

If you have a technical interest in any of the following areas and wish to suggest speakers for one of our meetings in any area (speakers do not need to be local), please contact me at 734-930-7500 or via email at DAHorvath@aol.com.

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David McKendry

1995-96 IEEE/SEM Section Chair



Elected to 1999-2001 Computer Society Board of Governors

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Local section member, David G. McKendry, Elected to Computer Society Board of Governors!

by Nizar Al-Holou, Ph.D. Chapter V Chair

The IEEE Computer Society has elected the society's President, Vice Presidents and Board of Governors for the three year term 1999-2001. The final results of the 1998 election are now available at <http://www.computer.org/election/nominees98.htm>. David G. McKendry, a past IEEE/SEM Section Chair and current local section member, has been elected to the Board of Governors with 4,799 votes.

David G. McKendry became active locally as the Computer Society Chair for Southeastern Michigan in 1986. Initially he became active nationally as a member of the Area Activities Board (AAB) in 1988. The AAB was focused on the needs of chapters and the chapter officers. This board was combined with the Membership Board in 1991 and was then called the Membership Activities Board (MAB). MAB had the dual function of working on membership issues (getting new members, retaining current members, membership upgrades, etc.) and the chapter issues previously addressed by the AAB. Starting in 1999 the membership portion of MAB's responsibilities will be moved to a committee consisting of the Computer Society President and Vice Presidents to get more focus and emphasis on membership issues. The chapter responsibilities of MAB will be carried on by the newly created Chapter Activities Board (CAB) with mostly the same board members that had been working on these issues as part of MAB. We hope this will provide even better focus on chapter issues such as revitalizing current chapters and starting new chapters where there are enough members to support a local chapter.

Through December of this year, David McKendry's participation nationally has been through appointment to various positions. His interest has mainly been to improve the environment for local chapters by offering new programs such as the Distinguished Visitors Program or the recently added Chapter Seminar Program (sometimes called Chapter Tutorials). Mr. McKendry has consistently tried to get more industry representation on national boards and committees. The membership of the Computer Society is approximately 8-10 percent from universities while representation by universities on national boards and committees appears to be well above 50%. He also wants to improve the value members get from associating with the Computer Society. Some of this can be achieved through programs and benefits but also through the opportunity to network with other members.

When he was asked by the Nominations Committee if he would accept nomination to the Board of Governors, he immediately accepted. The process then entails ballots being sent out and votes being collected and counted. Of the twelve or thirteen nominees on the ballot, only the top seven are elected for the three year position. Each year an additional seven are elected just as seven board members complete their terms and leave the board. This results in a board of twenty one members. He was very proud to be notified that he had made the cut (as the number five vote getter) and had been elected to the Board of Governors for the three year term 1999-2001.

Mr. McKendry will continue to participate in the meetings with CAB, which are held three times each year in conjunction with the Board of Governors meetings at various locations around North America. He hopes that CAB is doing productive work for the general membership and that you can see a level of continuous improvement in the value membership has for you. At least he believes we are seeing some improvement in industry representation. And since he is from the Southeastern Michigan Section, he will keep his ear to the ground on things happening at the international level that may be of interest and use to local members.

If you have any interest in becoming active on one of the national boards or committees, or just have some questions about the bigger Computer Society organization, please feel free to contact David McKendry at 313-556-9104 or by email at d.mckendry@computer.org.

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