



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF IEEE BOMBAY SECTION
HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2008 FROM 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM
AT ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB, APOLLO BUNDER, BOMBAY 400 039**

1. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Raju Hira, the Vice Chair, on account of the delay in the arrival of Prof. U. Desai, the Section Chair. Mr. Hira who took the chair along with other office bearers.
2. Mr. Hira requested the members to rise and observe a minute of silence in memory of late Dr. C. G. Ravi, Life Senior Member, and Past Chair of Bombay Section and the India Council.
3. Mr. Anthony Lobo listed the Agenda for the AGM and read out the minutes of the previous AGM on December 16, 2007.
4. Dr. P. B. Parikh pointed out that at the 2007 AGM there had been a request for minutes to be circulated soon after the AGM. This was accepted and the members were assured that the minutes of the current AGM would be shared with members present within 45 days. Dr P. B. Parikh also noted that there was a need for external audit of the accounts and registration of the Section with statutory authorities. Prof. Desai, the Section Chair, who had arrived by now, assured the members that the process was on and it was planned to address the audit, registration and PAN registration by March 31, 2009.
5. The minutes of the 2007 AGM as amended in the light of the observations above, were then passed after discussion. Mr. Vasant Manohar proposed and Mr. P. R. Bapat seconded the adoption of the minutes of the 2007 AGM.
6. Prof. Desai formally welcomed Dr. William Gruver, LF-IEEE, Director IEEE Division X and member of IEEE MGA Board to the AGM, as he was in the city on a lecture program with the SMC Society Chapter.
7. Mr. Lobo presented the Secretary's Report for 2008 beginning with membership statistics of the Section and comparing it with the India Council, Region 10 (R10) and entire IEEE membership. The latest membership data as on November 30, 2008 was compared with that on December 31, 2007.
8. The Secretary's Report detailed the various activities during the year covering the conferences, symposia conducted and supported by the Section as well as activities of the various Section Society Chapters. In particular, the Job Fair in February conducted by the Technology Management Council Chapter – erstwhile EMS – and the IEEE for Rural Areas workshop in Pune by the WIE during September were among the high points for 2008.
9. Mr. Ashok Jagatia, the Treasurer presented his report and the budget for calendar 2009. He depicted the current Net Worth and the trend analysis comparing HQ Rebate versus major heads of expenses such as Student Activities, Sub-Section and Chapter support, and Professional Activities.
10. Prof. Desai also pointed out that the pattern of funding from R10 had changed and no more was a subsidy being received based on student membership. On the other hand, grants had been instituted to support membership development activities and other professional events. The Section was glad to report that we had qualified to receive funding under this revised schedule.

11. There was a general discussion on the presentation of the accounts, and it was suggested that the budget for the year should also reflect the interest income accruing through Fixed Deposit investments. Mr. Kirit Sheth stressed the need to have the Section registered immediately and offered support in this regard. Dr. P. B. Parikh reiterated the matter of audit which was duly noted.
12. Mr. Sheth, the Past EMS Chair, highlighted that there had to be a lot more outreach to members from industry, and involvement of industry in the activities of the Section. In this connection Prof. Desai shared the “India Initiative” presentation of Mr. Matt Loeb (Staff Executive, Corporate Strategy and Communications at IEEE Headquarters), which had been discussed during the twin visits of Dr. Ranga Kasturi, the President of IEEE Computer Society, in 2008. It was suggested to have this presentation hosted on the section website.
13. Mr. A. Velayutham, SMIEEE and former Vice Chair of Delhi Section, detailed how programs on Power Quality and Harmonics would be of relevance to industry.
14. Dr. P. F. Parikh, SMIEEE, briefly addressed the members and urged that IEEE Bombay Section tie up with IEEMA to conduct joint programs. He had been pursuing this matter for a long while and felt such activities would be of value especially in terms of collaboration with professional bodies.
15. Mr. Quraish Bakir, Past Chair of Bombay Section and Section Webmaster, was felicitated for having hosted the IEEE Bombay Section Website (www.ieee.org/bombay) for the past 10 years. The website was a great resource of record as well as to intimate members of current and future activities.
16. Prof. Desai informed members that the 125th anniversary of the IEEE would be celebrated in 2009 and the Section would also conduct special events. A commemorative volume from Bombay Section could be published. A conference on key themes such as Green Energy, Telecom, and Alternative Sources of Energy could be considered. A committee has been formed under the leadership of Mr. Sheth to translate these proposals into action.
17. In the absence of Dr. Shrikant Parikh, Chair of TMC, Prof. Desai reminded Members that the second Job Fair would be held in February 2009 at SPCE Andheri and requested support from one and all.
18. The Slate of Office bearers for the year 2009 was presented by Prof M. M. Shah, the Presiding Officer, who advised that in the absence of any petition candidates, the members proposed were elected for the coming year. Accordingly Mr. Raju Hira as Chair, Mr. Anthony Lobo as Vice Chair, Mr. Ashok Jagatia as Secretary and Prof. S. N. Merchant as Treasurer would be the new Office Bearers of the Section.
19. Dr. Gruver, Director IEEE Division X and member of IEEE MGA Board, said a few words to the members present and appreciated the keen interaction at the AGM.
20. Prof. Desai, the outgoing Chair of Bombay Section, expressed his thanks to Prof. M. M. Shah and to his team of office bearers, the members of the Execom and all who had contributed to making his tenure a success.
21. Mr. Hira, the incoming Chair thanked Prof. Desai for ably leading the Bombay Section over the past two years. Amongst other achievements during his tenure, the Section had secured the Best Large Section Award in R10 for the third time in its history.
22. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks and the members adjourned for the annual dinner.

Anthony Lobo – Secretary, IEEE Bombay Section