

BUILDING careers & SHAPING POLICY

Former IEEE-USA Fellow Receives Gordon Prize

IEEE-USA President LeEarl Bryant (left) and 2000 IEEE President Bruce Eisenstein (right) were on hand to congratulate 2002 **Bernard M. Gordon Prize** recipient Dr. Eli Fromm (center). The prize was presented at the National Academy of Engineering Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. Dr. Fromm, an IEEE Fellow, was an IEEE-USA Congressional Fellow in 1980, assigned to the House Science Committee.



Tomorrow's Engineers Making History—Today

◀ **National Engineers Week** kicked off with **Family Day** on 16 February at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. More than 5,300 people attended this year—making it the largest single-day event in the history of both National Engineers Week and the National Building Museum. Prospective engineers, many of whom were girls, enjoyed hands-on exhibits. Who says girls aren't interested in engineering?



◀ The highlight of the week was the **Future City Competition National Finals**, where IEEE-USA presented its special award for **Best Communications System**. The award went to students at St. John Lutheran School in Rochester, Michigan (L to R): Nada Zohdy,

Sue Yang, and Stephanie Rink, for their future city design, *Robust in Stinalta*. Also pictured are St. John teacher Jonathan Pfund and General Motors engineer Jane Sternemann, who provided guidance on the student project. The Future City Competition is a hands-on, educational engineering program for seventh- and eighth-graders designed to foster teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills. The competition was launched during National Engineers Week 1993 as IEEE-USA's legacy project.

IEEE-USA Scores Victory in Festo Case

IEEE-USA scored a huge judicial victory in May, when the U.S. Supreme Court substantially adopted IEEE-USA's "foreseeable bar" standard on patent rights. Ruling unanimously in the *Festo Corporation v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co., LTD* case, the Court dismissed the "flexible bar" and "absolute bar" standards advocated by the opposing sides. IEEE-USA's standard states that holders of an amended patent give up protection for only those things that were foreseeable by persons familiar with the associated technology. IEEE-USA submitted its proposal in an *amicus curiae* brief in January.



Congressional Visits Day 2002 Brings Focused Message to Capitol Hill

In March, a group of 24 IEEE-USA volunteers joined more than 200 U.S. scientists, engineers and business leaders for the seventh annual Congressional Visits Day to deliver this year's core message to Members of Congress: **Federally funded research promotes security, prosperity and innovation.**

▶ IEEE-USA Career Policy Committee Chair George McClure in front of the U.S. Capitol Building



IEEE-USA volunteers at CVD 2002



At the Capitol, in Washington, ▲ IEEE-USA 2003, 2002 and 2001 Presidents: Jim Leonard, LeEarl Bryant and Ned Sauthoff

◀ LeEarl Bryant, Chukwu Gift Ejike, and Jim Leonard visit a staffer in the office of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-Texas).

IEEE-USA Endorses Senate Bills on Homeland Security

IEEE-USA's policy committees are recognized by many lawmakers as a valuable resource for information and expertise. Members are frequently asked to provide expert testimony before congressional committees on technologically complex matters. Here, in April, IEEE-USA R&D Policy Committee Chair Ron Hira (right, at photo left), testifies before the Senate Subcommittee on Science, Technology and Space, in support of two Senate Bills designed to provide a coordinated technology response in the event of a major emergency, and to strengthen U.S. security against computer attacks.

In other Hill activity, IEEE-USA collaborated with the Institute to help shape legislation on a distributed generation interconnection standard and on voting technology guidelines. It also helped clarify the IEEE's responsibilities under ITAR. Additionally, IEEE-USA President LeEarl Bryant asked each member of Congress to hold a field hearing on the high rate of engineering unemployment.

IEEE-USA also established a Web page providing resources for unemployed U.S. members at www.ieeeusa.org/careers/help/index.html.

▶ On 21 October, LeEarl Bryant (right) and U.S. IEEE member Stephen Morton (center) distributed information to congressional staffers on Capitol Hill to raise awareness and gain support for IEEE-USA efforts to reduce joblessness among engineers.



Congressional Fellows Play Important Role as Advisers to Congressional Lawmakers

Each year, IEEE-USA sponsors several select U.S. IEEE members to spend a year in Washington as advisers to the U.S. Congress. As Congressional Fellows, participants serve on the personal staff of a U.S. Senator or Representative, or on the professional staff of a congressional committee, providing expertise on complex technology- and engineering-related policy issues.

▶ 2002 IEEE-USA Congressional Fellow Isidor Kerszenbaum is serving a one-year assignment as a member of the House International Relations Committee's professional staff.

▶ 2001 IEEE-USA Congressional Fellow Peter Winokur (right) poses with Senator Harry Reid (D-Nev.), under whom he served during the first session of the 107th Congress.



Broadband Deployment Workshop Draws International Attention

One way IEEE-USA seeks to build consensus, formulate policy positions, and influence public-policy decisions is through conferences, workshops and symposiums that focus on a particular issue, or address a broader range of policy concerns. In June, the **IEEE-USA Committee on Communications & Information Policy (CCIP)** and the Cornell University Johnson Graduate School of Management sponsored a workshop to explore ways of including emerging broadband technologies in future policy debates. The workshop brought together industry, academia and government—as well as international media—for an open exchange of ideas. As a result, IEEE-USA's CCIP, chaired by Alan K. McAdams of Cornell University (right), plans to release a formal position statement on broadband deployment.



Strengthening Ties Between Engineers and the Media

2002 IEEE-USA Science & Technology Mass Media Fellow **Rob Barnett** (right), at AAAS reception with former *Washington Post* Science Editor Curt Supplee, spent 10 weeks this summer in New York City working at media giant *Popular Science*. The Mass Media Fellow program places promising science and engineering students at major media outlets to help increase the general public's understanding of technology.



Future of Engineering: Summer Interns Focus on Today's Tough Technology Policy Issues

Each summer, IEEE-USA, in collaboration with the IEEE Technical Activities Board and the IEEE Life Members Committee, sponsors outstanding IEEE student members in the **Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE) program**. This year, three IEEE student members (L to R), Jason Frederick, Max Vilimpoc and Trampas Kurth, spent 10 weeks in Washington, D.C., learning how legislators make decisions on technologically complex issues, and discovering ways in which engineers can actively participate in the legislative and regulatory process.