

Region 2 Telcon
September 2, 2009

Welcome and Director's Comments/Report: Bill Walsh - The Telcon started at 6:10 PM. There was one major activity this summer; the TISP session that John Dentler, Ralph Ford, Dennis Molly and Amy Garay conducted at St. Francis University near Johnstown, PA. This was one session in a two week STEM course for about 75 science teachers. They were made aware of resources available to them and were introduced to the Baltimore Robot Challenge and the Pittsburgh Lego Robot project. Bill was very pleased with the outcome. PACE projects are coming along. The next telcon will be with the sections; the focus will be on the sections; they will be asked to think of ways that the region can help them. Joe Burns applied for and was awarded an IEEE Foundation grant for the Ocean City, NJ High School Astronomical Observatory. Congratulations to Joe.

Secretary's Report: Jeff Friedhoffer - The web site has been updated. Javaad Qasimi is now able to access SAMIEEE. The only sections using the vTools meeting for announcements are NoVa and the Baltimore COMSOC. The WVa section used the vTools election tool.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Semancik - A number of people have not submitted travel claims going as far back as the meeting in Quebec. These claims have to be submitted soon or the recipients will not be reimbursed. Our income is below target due to a reduced rebate. Expenses were above target by a small amount. MGA will be pulling money out of our account due to a need of the IEEE to maintain sufficient reserves in the employees' retirement fund. The shortfall makes it unlikely that we will be able to put money aside for the next sections congress. Bill Walsh will set up a telcon with Bill Semacik, John Dentler and Vil Arafles to discuss the financial situation.

Director-Elect Report: Ralph Ford - MGA award nominations not coming in from the sections. The MGA award nominations close on 15 October. Ralph would like to see some nominations from the region. Relative to the TISP program mentioned above is the issue of how to get the teachers Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for participating in the TISP program. Penn State is a provider of CEUs in Pennsylvania, Ralph and AB Shafaye, both Professors at Penn State will address this issue. Volunteers from Johnstown are interested in working with schools. They plan to set up a TISP training session in western PA and bring in a number of sections for a two day meeting. The Educational Activities Board along with the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL) is hosting a TISP (Teacher In-Service Program) Train the Trainer Workshop in Pittsburgh, PA on 23-24 October 2009 at the NETL facilities. The goal of the workshop is to provide the attendees with tips, tools and strategies for conducting professional development sessions with teachers in primary, middle and high schools. The workshop lasts one and a half days and is free for IEEE members, NETL employees and invited educators. Bob Walston was asked to contact the sections in the Western Area about this.

Past Director Report: John Dentler – John is working on the committee for the Center for Leadership Excellence. Pages will be available for their web site soon.

Education Activities: AB Shafaye: He is working with the Sections Outreach Committee and is developing job descriptions. The IEEE is participating with the United Engineering Foundation in funding the “Emerging Leaders Alliance Annual Capstone Program” which is focused on identifying and nurturing emerging leaders in engineering and science. This program is being held in Reston VA 8-10 October 2009. The IEEE will cover the event fees of up to 8 members, but the members will have to cover hotel and transportation costs.

Student Activities/SAC: Andrew Thompson - Bill welcomed Andrew to the Region 2 Committee. Andrew has been working on Outreach and has 2 Area Coordinators he is working to get coordinators for the remaining two areas. Temple University will host the next SAC. They are looking to increase corporate sponsorship. A meeting with exec panel of SAC at Temple coming up this week. The SAC meeting in Singapore put together vision and mission statements and developed six SAC values. Andrew plans to work on strengthening student activities with all other IEEE entities such as technical chapters and affinity groups. For the SAC meeting, they are considering the possibility of a new robot competition, a tee shirt competition where each team designs a shirt, and John Dentler wants to encourage student chapters to contact their section leadership.

a boy scout m

MGA Activities: Parviz Famouri – He is in the process of defining the responsibilities of the position. We need to identify inactive sections and chapters and rejuvenate them. He described what he did to help rejuvenate the West Virginia Section. The WV section needs SAMIEEE help and suggested that we identify sections that need help in this regard. (After the meeting, Javaad volunteered to conduct SAMIEEE training for sections as needed.)

PACE Projects: Carole Carey – There is still funds available for PACE so the sections should get requests in for their requirements.

WIE: Holly Cyrus – Holly helped revive the Pittsburgh WIE. Holly will brief WIE and encourage them to participate in TISP events. There is a Professional development conference being held in White Plains, NY at the end of September and she encouraged everyone to participate.

125th Anniversary: Merrill Buckley - The three day history meeting in Philadelphia was great and well attended including participants from Region 8.

Miscellaneous: Jeff Needs information about the SAC meeting and TISP for the web. Parviz suggested members post articles that are news worthy on the virtual community.

Plans: Bill Walsh announced that the next telcon would be on 30 September with participation of the sections and the Full Region 2 Committee.

The Winter 2010 meeting needs to address nomination of candidates for the next director elect. John Dentler asked that the area chairs be nominated as members of N&A committee; they can decline if interested in running for director elect.

Participants in Telcon

Attendees

Apter	Marc
Buckley	Merrill
Cyrus	Holly
Dentler	John
Famouri	Parviz
Ford	Ralph
Friedhoffer	Jeff
Semancik	Bill
Shafaye	AB
Thompson	Andrew
Walsh	Bill
Walston	Bob
Carey	Carole