

IEEE Region 5 Student Activities Newsletter

March 27, 2007

2007 IEEE Region 5 Conference News

As I am sure you all know, this year's Region 5 Student Conference will be in Fayetteville, Arkansas from April 20 to April 22, 2007. As usual, there will be Student Paper, Design, and Robotics Contests and prizes will be awarded in all three contests. And for the first time in Region 5 there will also be a Student Ethics Contest sponsored by the IEEE Ethics and Member Conduct Committee and Region 5. In addition, there will be a Student Leadership Training Workshop for new or prospective Branch officers. A number of major IEEE officers have accepted Region 5 Director Bob Scoll's invitation to attend, so this is your opportunity to meet the people who lead your professional organization. And of course, there will always be time for fun and networking with other students. The latest information is always available on the Conference Web site:

<http://www.engr.uark.edu/2007ieeer5conference/>. A calendar of Student Activities will shortly be posted there as well; this will contain the times and places of all student events.

There has been some confusion concerning the **Conference registration**. Associated with the Region 5 Business/Professional/Student Conference is the annual Region 5 Technical Conference. The Technical Conference is a presentation of technical papers by accepted authors. However, Region 5 does not reimburse attendance at this event. Students are of course welcome and encouraged to attend, but no costs associated with this event are reimbursable by Region 5. Students attending and participating in the Student Conference must be registered for the Professional and Student Conference at the student rate. (Note: this rate also applies to Branch Counselors or their designee).

The **Ethics Contest** is new to Region 5 this year. Two member teams from Student Branches compete in developing an approach to a situation involving Engineering Ethics. At an orientation session, the teams are presented with a case study involving an ethical issue. The teams are then given time to analyze the situation and develop a PowerPoint presentation on the issue and its resolution. For full details, see the Web site or go directly to <http://www.engr.uark.edu/2007ieeer5conference/ethics.php>.

There will be a **Student Leadership Training Workshop** presented Saturday morning. It is particularly very desirable that new and/or prospective Student Branch Officers attend this event. At a minimum, at least one officer or

prospective officer from each Branch should attend. This will provide you with important information about IEEE, a look at IEEE beyond the Branch, reporting requirements, and information about Branch Administration and interacting with other parts of IEEE. It will also include information designed to help make you a more effective leader of your Branch. In addition, we will have a several distinguished guest speakers including major IEEE officers. This will be your chance to ask questions and provide feedback to the people who can directly influence student activities within IEEE. And there will be time for networking among your fellow Branch Officers and discussing problems and solutions.

For **Branch Counselors**, there will be a short Branch Counselors meeting Saturday afternoon. The purpose of the meeting is to provide some updates to IEEE's activities and share information about what is happening within IEEE and the various Branches. I am also considering inviting the candidates for IEEE President-Elect to address the group; please let me know how you feel about this by sending e-mail to me at f.b.grosz@ieee.org. But I will try to make sure we are adjourned so that we can all attend the Robotics Contest, which I know is high on everyone's list.

You should all be aware by now that there is a new policy in the way **travel reimbursements** will be handled this year. The reimbursement policy is posted on the Conference Web site at

<http://www.engr.uark.edu/2007ieeer5conference/studentawards.php>.

This page includes a link to the form for applying for the Branch reimbursement. Please download this form and submit it electronically or by snail mail as shown on the form **PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE**. Then the Region Treasurer can prepare the checks and distribute them at the Conference to get the Branches reimbursed as quickly as possible. **The deadline for this is April 10, 2007.** If you have any questions about this new policy, please feel free to contact me at f.b.grosz@ieee.org.

IEEE and Region 5 attach a great deal of importance to student activities. If you ever have any questions or need help with any IEEE matters, please do not hesitate to contact me at f.b.grosz@ieee.org or Student Representative Enrique Granja at egranja@ieee.org. Those of you who have attended the R5 Conference in the past or talked to other branch members who have know that this is a great event. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the Region 5 Conference in April!

Francis Grosz
IEEE Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator