Chairman’s Message

Dr. T. Thyagarajan
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Esteemed Members,

In the April month’s message I furnished the details of various societies and affinity groups which are active under our section and requested the esteemed members to enroll for membership in the societies/affinity groups of their choice, by contacting the respective chairpersons, if needed. The contact details of the chairpersons are published on page 11, IEEE-MAS Link vol.8, issue 3, March 2011.

In order to make the administration more transparent, the details of funding given to the 10 colleges Rs 75,000/- (for the student project), the rebate from HQ transferred to 12 student branches Rs 2,05,293/- and the sponsorship amount Rs 1,70,000/- given to 14 colleges were also published.

This month I would like to share some details about the various medals, awards and recognition given by the IEEE.

The IEEE Awards Board (AB) administers the medals, awards and recognition for its members by recognizing their contributions.

While the master link for the awards is http://www.ieee.org/about/awards, the award links for different segments and active societies in our Section are listed below:

- **IEEE Medals**: IEEE Medals are the highest awards in the hierarchy of IEEE recognitions. Details at: http://goo.gl/KgdRf
- **IEEE Technical Fields Awards**: They are awarded for contributions or leadership in specific fields of interest of the IEEE. Details at: http://goo.gl/YWISH
- **IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB) Awards**: http://goo.gl/qCYde
- **MGA Awards and Recognition**: http://goo.gl/mSBQa
- **IEEE Standards Awards**: http://goo.gl/uUSB
- **MGA Individual/Team Awards**: http://goo.gl/bzYue
- **Outstanding Large and Small Section Awards**: Section Membership Growth Awards; Section Significant Anniversary Banners, Certificates of Appreciation, Friend of IEEE MGA Award, Supporting and Sustaining Friends, Platinum Friend, Student Branch Membership Growth Award, IEEE VP-MGA Discretionary Award. Details at http://goo.gl/7ryZd
- **IEEE Computer Society Awards**: http://goo.gl/HdqNK
- **IEEE Communication Society Awards**: http://goo.gl/wEo2g
- **IEEE IAS Awards**: http://goo.gl/iq7Gd
- **IEEE PES Awards**: http://goo.gl/CveSC
- **IEEE MTTS Awards**: http://goo.gl/a2zZ7
- **IEEE PCS Awards**: http://goo.gl/pCUUV
- **IEEE PELS Awards**: http://goo.gl/YpwDS
- **IEEE RAS Awards**: http://goo.gl/SyXoZ
- **IEEE EMBS Awards**: http://goo.gl/6TrKW
- **IEEE EDS Awards**: http://goo.gl/x0nk0

The link http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/information.html provides information relating to nomination guidelines and suggestions to prepare successful nomination. I request the esteemed members to make use of the above information.

Affectionate Colleague
Dr. T. Thyagarajan

From The Editor’s Desk

H.R. Mohan
hrmohan@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

IEEE recognizes the deserving members and volunteers generously through a number of awards. While many of our members qualify for such awards, we do not seem to be receiving them. It may be due to the fact that most of us are not aware of the details of the awards and how to get nominated and receive them. Our Section Chairman, in his message, has presented a wonderful compilation on IEEE awards with appropriate links to get more details. Readers can access the pdf version of his message with active links at http://goo.gl/HvMIE and get benefited.

LINK congratulates IEEE PES Madras Chapter & its chairman Mr. K.V. Rupchand for having received the High Performance Chapter Award 2010.

This month, we were flooded with numerous reports on the activities from various student branches. Due to space constraints, we could not publish all and a number of reports are carried forward to next month issue.

This month, along with a brief review of the book “Understanding Clean Energy and Fuels from Biomass”– a highly relevant one, in the context of energy crises and climate change, we have published 26 activity reports ranging from guest lectures, workshops, conferences as detailed below:

- **Section Technical Meeting on “Agile Software Development”**
- **Summary of activities of IEEE Computer Society during Jan-Apr 2011**
- **Lecture on “Remote Sensing” organized by IEEE COMSOC**

Events organized by the following institutions:

- St. Xavier’s Catholic College of Engg
- Aarupadai Veedu Inst. of Tech
- Francis Xavier Engg College
- Periyar Maniammai University
- VIT University
- Easwari Engg College
- Amrita School of Engg
- National Engg College
- M. KumaraSamy College of Engg
- Kalasalingam University
- Sri Venkateswara College of Engg
- Coimbatore Inst. of Engg & Tech
- Thiagarajar College of Engg
- Sudharsan Engg College
- Sri Krishna College of Engg & Tech

The Section and some of the Society Chapters are supporting events such as NaCoDH, ReSYM-11, IAMA-2011, ACC-2011, ICEGT-2011, Seminar on IPv6 migration. They are listed in the Forthcoming Events column. We request our members to actively participate in them.

Green IT is an umbrella term referring to environmentally sound information technologies and systems, applications, and practices. There have been major developments in recent years in a number of areas: more energy-efficient computers, virtualization, data center design and operation, power-aware software, green standards, green adoption maturity models, and measures leveraging IT to reduce its carbon footprint and GHG emissions. To provide a bird’s eye view on this topic and its ongoing advances, a free (for a limited period) online issue of IEEE Computer Society Computing Now on Green IT, guest edited by one of our long supporting professor in our society activities – Prof. San Murugeasan an adjunct professor at the University of Western Sydney in Australia and a trainer on green IT presents a collection of seven articles focusing on different aspects of green IT. We urge our readers to access this issue at http://goo.gl/7MVMp and benefit.
Technical talk on “Agile Software Development”

The Technical talk in the area of Agile Software Development was organized by IEEE Madras Section on Saturday, 16th Apr 2011 at 5.30 p.m. at the Seminar Hall at ISTE Professional Centre, Chennai. The talk was co-sponsored by IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter and Computer Society of India, Chennai Chapter.

The talk “Approach to AGILE Software Development with SCRUM” was jointly delivered by Mr. D Rajesh, Associate General Manager, HCL Technologies, Chennai and Ms. C Venkata Vajayanthi, Programme Manager, Steria India Limited, Chennai.

The talk commenced with an overview of the Agile Development Methodology. The talk covered the following aspects:

- Introduction to Agile
- Scrum Framework
- Scrum Development Process
- Key Challenges
- Case study on Agile / Scrum

The talk was well received by the participants. The case studies presented on Scrum methodology and the practical exposure on the key challenges in using the Agile methodology were well appreciated. The talk was followed by an interactive and very lively question and answer session.

Dr. T. Thyagarajan Chairman, IEEE Madras Section welcomed the participants. Dr. Sheila Anand, Chairperson, Committee on Technical Lectures, IEEE Madras Section and Treasurer IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter introduced the speakers. The vote of thanks was rendered by Mr. Ramesh Bashyam, Treasurer, Computer Society of India.

Report by: Dr. Sheila Anand

Women’s Day Celebration at St. Xavier’s Catholic College of Engineering

Women’s day was celebrated on 9th March 2011, in St. Xaviers Catholic College of Engineering with the support of Madras IEEE Women in Engineering. Dr. Little Flower Mary, Professor of Humanities and Science Department presided over the function.

The program started with the code of ethics read by Ms. K.V. Saji, the chairman of IEEE WIE. Mrs. A. Subitha, the Faculty Advisor of IEEE WIE welcomed the gathering. Dr. Little Flower Mary, delivered the presidential address. Her talk on women’s position in our society and opportunities offered by the society for upgrading our qualifications was well received by the audience.

Mr. C. John Moses, IEEE Student Branch counselor felicitated the function. A technical presentation was given by Ms. Tresa Mary George, IEEE Student Branch member on “Semantic Web”. The program ended with the words of gratitude by Ms. B. Steffi Renatus, member of IEEE. The function was attended with great enthusiasm by around sixty five members of IEEE WIE.

Forthcoming Events

- NaConDM-2011: National Conference on Design and Manufacturing, 27-28, May 2011 at Chennai. Contact: Dr M Sreekumar, Ph: 044-22578555 Ext: 26; Email: nacondm2011@iiitdm.ac.in Website: www.iiitdm.ac.in/nacondm2011.html
- Seminar on “Migration to IPv6 from IPv4 — Issues & Challenges”, 26th Jun 2011 at IIT Madras. Organized by Internet Society, Madras Chapter in association with Computer Society of India — Div IV & Chennai Chapter, IEEE Computer Society, ACM Madras Chapter and IIT Madras. Contact: hrmohan.csii@gmail.com / sakthi_velp@yahoo.com isolateddn@gmail.com
- IECGT-2011: International Conference on Emerging Green Technologies. 27-30, Jul 2011 at Periyar Maniammai University, Vallam. Contact: ieee2011@gmail.com Website: www.iecgt2011.in
- ReSYM-11: Research Symposium on Pervasive Computing and its Underlying Technologies. 15 - 16, Sep 2011, Chennai. Last date for paper submission: 31st May 2011. Contact : Dr. A. Balaji Ganesh, Ph: +91-44-26591860; Mobile: 098427 91925 ; E-Mail: resym11@gmail.com & abganesh@velammal.org

Book on “Understanding Clean Energy and Fuels from Biomass”

Author: Dr. H.S. Mukunda. Publisher: Wiley India Pvt. Ltd. Pages: 300. Price: Rs. 379/=

Biomass can play a major role in stabilizing the environment in the context of climate change. This book on biomass conversion is timely and the author describes and examines the processes involved in the conversion of biomass to energy or a more useful fuel, derived from his long research work at IISc along with the results from international efforts.

The book, in 12 chapters deals with role of biomass, fundamental processes, routes of conversion, chemical-thermodynamic basis, anaerobic treatment of wastes, aspects of gasification, generating heat or power from producer gas, design of stoves, pyrolytic processes, liquid fuels – ethanol and biodiesel, urban solid waste conversion and the historical techniques yet to be commercialized.

This book will benefit students, faculty, practitioners, consultants, policy makers and administrators and others interested in energy and climate change.
Activities of IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter during Jan – Apr 2011

3rd Jan 2011: A talk by Prof. V. Lakshmi Narasimhan, Dept. of Computer Science & Software Engineering, East Carolina University, USA on “Futuristic Information and Communication Technologies and Their Possible Implications for Biomedical Applications” was organized by IEEE CS in association with CSI, Chennai.

22nd Jan 2011: A presentation by Mr. S.V. Chalapathy Rao, Head – Microfinance, Coromandel Infotech India Ltd, Chennai on “Managing Financial Inclusion and Microfinancing Using Technology” was arranged by IEEE CS in association with CSI Chennai & IEEE TMC.

24th Feb 2011: A technical presentation on “Specification and Measurement of System Non Functional Requirements” by Prof. Alain Abran, Director, Software Engineering Research Laboratory, ETS - University of Quebec, Canada was organised by IEEE CS jointly with CSI, Chennai & SPIN, Chennai.

18-19, Feb 2011: NCISE-11: National conf. on Information & Software Engineering. This two days conf. was organized in association with the Dept. of IT, Aarupadai vedu Institute of technology, IEEE CS Student Chapter at AVIT. This conf. featured four invited talks and 65 paper presentations done in parallel and attracted about 200 participants across the country and few delegates from abroad.

18th Feb 2011: IEEE CS joined with ACM Chennai Chapter and CSI, Chennai in the formal inauguration of the ACM Chennai Chapter and a keynote talk by Professor Jeff Ullman, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science, Stanford University and ACM Fellow on “What makes Silicon Valley tick?”

19-20, Feb 2011: A two days workshop on “Research Methods” with the following resource persons was organized in association with CSI, Chennai and IEEE PCS, Madras:

- Dr. Narasimhan Sundararajan, Former Professor, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore & Former Scientist, ISRO.
- Dr. V. Sankranarayanan, Director, University Project, B.S.A. University, Chennai & Former Chairman, Faculty of Information and Communication Engineering, Anna University, Chennai.
- Dr. Usha Mohan, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Management Studies, IIT Madras, Chennai.

The response for the workshop was exceeding well and we had to restrict the participation to 120. The sessions were highly interactive and the participants, mostly researchers provided a very good feedback and many institutions requested that this programme should be repeated for the benefit of students and fresh researchers.

7th Mar 2011: IEEE CS joined with CSI, Chennai in the Celebration of Computer Society Day — Project Presentations & Computer Quiz. To encourage the students, they were provided opportunity to present their projects to the members. The projects by the students of Rajalakshmi Engineering College, RMD Engineering College and SKR Engineering College were presented. Following this, Computer Quiz was conducted by Mr. H.R. Mohan, Chairman, IEEE CS, Madras

19th Mar 2011: A presentation on “In-Vehicle Networking: Current and Future Trends” by Mr. D. Deepak Paul, Technical Architect, Automotive Electronics, Visteon Technical and Services Centre Private Ltd. Chennai was organized in association with the IEEE Madras Section, IEEE COMSOC & CSI, Chennai. The presentation covered: Automotive Electronics; In-vehicle Networking; Popular Vehicle Networking protocols; Present Applications of the In-vehicle Networks; and Future needs and applications.

28th Mar 2011: IEEE CS joined with ACM Chennai Chapter and CSI, Chennai for a talk under “Distinguished Lecture” series, featuring renowned experts in the areas of IT and Computer Science. The speaker was Mr. David Chaiken, Chief Architect, Yahoo!, Inc., and the topic was “Architecture at internet-scale”. The talk described some of the challenges of operating products used by more than 600 million Internet users, the architectural approaches at different tiers: hardware and network infrastructure; cloud infrastructure; consumer and advertising platforms. The topics covered include how Yahoo! uses its Hadoop clusters for large-scale computation, reducing complexity in user data stores, and the perils of a hidden exponential algorithm.
7-9, Apr 2011: NCVESCOM-2011: National Conference on VLSI, Embedded Systems, Signal Processing and Communication Technologies. IEEE CS was a co-sponsor at the conference organized by the Department of ECE, Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology, Vinayaka Missions University organized the conference with the additional co-sponsorship from IEEE Madras Section; IEEE Communication Society, Madras Chapter; Computer Society of India, Div. IV (Communications); Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences, Department of Atomic Energy, Mumbai; Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Delhi; IETE Chennai Centre; and Broadcast Engineering Society (India). This two days conference apart from the 75 papers presented in four tracks had five Invited Talks which were appreciated by the participants numbering around 200 comprising of industry professionals, academic faculty, researchers and students. The Invited talk sessions covered wide range of topics in the field of Antenna, RF Design, Image Processing & LabVIEW. A detailed report appears elsewhere in this issue.

16th Apr 2011: IEEE CS along with IEEE Madras Section and CSI Chennai Chapter organized a technical talk on “Approach to AGILE Software Development with Scrum” by Mr. D Rajesh, Associate General Manager, HCL Technologies, Chennai and Ms. C Venkata Vaijayanthi, Programme Manager, Steria India Limited, Chennai. The talk dealt with Introduction to Agile; Scrum Framework; Scrum Development Process; Key Challenges; and Case study on Agile / Scrum.

23rd Apr 2011: IEEE CS joined with The Madras Library Association, Chennai, Computer Society of India, Chennai Chapter and The Connnemara Public Library, Chennai in organising a talk on “Intellectual Property and Importance of Copyright Protection” on the occasion of the World Book and Copyright Day celebrations. The talk was given by Dr. Sudhir Ravindran, Attorney-At-Law, Solicitor (England & Wales), Principal of GBS-Legal and CEO of Altacit Global, Strategic Consultants. The talk provided and insight into the importance of the intellectual property in present days’ globalized economies. The overview of Intellectual property, various tools of intellectual property with focus on Copyright was elaborately. The relevant case studies and industry experience were also shared. In essence, the talk demystified the IPR & Copyright.


The Department of ECE, Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology, Vinayaka Missions University organized the 4th National Conference on VLSI, Embedded Systems, Signal Processing and Communication Technologies (NCVESCOM’11) during April 7th to 8th, 2011 at AVIT, Chennai. The Conference was co-sponsored by:
- IEEE Madras Section
- IEEE Communication Society, Madras Chapter
- IEEE Computer Society, Madras Chapter
- Computer Society of India, Div. IV (Communications)
- Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences, Department of Atomic Energy, Mumbai
- Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Delhi
- IETE Chennai Centre
- Broadcast Engineering Society (India)

At the inauguration on 7th April, 2011, Prof. R. Kalavathy, Vice Principal welcomed the gathering. Prof. D. Vijendra Babu, HOD of ECE, Conference Co-chair briefed about the Conference. He said, the conference attracted over 420 papers and after a review process 145 has been short listed and 75 papers were orally presented during the conference. The proceeding was published by a leading publisher with ISBN number.

Dr. N. R. Alamelu, Principal and Chairperson of the Conference delivered the presidential address. Dr. P. Hanumantha Rao, Senior Scientist, SAMEER, Chennai was the chief guest at the conference and released the conference proceedings. Dr. Hanumantha Rao, in his keynote address on the topic “Advanced Technologies for Future RF Design” highlighted the importance of advanced technologies in core and research areas. Prof. P Subramanian, Organising Secretary, Dept. of ECE proposed the vote of thanks.

This two days conference apart from the paper presentations in four tracks had the following Invited Talks which were appreciated by the participants numbering around 200 comprising of industry professionals, academic faculty, researchers and students. The Invited talk sessions covered wide range of topics in the field of Antenna, RF Design, Image Processing & LabVIEW.

The following are the Invited talk lectures delivered during the conference.

1. Advanced Technologies for Future RF Design by Dr. P. Hanumantha Rao, Senior Scientist, SAMEER, Chennai
2. Image to Vision by Dr. S. Mohamed Mansoor Roomi, Associate Professor, ECE Department, Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai
3. Texture Analysis by Dr. A. Suruliani, Associate Professor, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli
4. Industry Demand for Advanced Antenna Technology by Sri. B. Ganeshi, Engineering Manager, Amphenol, Antenna Solutions, Chennai
5. RF and Wireless Communication Design and Test using LabVIEW & Pxi by Sri. J. Visweswaran, Academic Technical Consultant, National Instruments, Bangalore

The authors of the Best Paper in each track were awarded with merit certificate.

Report by: Prof. D. Vijendra Babu, HOD/ ECE, AVIT
RCT-11: National Conference on “Recent Advances in Communication Technology” at Francis Xavier Engineering College

RCT-11, the national level technical conference on “Recent Advances in Communication Technology” was conducted on 1st April 2011 at Francis Xavier Engineering College by the Department of ECE and IEEE student branch.

The conference received 130 papers from all over the country. 50 papers were selected for presentation at the conference under the themes of VLSI, Embedded Systems and Communication System. The papers focused on the innovations in their discipline and the day was filled with mind-blowing ideas.

The conference started with a prayer and followed by lightening of kuthuviilakku. Mr. J. Mervin welcomed the gathering. Dr. K. Rajagopal, Principal in his felicitation, highlighted the objectives and benefits of conference. He advised the students to bridge the gap between the academicians and research people by attending conferences. Mr. S. Krishna Kumar, Director presided over the function. Prof. M. Selvi, HOD/ECE and IEEE student branch counselor introduced the chief guest. Mr. S. Ingersol, Divisional Head-Quality & Control, LPSE, ISRO, Mahendragiri.

The chief guest, Mr. S. Ingersol, inaugurated the conf. and released the conference proceedings. In his inaugural address, he pointed out various limitations in the key areas like VLSI, Image Processing, Industrial Automation, Communication Technology and Information Networking. He recalled various developmental stages of ISRO and emphasized the students to take the leadership and to be an innovation oriented people.

The technical session started with the keynote address on “Long Term Evolution (LTE) standard” by Dr. S. J. Thiruvengadam, Professor, Thiagaraja College of Engineering.

The themes of various sessions included, Networking, Embedded System, Image Processing and Signal Processing. These sessions were chaired by Dr. S. J. Thiruvengadam, Dr. T. V. J. Ganesh Babu, Dean-R&D, Scad Group of Institutions and Dr. B. Shankara Gomathi, Dean-Academic, National Engineering College.

At the valedictory function certificates were distributed to the participants by the chairpersons. Ms. K. Muthukuttutt, WIEA Treasurer proposed a vote of thanks.

Report by: J. Eswarakalyani.

Activities at Francis Xavier Engineering College

Women’s Day Celebration

Women in Engineering Affinity Group of IEEE Student Branch of Francis Xavier Engineering College Tirunelveli celebrated the International Women’s Day on 9th March 2011. The function started with prayer song, WIE chairperson Ms. M. Aarty welcomed the gathering. The chief guest was introduced by Mrs. K. Sujatha, Secretary of WIE.

The chief guest Dr. X. Rosary Mary, Director- Department of Youth Welfare, Manonmanium Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli delivered exhilarating speech, motivating the members to shine in various fields of Engineering. Women entering the Engineering field will enhance the whole nation, she said. She also quoted that the classroom scenario of higher education has changed completely, where the number of women has increased to manifold compared to the past days when they were counted in fingers. She also stressed that the society especially men are more benefited by the educated women sharing their views over various difficulties they face, to an equal compatible companion. She emphasized the Excellency of women in engineering world.

The IEEE Student Branch Counselor Prof. M. Selvi HOD/ECE and Faculty Advisor of WIE Prof. M. Caroline Viola Stella Mary HOD/IT presided over the function. Various events such as drawing, elocution competition were conducted. Prizes were distributed for winners and participants by the chief guest. Vote of thanks was given by Ms. K. Muthukuttutt, Treasurer of WIE. The function ended with National Anthem.

Seminar on Energy Conservation

The IEEE student branch of Francis Xavier Engineering College organized a seminar on “Energy Conservation” for students and staff on 12th Mar 2011. Mr. L. Rajendra Kumar, AE/UGP from TNEB Tirunelveli was the resource person. About 50 IEEE members and staff of FX Engineering College attended the seminar.

The speaker, Mr. L. Rajendra Kumar stressed the importance of saving energy for future and added that “One unit of electrical energy saved is equal to two units of energy generated”. The program was very interactive and many interesting ideas to conserve energy were proposed. The program included: Different measures to save energy; Importance of using optimized household appliances; and Smart grid.

Mr. Rajendra Kumar listed out the various house hold products which consume less energy and importance of using them. The program was an eye opening session towards awareness of Energy Conservation from every home that will add quantum value to the Nation and it was the need of the hour. In the feedback session, participants felt free to ask queries and every participant realized their roles in this context. To express gratitude, all students and staff members who attended the program thanked the resource person whole heartedly at the end of the program.

Report by: R. Parthiban, parthicherai_1989@yahoo.com

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www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras


Invocation and lighting of the Kuthuvalakkku marked the start of the inaugural function on 11th March. Dr. N. Veerappan, H.O.D. (EEE) Program Chair NCNRES – 2011 welcomed the gathering. He introduced the Chief Guest and also gave an introduction on the theme of the Conference. Dr. N.R. Alamelu, Principal, AVIT, Conference Chair- NCNRES – 2011, delivered the presidential address. The Chief Guest Dr. S. Gomathinayagam, Executive Director, Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET), Chennai, in his address spoke about ‘Alternate Energy Sources’ and also released the Conference Proceedings.

Er. K.V. Rupchand, Chairman, IEEE – Power & Energy Society delivered the keynote address followed by a presentation on ‘New issues on new and renewable energy sources’ Dr. N. Kumarappan, Prof. Dept of Electrical Engg., Annamalai University, explained about ‘Distributed Generation’ in his special address. S Rajagopal, Professor (EEE) proposed the vote of thanks.

On 12th March, the second day of the conference, Dr. R. Sarathi, Prof. Dept. of Electrical Engg., IIT Madras presented a Technical Talk on the topic “Intelligent Monitoring of Power Transformer Multisensor Fusion Technique Compatible for Smart Grid”. Mr. K.V. Nachiappan, Director, Numeric Power Systems Ltd., Chennai, delivered a Special Lecture on “Green Energy Solutions – Solar Photo Voltaic Cells”.

Around 400 students have registered for participation and about 50 technical papers on Renewable Energy Sources, Power Systems and Power Electronics have been selected for presentation in the various technical sessions. Technical papers were presented by the students in the Technical Sessions followed by a panel discussion on the theme “To promote R & D, create awareness and popularize Renewable Energy Sources among the Industries, Institutions and general public”.

At the Valedictory Function, Mr. S. Rajagopal, Prof. / EEE, welcomed the gathering and introduced the Guests. The Chief Guest, Er. T. Sankaralingam, Managing Director, BGR Energy Systems Ltd., Chennai, in his valedictory address delivered a special lecture on “Energy Security and Environmental Conditions”. Dr. T. Thiyagarajan, Chairman IEEE, Madras Section, in his special address, spoke on the need for renewable energy sources and their issues. Er. T. Sankaralingam and Dr. T. Thiyagarajan distributed the certificates to the students who presented papers in the various technical sessions. Mr. R. Sathyarayanan, Associate Professor/EEE, AVIT, proposed the vote of thanks.

Seminar on “Robotics” at Periyar Maniammai University

IEEE student branch of Periyar Maniammai University, Vallam, Thanjavur and the Department of Computer Science and Engineering jointly organized a one day seminar on “Robotics” on 22.03.2011 with an aim of providing an overview about robotics, current and future trends as well as to induce the students towards research in this field.

The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. T. Asokan, Associate Professor, Department of Engineering Design, Indian Institute of Technology Madras. Dr. D. Kumar, Dean Reasearch, Periyar Maniammai University prised over the function and spoke about the need and importance of robots.

Technical lectures were delivered by two eminent professors. Dr. T. Asokan, delivered a lecture on industrial robots, their applications and directions for future research. The session was very much interesting to all the participants and everyone were exposed to the basic concepts, current and future trends of robotics.

Dr Somasundaram Kumanan, Professor, Production Engineering, National Institute Of Technology, Tiruchirappalli gave a special lecture on intelligent robots for manufacturing applications. The participants had a glimpse of the applications of robots in the industry.

The seminar ended with a valedictory address by Dr. Kandasamy, Dean Academics, Periyar Maniammai University.

Report by: Ms. P. Monica, Asst. Prof., CSE, PMU
Activities at Easwari Engineering College, Chennai

Guest Lecture on “Research Methodologies”

The IEEE Student Branch of Easwari Engineering College organised a guest lecture on the topic of “Research Methodologies” by Dr. Venkatesh Mahadevan, University of Swinburne, Australia. The speaker provided a clear cut idea as to what a research is and what it requires to conduct a research and the benefits of doing PhD and the amount of knowledge gained by doing so. He spoke about the myths surrounding research areas and how to dispel them in order to flourish in doing the research. He highlighted the difference in doing a PhD here in India and in his university in Australia. He laid the emphasis on the need for research and explained how it is being done in US, UK and in Singapore and other countries abroad. He also explained the difference between thesis and the non thesis option while doing post graduation. He spelt the need for having a good guide while doing the research work. He added that the guide is the back bone of the research and is expected to help his students wriggle out problems faced during the research work. He insisted on having as many as value added courses in the curriculum and the importance of having such courses. He also answered to the questions posed by the students. On the whole it was a very informative session and the students were enriched with research oriented ideas when they left the hall.

Workshop on Career Guidance

The IEEE Student Branch of Easwari Engineering College conducted a career guidance workshop on the topic “Higher Education in India and Abroad and Job Opportunities”. This workshop was hosted by the 3rd year IEEE members to the 2nd year ECE students. This program was organized in three sessions, 1. MBA and related courses, 2. MS and related courses, and 3. Job Opportunities. The first session dealt with the requirements to enable a student to his MBA in universities across Australia, Singapore, US, UK and India. It also dealt with the preparatory courses required to get a good grade in CAT or GMAT exams. This session also covered the fee structure of various universities and their placements offers etc. The second session involved the requirements to facilitate a student to do his MS in universities across Australia, Singapore, US, UK and in India. The preparatory courses required to get a good grade in GRE and GATE exams were explained in detail. In the third session, related to Job Oriented Opportunities, the requirements — technical and software skills and the communication and aptitude skills required to ensure that a student gets placed in software or core companies were discussed at length. Towards the end, in an interactive session, the doubts raised by the students were clarified. On the whole the students found the workshop sessions very useful and are looking forward for more such programmes.

Report by P. Meenakshi Vidya, meenakshi_vidyai@yahoo.com

Activities at Amrita School of Engineering

“Programming Contest for Upper Crust Students”

Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore IEEE student branch organized a one hour programming contest on “Programming with C/C++” on March 25th, 2011. The contest was organized in association with Microsoft Corporation with the help of Mr. M. Vignesh, Brand Ambassador for Microsoft Corporation. Budding engineers participated in the contest in addition to the IEEE members of Amrita University, Coimbatore. The students were given a challenging problem and were asked to write the pseudo code and the best solution for the problem using the concept of C/C++ and Analysis of Algorithms. The contest was mainly conducted to bring out the hidden talent of a special group of students called as “Upper Crust” who are put under a special training to appear for competitive exams and also to appear for interviews conducted by top MNC’s. A motivating lecture by “Steve Jobs – Founder of Apple Inc” was also screened on the occasion. The contest was mentored by Prof. K. Gangadharan, Chairman-IT and organized by Mr. C. Arunkumar, Student Branch Counsellor of IEEE, Amrita.

“Workshop on Adobe Photoshop, Flash, ULEAD and Sound Booth”

Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore IEEE student branch organized a ten day workshop on “Adobe Photoshop, Flash, ULEAD and Sound Booth” from 23rd March to 1st April, 2011. The workshop was organized in association with the Amrita Photography Club (APC) with the help of Ms. R. Aarthi, Asst. Professor(Sr), Department of IT and Faculty coordinator of APC. About 44 Budding engineers participated in the workshop in addition to the IEEE and APC members of Amrita University, Coimbatore. The students had a hands-on experience with the Adobe products and as a follow-up of the workshop, a certificate and poster design contest was also conducted. The prizes were sponsored by Association of Computing Machinery (ACM), Amrita Chapter. The workshop was conducted by three B.Tech students of Amrita School of Engineering. The students were given participation certificates and the CD that contains presentation materials and multimedia software. The workshop was mentored by Prof. K. Gangadharan, Chairman-IT and organized by Mr. C. Arunkumar, Student Branch Counsellor of IEEE, Amrita.

Report by C. Arunkumar, arunkumarc@ieee.org
INNOVIS'11 - Symposium at National Engineering College

The IEEE student branch of National Engineering College, K.R.Nagar, Kovilpatti, organized INNOVIS’11 a one day symposium for I year students on February 28th 2011 at the college campus.

Mr. K. R. Arunachalam, Managing Director, National Engineering College, presided over the function in the presence of Director Dr. Kn. K. S. K. Chockalingam. Er. Maninan, Deputy General Manager, TNEB, Madurai was the chief guest at the inaugural function.

Ms. Rajalakshmi, II ECE delivered the welcome address. Ms. Muppudathii, II EEE spoke on the focal issues of the symposium. The chief guest enlightened the students on the need to inculcate the essential knowledge and potential to meet the demands in the age of technological boom. He also urged the students to present research papers based on the recent developments in the field of engineering and technology. The chief guest launched the flash point show of the symposium which was prepared by the IEEE Student Members.

Nearly, 40 students submitted their technological research articles in the symposium. The student paper presentations were done in parallel in two venues, Assembly Hall of NEC and Seminar Hall of EEE Department. A quiz competition and a special competition INNOVIS Imagination were also conducted to explore the potential of the students.

In the valedictory session, the Director Dr. Kn. K. S. K. Chockalingam distributed the certificates to the participants and the prizes to the winners in the various competitions. Vinod and Dinesh won the first prize for their research article. Pradesh Chandra and Andrews Robert won the first prize for quiz among five groups. Sweekin and Hasin Mohadeen won the first and second prizes in the INNOVIS Imagination competition.

Under the able guidance of the Director Dr. Kn. K. S. K. Chockalingam, Dr. M. Willjuice Iruthayarajan, IEEE Student Branch Counsellor, the team of lecturers Arul Edwin Raj and Rajagoal and S. Arun, Chairman, IEEE Student Branch, Muthusundaram, Illyr ECE, organized the symposium to prepare the budding engineers to be better professional.

Report by: Dr. M. Willjuice
Iruthayarajan, m_willjuice@yahoo.com

Inaguration of IEEE Communications Society at M. Kumarasamy College of Engineering

Student Branch Advisor, Prof. K. Sundararaju, HoD/ECE, IEEE Student Branch Counselor and Staff Co-ordinates Ms. S. Sathyaa LEC/ECE and Mr. G. Shammugavadivel, LEC/ECE participated in the inaugural.

The function started with lightening the ‘Kuthuvilaku’ by the dignitaries. Mr. R. Vignesh, Pre-Final ECE welcomed the gathering. Prof. V. Kavitha, IEEE Student Branch Advisor addressed the gathering and briefed about the activities of IEEE COMSOC in MKCE. Prof. K. Sundararaju, IEEE Student Branch Counselor felicitated the gathering and briefed about the activities of IEEE Student Branch of MKCE and shared the happiness of getting the award for the student activities from IEEE Madras Section. Mr. S. Parthiban, Final ECE, Ex-Chair of IEEE COMSOC, MKCE introduced the new office bearers for the year 2011 and wished them all success.

Mr. R. Vijaya Rajeswaran, in his interactive and informative session on ‘Embedded Systems - Recent Trends’, gave a brief introduction to embedded systems and then highlighted the recent trends. The session ended with the vote of thanks by Ms. V. Naga Sushmitha, Pre-Final ECE.

With an amazing roll of 101 members, IEEE COMSOC, MKCE is waiting to make merries and unbelievable progress in the upcoming year.

Office Bearers- 2011

Chair Person - Mr. R. Vignesh, Pre-Final ECE
Vice Chair - Mr. P. S. Prakash, II ECE
Secretary - Ms. V. Naga Sushmitha, Pre-Final ECE
Treasurer - Ms. K. Brindha, Pre-Final ECE

Report by: Ms. V. Naga Sushmitha, sushmitha.naga@gmail.com

Lecture on “Remote Sensing” organised by IEEE COMSOC Madras Chapter

IEEE Communications Society, Madras Chapter organized a technical lecture on “Remote Sensing” by Dr A Surulandi, Assistant Professor, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli on April 09, 2011.

Mr P Subramanian, Secretary, IEEE COMSOC Madras Chapter welcomed the gathering and introduced the Speaker.

Dr A Surulandi started the lecture with a brief introduction on the steps in research work. He then proceeded with the basics of remote sensing and types of remote sensing satellites and orbit. He then explained the application of remote sensing in the perspective of land classification. He dealt in detail the different sensing techniques and sensors and their application in land classification problem
National Conference at Kalasalingam University

The IEEE Student Branch of Kalasalingam University organized the second National Level Conference on Intelligent Techniques in Control, Optimization and Signal Processing on 1st and 2nd April 2011.

Dr. N. Vedhachalam, Former Director of VSSC, Tiruvananthapuram while inaugurating the conference, mentioned that the faculty members should get involved in research activities to bring out new inventions. Only a good researcher can become a good teacher he quoted. Further, he added that the Central Government has allotted sufficient funds to support and encourage research activities at colleges and universities. In order to enable faculty members to get involved in research activities he suggested that the academic load of the faculty members be reduced. He appreciated the services of Kalasalingam University in offering quality education to the students from rural background. The inaugural function was presided over by the Chancellor Shri. K. Sridharan. In his presidential address the Chancellor outlined the various measures taken to enhance the research activities in the University. Dr. D. Devaraj, IEEE Student Branch Counselor of Kalasalingam University welcomed the gathering.

The proceeding of the conference was released by Dr. P. S. Kannan, Professor, Thiyagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai. Dr. P. S. Kannan appreciated the efforts taken by the KLU IEEE Student Branch members for organizing the conference on the important topic of Intelligent Techniques and its applications. The electronic version of the proceeding was released by Dr. D. H. Rao, Principal, Jain College of Engineering, Belgaum.

In the two days conference 60 research papers were presented in six sessions by research scholars, post graduate students and faculty members from various institutions in the areas of signal processing, neural networks, power system, network technology, intelligent control and image processing.

Apart from the paper presentations, the conference delegates were presented with the following invited lectures:

- Dynamic Neural Network by Dr. D.H. Rao, Principal Jain College of Engineering, Belgaum.
- Modeling and Simulation by Dr. S. Thangasamy, Professor, Kumaraguru College of Engineering.
- Evolutionary Multi-Objective Optimization by Dr. P. Venkatesh, Professor, Thiyagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai.
- Evolution of Intelligent Controllers by Dr. S. N. Deepa, Professor, Anna University, Coimbatore.
- Intelligent Techniques for Control and Optimization in Multilevel Inverters for Renewable Energy Systems by Dr. S. P. Natarajan, Professor, Annamalai University.
- Computational Intelligent Tools by Dr. N. Kumarappan, Professor, Annamalai University.
- System on Chip by Mr. Karthikeyan, Cypress Semiconductor Technologies Pvt. Ltd

The successful ending of the conference was marked by the valedictory function on 2nd April evening. Ms. Anju Yoga, Kalasalingam University delivered the welcome address. The Chief Guest, Dr. T. Thiyagarajan Chairman, IEEE Madras Section and Prof., MIT, Chennai elucidated the importance and the role of IEEE in the society. He encouraged the students to widen the circle of IEEE Society in the campus.

Dr. S. P. Natarajan, Professor, Annamalai University distributed certificates. The best paper award was grabbed by Ms. Nithya, SRM University. The participants gave a good feedback, about the organization of the conference and one of the participants said that this conference could be placed on par with international conference standards. The conference was organized under the guidance of Dr. D. Devaraj, IEEE Student Branch Counselor and the leadership of Mr. S. Arun Kumar, IEEE Student Chairman. Ms. Tephilla Prince, Kalasalingam University proposed the vote of thanks. INCOS’11 was sponsored by CSIR, National Instruments, Cypress Semiconductor Technologies Pvt. Ltd and IEEE Madras Section.

Report by: Dr.D.Devaraj, IEEE Branch Counselor

Section Membership as on 15th May 2011

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Activities at VIT University

Network Security and Cryptography

IEEE-VIT organized a two hour long event on “Network Security and Cryptography” on 11th March 2011. The event saw an active participation of over 400 students. It was conducted by Rahul Panigrahi, IEEE VIT Chairman and Pritesh Makhija. It commenced with the basics of Network and Computer Security. Then topics like TCP/IP, MAC Id were covered. The participants were given an idea about spoofing and phishing also. With an interactive audience in the hall, who reciprocated well, it became easy to pace up and take up some advanced concepts like session hijacking. Quite a bit of cryptography was also covered. Wingston Sharon spoke about Python programming language and its application in this domain. Tathagat included some really catchy facts and figures in interim, which captivated the students. The audience were given knowledge about the career opportunities in this field and also about how to protect his/her computer from attack. From the feedback collected, we could make out that the session was liked by all present and in particular, they appreciated the fact that the basics were covered in detail and made the beginners to follow.

REVERBB - Sound Engineering

In the times where technology has dominance over every sector right from environment to medicine and from engineering to entertainment, to acquire knowledge about the recent developments and applications, not only becomes vital but also a prerequisite for various tasks in our daily lives. And for the first time in VIT University, IEEE-VIT Chapter, in collaboration with MORVO CORP, came up with the concept of a hands-on workshop on music synthesizing and editing.

On 12th March 2011, as the evening hours drew closer, the venue witnessed numerous enthusiastic and budding musicians gathering and registering for the workshop. The workshop was initiated with a presentation regarding the concept of music synthesizing using ‘FROOTY LOOPS’ software and its applications. The participants were then provided with the software and taught the various functions illustratively. As the students got acquainted with the software, the workshop proceeded with the step-by-step implementation of these functions. Then, they were guided on the ways to edit and synthesize a music file.

And soon came the last few minutes of the workshop, wherein the doubts and queries of the participants were solved and answered. They were also given suggestions and directives subjected to audio functioning and synthesizing.

AURA 2011: Inter-College Symposium at Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering

The IEEE student branch of Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering (SVCE), Sriperumbudur, conducted its annual inter-college symposium AURA 2011 on the 18th of March 2011. Mr. Jaisanker Shanmugam General Manager-ITES, Cognizant Technology Solutions, was the Chief Guest.

The event started with an invocation followed by a welcome address by Prof. E.G.Govindan, Vice Principal, SVCE. The Counselor of the IEEE - SVCE Student Branch, Mr. Ganesh Vaidyathanan S. briefed the gathering about the importance of being a member of the IEEE. The Chairman of the IEEE – SVCE student branch, C. Mathew Cherian, introduced the chief guest, Mr. Jaisanker Shanmugam to the gathering. Dr. M Subramaniam presented a memento to the Chief Guest.

The chief guest, Prof. Mr. Jaisanker Shanmugam spoke on the topic ‘Emerging Trends in IT Enabled Services”. It was a thought provoking speech with special emphasis on the future of technology and cloud computing. The speech was followed by an interaction with the staff and students of SVCE with the Chief Guest.

As part of the symposium, three events namely, Solution-X, Techpourri and Robomania were conducted. The events were designed in such a way to encourage students to think creatively and to take up research in the upcoming fields of science and engineering.

The event concluded with a valedictory function which was presided over by Dr. M Gopalakrishnan, Dean Student Affairs, SVCE. The chief guest gave away the prizes to the winners of the various competitions. The treasurer of the IEEE-SVCE student chapter, Mr. K. Sowmyan delivered the vote of thanks.

Online Test for IEEE Students at Coimbatore Institute of Engineering and Technology

IEEE Students Branch of Coimbatore Institute of Engineering and Technology conducted an online test for all the IEEE student members on 1st April 2011. Totally 120 students participated in the programme.


The test had 60 objective type questions to be answered in 60 minutes. There was no negative mark for wrong answers.

After the test was completed, evaluation was done and the results were announced on the same day. At the end of the programme, the students clarified their doubts.

Report by: B. Saravanan,
IEEE Student Branch Counselor
Workshop on “MEMS CAD Tools” at Thiagarajar College of Engineering

The MEMS Design Centre (Under NPMASS), TIFAC CORE in Wireless Technologies, Dept. Of Electronics & Communication Engineering and IEEE student branch of Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai conducted a three days workshop on “MEMS CAD Tools” during March 18th – 20th 2011. The workshop inauguration was presided by Dr. V. Abhai Kumar, Principal, TCE and Dr. S. (Mrs). Raju, HOD/ECE.

The workshop was organized by Dr. S. (Mrs). Kanthamani, Associate Professor, Dept. of ECE. Resource persons for the workshop were comprised of the faculty members from TCE, Madurai and a Technical Team from Coventoreware and Intellisuite. This workshop was addressed to faculty members, research scholars and PG students of engineering colleges who work in the area of MEMS. The workshop was also open to industry professionals. At the end of the workshop, the participants were be able to gain insight on design, simulation, and test issues associated with them, usage of CAD tools for designing micro systems. Participants also had a renewed motivation to carryout research in MEMS domain

MEMS CAD Tools are a solution for the design, simulation and optimization of MEMS devices. They optimize MEMS designs prior to fabrication, reduce prototype development cycle time and cut the manufacturing costs. Incorporating process templates, material data, mask layout, and device analysis, CAD tools provides the platform for the entire design team to develop manufacturable devices with higher yields. This was the theme of discussion during the workshop.

The workshop was interactive, with active participants. Further at the end of the session, participants asked queries and got their doubts cleared. Indeed all the participants had three days of valuable learning.

NPEIS-11: National Conference on “Power Energy and Intelligent System” at Sudharsan Engineering College

The Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department of Sudharsan Engineering College, Pudukkottai had organised an ‘IEEE’ sponsored national conference on “Power Energy and Intelligent System” (NPEIS-11) on April 5th and 6th, 2011.

Major V. V. Chandra Sekharan, Treasurer, IEEE Madras Section was the chief guest at this event. Dr. V. Sankara Narayana, Assistant Professor, NIT, Trichy and Dr. S. Palani (Dean), PG Studies, SEC, Pudukkottai were the special chairs for this conference.

The conference began with prayer song by T.Kiruthika and S.Priya of III year EEE students and was followed by the welcome address by Professor A. Ravi M.E. HOD EEE Dept. A special honor to the chief guest and felicitation address was given by Dr. S.Palani, Dean, PG Studies.

The conference had received a no. of papers from various research areas including power electronics, control systems, power system and intelligent systems. At the end of the second day, certificates were presented to the delegates by Dr. M. Radhakrishnan, Principal, SEC and the program was concluded with vote of thanks by Mr. V.VidyaShankar Lecturer, EEE Department.

Activities at Sri Krishna College of Engineering & Technology

Annual General Body Meeting

SKCET IEEE student branch conducted its annual general body meet on 7th March 2011. Branch office bearers and all student members participated. Prof. Muthuraman Ramasamy, Branch Counselor addressed the gathering. He congratulated the office bearers and exco members for receiving the student branch award from IEEE Madras Section for the year 2010. He appreciated their active participation in organizing various activities. He then released the annual report for the year 2010. The members discussed on the future activities to be conducted and proposed to elect the new Execom members for the year 2011.

National Science Day

SKCET IEEE student branch organized a motivational talk on “Engineers are Problem Solvers” on 14th March 2011 as a part of National Science Day Celebrations. The talk was given by Prof K. S. Lakshmanan, Dean R&D, Formerly Joint Director (Scientist F), DRDO. The programme started with the welcome address by Mr. R. Parthasarathy, Assistant Professor. In his inspiring talk, Prof. K. S. Lakshmanan shared few of his experience

at DRDO, in identifying, analyzing and solving engineering problems. He stressed on the importance of fundamental problem solving skills required for engineers. He highlighted that, ‘it always seems easy once if there is a solution, but the skill is in finding the solution yourself and developing an analysis’. If students can do this on their own, then they can solve new problems, problems that they have never seen before. He advised the students to develop one of such skills. Around 70 students including 30 IEEE members attended the talk.

Report by: N. Krishna Prakash
krishnaprakash@ieee.org
Activities at Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology

Launch of CONNECT4M Portal


CONNECT4M is a web based portal, connecting management, tutors, students & parents of educational institutes."4M" standing for Motivators, Mentors, Mentees and Monitors. This portal would empower Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology with improved communication, increased connectivity, optimized use of resources and knowledge enrichment.

Mr. Pushparaj, Assistant Manager, ADS
SoftTech Mr. Yuvaraj, Software Engineer, ADS

SoftTech together trained the faculty members with demonstrations of multifaceted portal. Dr. (Mrs.) N.R. Alamelu Principal, AVIT delivered the presidential address. Dr. A. Anthony Iruhiyaraaray Dean (IT) & Advisor, IEEE Computer Society Branch Chapter-AVIT welcomed the gathering and briefed about the CONNECT4M portal .Mr. C. Karthikeyan HOD/IT delivered the vote of thanks. Faculty members of all departments participated and benefited by the sessions.

Intra Department Paper Presentation / Project Contest

The Aarupadai Veedu Institute of Technology (AVIT), Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering & IEEE Communication Society, Madras Chapter jointly organized an “Intra Department Paper Presentation / Project Contest” on March 25, 2011 at 10:00 am in the auditorium.

Prof.D.Vijendra Babu, HOD/ECE & Convenor delivered the Welcome address & briefed about Intra Department Paper Presentation / Project Contest and explained about the activities to be held. Dr. (Mrs.) N. R. Alamelu, Principal, AVIT, presided and delivered the presidential address. In her address she spoke on opportunities available for students & necessary skills required for the students to succeed and meet the challenges. Around 150 students from ECE, ETCE & Biomedical of second and third year participated.

The Project Contest & Paper presentation was judged by the Senior Faculty. Best 3 Projects & 3 Paper presentations was selected and awarded cash prizes. Merit certificates and participation certificates were issued. Mr. M. Arun, Lecturer proposed the vote of thanks.

LINK congratulates IEEE PES Madras Chapter for having received the High Performance Chapter Award 2010 (for the second year running) under the chairmanship of Mr. K.V. Rupchand. The Award amounts to $ 580.

Visit our Website
www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/madras

Posted On : 24th May 2011
Posted at: Egmore RMS (Patrika)