

Region 2 Committee Teleconference

Agenda

November 14, 2011

1. Director Report, R. Ford
 - a. We have a new treasurer, Gerry Christman. Thanks to Bill Semancik for the work he did.
 - b. We are in agreement with the decisions that came out of the sections congress.
 - c. Region 2 funded attendance at the IEEE Humanitarian conference by a person from GOLD. The quid quo pro was that this person develop a recommendation for a region 2 humanitarian project
2. Director-Elect Report, P. Famouri
 - a. Working on several committees
 - i. Conferences
 - ii. ROMP – Region Outstanding Meeting Program, he has two potential speakers on this committee, one from Baltimore and one from Columbus. Still need sections to nominate meetings to build up the list. Parviz will coordinate these programs. Jeff will create a web page for ROMP.
 - iii. AdHoc committee on financing of Student Activities Conference.
3. Past-Director Report, W. Walsh
 - a. Nomination process for next Region Director. Bill suggested that the process be the same as the previous Region 2 nomination process. The suggested members of the nomination committee are past directors of Region 2 who are still active in the IEEE. They are John Dentler, Marc Apter, Joe Kalasky and Moshe Kam. As Moshe has not been contacted, the motion was predicated on his acceptance of this nomination. The motion was accepted.
 - b. Bill requested that anyone who has a candidate in mind should contact him.
 - c. The nomination committee will brainstorm about potential nominees and contact them to see if they are interested. Those that are interested will be given a nomination package. The nominees will be presented to the Region 2 committee at the winter meeting.
 - d. The first question to be determined on the process at the winter meeting will be: will we recommend 2 or 3 nominees to go before the Region 2 members?
 - e. The nominees will give an oral presentation and voted up.
 - f. The committee will consider members of all genders, races and national origin.
4. Treasurer Report, G. Christman
 - a. Made 66 disbursements by check to cover funds due to members for various meetings.
 - b. Will be taking NetSuit training next month that will automate procedures currently done manually. Several Section treasurers will participate.

5. Humanitarian conference – Gerry Christman
 - a. Meet with Shannon Young about the humanitarian project; Shannon needs to define a proposal for region 2. IEEE is trying to get a better handle on the Humanitarian area. Gerry has been working in this area for 8-9 years and has experience. IEEE is considering domestic as well as international projects.
 - b. A question was asked about quality of the conference. Rating given by the attendees was mostly A and B, with some C's.
 - c. Raj attended the conference representing Robotic Automation. Gave a paper at the conference about Robotics and student participation in robotics.

6. PACE Update, M. Polavarapu
 - a. 15 of 20 sections have held a PACE project. 3 sections have plans for events by end of the year. Other two sections have nothing planned.
 - b. Four Sections held 2 or more PACE events.
 - c. Funds are available for more events this year.

7. Region 2 Leaders Training, M. Polavarapu
 - a. Discussed a leadership webinar on 21 January for the new section leadership throughout the region.
 - b. He will not depend on the new software being made available by MGA.

8. WIE – Holly Cyrus
 - a. WIE is holding a one day event in Philadelphia 3 Dec; the topic is "Technology Trending". Lots of good speakers.

9. Proposal – Region 2 Strategic Planning Committee, M. Apter
 - a. Other regions have a committee
 - b. Will do Long Range plans for the region.
 - c. Discussion was that this was a great idea. Start off by having a meeting of the past directors on an Ad Hoc basis at next region 2 meeting. This will have to eventually be added to the By-Laws if it becomes a standing committee. By-Law changes have to be approved by MGA.

10. Region 2 Student Activities Conference 2012, A. Thompson & E. Villaseca
 - a. Next Student conference will be in Columbus as a collaboration between Ohio State and DeVry. The suggestion was for 10 March, but most people consider that we should stick with April. Will get back to Ohio State to see how that works for them. The conference should account for Easter, Passover and FE Exam dates.
 - b. There was a discussion about inclusion of a career fair early in the day of the SAC. There was no leader training in the schedule; however, it was mentioned in the presentation in the slide covering breakfast. Ralph strongly recommended including a training session. The students are welcome to recommend changes in the leadership training.

- c. Discussion about the hotel: Andrew and Eugenio will work with Columbus organizers to come up with alternative that would be less expensive. They will continue discussions with Ralph.

11. R2 Metro Area Workshop Site Selection, R. Madhavan & R. Ford

- a. Two day workshops focused on practitioners. Topics covered in the prior workshops were Smart Grid, Wireless Communications and software engineering. There were two parallel tracks; for example, one track was Smart Grid and the other was Wireless.
- b. Two conferences were held this past year.
 - i. 150 attendees in Austin; 50 were not IEEE members; of this, the IEEE recruited 35 new members
 - ii. 120 attendees in Huntsville; the IEEE recruited 15 new members.
 - iii. 72% of the attendees rated the workshops at 4 or 5 which is better than most such meetings.
- c. There was a discussion of where to hold in Region 2. The idea is to hold in an area with a large population of professionals, such as DC/Va, Baltimore, Philadelphia. Raj suggested Baltimore as being a cheaper venue and easy to get into. A BioTech session was suggested.
- d. There was a discussion about holding in a smaller area such as Columbus; however, it was the general consensus that the first workshop be conducted where there is a large population to draw from.

12. R2 Spring Meeting Site & Date Selection, R. Ford

- a. Will have to be sometime in February due to the nomination process. Bill Walsh recommended that Southern NJ be the host. Murty suggested Baltimore due to cost and being easy to get into via flights. Ralph will take suggestions, and make a decision.

13. Final discussion

- a. Murty- How will region 2 handle sending people to the annual IEEE-USA meeting? We need new people to go to the meetings vs. the people who attend over and over again. Murty suggested the region cover more/most of the cost of a new attendee to encourage sections to send new people. Sections would have to cover all the costs of someone who has attended several of these meetings in the past.
- b. MRRC membership development leaders from Region 1-10. First meeting was a few weeks ago. How to improve retention of membership, discussed best practices at the meeting.

Meeting Participants:

Ralph Ford

Jeff Friedhoffer

Robert Lawson

Holly Cyrus

Tom Starai
Eugenio Villaseca
Raj Madhavan
Marc Apter
Doug Tipton
Gerry Christman
Murty Polavarapu
Ann Romanuik
Emily Sopensky
Bob Walston
Dennis Molly
Parviz Famouri
Kate McDevitt
Javvad Qasimi