

IEEE Winnipeg Section Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2017

University of Manitoba Stanley Pauley Centre – SPC - 305, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 5:30 PM

Attendance: Trevor Brown (TB), Kevin Brown (KB), Nasim Abdollahi (NA), Ian Jeffrey (IJ), Blake Podaima (BP), Sampath Liyanage (SL), Puyan Mojabi (PM), Nuwan Perera (NP), Steven Howell (SH)

Regrets: Dario Schor, Ekram Hossain, Dave Kemp

CALLED TO ORDER at 17:35

1. Approval of the agenda (KB/IJ) Carried
2. Approval of the minutes of the October meeting (KB/IJ) Carried
3. Chair Report (Ekram Hossain sent regrets)
4. Vice-Chair Report
 - a. Nothing to report
5. Treasurer Report
 - a. Lakehead has been reimbursed for IEEEExtreme
 - b. IJ will be reimbursed \$210.16 for pizza for IEEEExtreme
 - Motion to approve the full amount (NP/IJ) passed
6. Secretary Report
 - a. Attended the Fall Board Meeting in Mississauga on Nov. 3-5
 - The Section should persuade Chapter Chairs to have a succession plan in place
 - There was interest within the West Area Sections to connect Chapters from the same society
 - Two students from the Winnipeg Section won the PES Plus Scholarships (Alex Poersch and Lukas Unruh)
7. IEEE Canada President Update (Not in attendance)
8. IEEE Canadian Foundation Report (Dave Kemp sent regrets)
 - a. No update
9. Membership Development Update (Dario Schor sent regrets)
 - a. 17 Senior Membership elevations so far this year, three more are awaiting reference letters
 - Most among Canada West Sections
10. Chapter and Affinity Group Reports
 - a. Communications (Not in attendance)
 - b. Computer and Computational Intelligence (IJ)
 - Trying to host one talk before the end of the year, or in Jan. or Feb.
 - In preliminary talks with the Satellite Team for a HPC/GPU workshop

- Thinking about hosting talks in Feb. or May/June with graduate students giving presentations and involving local industry
 - i. IEEE Winnipeg could help with registration and/or collecting money
 - c. EMBS (BP)
 - Will try to bring in a speaker for Nov. 30, not Dr. Iqbal
 - Will still pursue Dr. Iqbal for a later date
 - d. EduManCom (Not in attendance)
 - e. PES (Not in attendance)
 - f. Waves (PM)
 - Hosted two DLs in October
 - i. One talk was co-sponsored with GRSS-AES
 - g. RobConIM (Not in attendance)
 - h. GRSS-AES (Not in attendance)
 - i. YP (Not in attendance)
 - j. Life Members (Not in attendance)
 - Continue to hold monthly events in conjunction with the Canadian Society for Senior Engineers (CSSE)
 - k. WIE (NA)
 - NA helped organize the WIE panel at EPEC 2017 in Saskatoon
 - Planning a robotics workshop for high school students on campus
 - i. Jointly held with U of M Student branch
 - ii. Originally planned for Nov. 25, but may delay the event to Feb.
 - a. 20 spaces available, 13 students registered
 - iii. Will ask the Dean's office for funding for pizza
 - iv. IJ: Ask the ECE Department and (maybe) Mech. Department
 - v. Motion: To provide up to \$200 for pizza for the workshop (IJ/NA) passed.
 - l. TISP (Not in attendance)
 - m. Newsletter (Not in attendance)
 - n. Webmaster (KB)
 - No updates
11. Reports from student branch chairs
- a. University of Manitoba (Not in attendance)
 - b. Lakehead University (Not in attendance)
 - Hosted a talk by Karen Bartleson, current President and CEO of IEEE
 - c. Assiniboine College (Not in attendance)
 - d. Red River College (Not in attendance)
12. New business
- a. 2018 AGM planning
 - Preliminarily planned for Jan. 16, 2018 at the Best Western Plus Winnipeg Airport Hotel
 - Motion to approve \$600 for AGM deposit (NP/IJ)
 - TB will contact Ekram to see if Dr. Phil Ferguson is willing to be the keynote speaker
 - b. PM suggests holding a Section-wide event in 2018
 - A technical seminar on a broad topic
 - Funding may be available from the University, if IEEE organizes it (i.e. Visionary Talks)

- Choice of topic and speaker is important
 - i. Speaker must be engaging, even to audience members outside of the topic area
 - ii. A topic such as renewable energy, AI, autonomous cars, etc., would have a broad appeal
 - iii. BP knows of a former Google employee who was working on an autonomous vehicle project, left to start his own startup

ADJOURNED (SH) at 18:21