IEEE REGION 5
STUDENT ACTIVITIES

2012

I served as Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator from 2008-2011. I have attached my newsletters to this file from that period for reference. Some upcoming opportunities for students are summarized as well.

Please contact the current Student Activities Coordinator Anil Mehta and his assistant David Macke for further information on student activities within IEEE Region 5.

Dr. Steve E. Watkins
Missouri University of Science & Technology (formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla)

Direct comments and contributions for this newsletter to steve.e.watkins@ieee.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REGION 5 STUDENT ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (SAC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anil Mehta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Illinois University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carbondale</td>
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<tr>
<td>618-203-4655</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:anilmeha@ieee.org">anilmeha@ieee.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recommended Links for IEEE Student

www.ieeeusa.org/committees/spac/

http://www.hkn.org/

www.ieee.org * * www.r5conferences.org * * www.ieeeusa.org
2013 Region 5 Meeting and Student Contests

Meeting Dates: April 6-7, 2013

Hyatt Denver Tech Center, Denver, CO - Students may participate in several contests at the annual Region 5 event. The contests are:
- Student Papers
- Robotics
- Circuit Design
- Student Ethics

Branch leaders are trained at the leadership Workshop. For information see http://www.r5conferences.org

2013 WISE Program

Nomination Deadline: December 31, 2012

IEEE-USA is a sponsoring society for the Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE) program. Outstanding engineering students are selected to spend nine weeks during the summer in Washington, D.C. learning about the public policy process, especially as it related to technical issues. The WISE program is ranked as one of the best internship opportunities in the U.S. by the Princeton Review. For information see the WISE website www.wise-intern.org.

2013 Student and Branch Awards

Nomination Deadline: February 2013

IEEE Region 5 Awards include the following:
- Outstanding Educator
- Outstanding Large Branch (>50 Mem.)
- Outstanding Small Branch (≤50 Mem.)
- Outstanding Student
- Outstanding Student Branch Counselor
- Outstanding Individual Achievement

A short description of each award and the nomination forms can be found under the Award Info tab at www.ieeecommunities.org/ieee.region5

2013 Annual IEEE Region 5 / CCET Student Design Contest

Registration Deadline: Announced Fall 2012

Student Design Contest for undergraduates and graduate students - The Center for the Commercialization of Electric Technology (CCET) and Region 5 of the IEEE is sponsoring their next student design contest which features technology design needs by the electric utility industry to facilitate implementation of the smart grid in combination with green technology. More information can be found on the CCET website www.electrictechnologycenter.com.

IEEE Online Student Branch Reporting

Activity Report Deadline: May 2013

Annual activity reports and branch officer reporting can be done online at the IEEE student concourse.
www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/students/index.html

IEEE R5 Students FACEBOOK

Students in IEEE Region 5 can keep in touch with the IEEE R5 Facebook page. Check it out.
LEADERSHIP: BUSINESS MEETINGS

Running meetings and participating in deliberative decision-making are important aspects of leadership. A student leader in IEEE, you gain practice in such leadership skills through the normal operation of the student branch and you see these skills in practice at section and region business meetings as well. Formal business meetings operate according to defined rules and informal deliberative meetings or discussions generally follow consensus rules. For professional organizations such as IEEE and many of the other organizations, formal rules are set forth in governing documents as following Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised or Robert’s Rules of Order (latest revision) and are known as parliamentary procedure. Our governing documents specify this source for the conduct of business “at meetings of the IEEE Board of Directors, Major Boards, Standing Committees, and other organizational units …”

Rules of parliamentary procedure may be intimidating to some due to unfamiliarity and specialized terminology. However, some basic knowledge of how the rules are setup can assist in learning the details and practicing their use. The intent of parliamentary procedure is to provide a balance of efficiency, fairness, and deliberation for transacting business (making decisions) and governing a group. The rules must be specified in advance or meetings can easily degenerate into arguments of “how” to conduct business rather than conducting the business itself. As Henry Martyn Robert, the author of the first edition (1876) of Robert’s Rules of Order, said, “Where there is no law, but every man does what is right in his own eyes, there is the least of real liberty.”

Three basic principles guide the parliamentary practice as defined by Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised. They are:

- Debate, decision-making, etc. are transacted in an orderly and open manner,
- Final decisions are based on majority rules with few exceptions, and
- All participants have the right to be heard and to participate equally.

These principles are an expression of formal practice and are the basis of consensus expectations in informal settings. For instance, a group decision to limit debate on a proposed motion requires a supermajority of two-thirds. Minority participant’s rights to be heard are being balanced with the need to eventually reach a decision if the majority agrees. However, the adoption of the proposed motion would only require a majority vote. Again, the intent is a balance of efficiency, fairness, and deliberation.

The systemic approach of Robert achieved widespread success and adoption. Through a family trust and the Robert’s Rules Association, the system has been updated and a copyright maintained on a current, official version titled Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised. It is currently in its tenth edition. The website for this version is www.robertsrules.com. A common practice is to have governing documents of a civic organization include a statement such as,

“The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Society and these standing rules.”

The organization can then keep its documents focused on issues tailored to its purposes and desires while having generic procedures specified by a well-defined and readily available source.

As you conduct your student branch business, gain familiarity with this form of parliamentary procedure. It is an important part of your education as a leader.

Dr. Steve E. Watkins is an IEEE Senior Member and the Region 5 Government Activities Chair.
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IEEE REGION 5
STUDENT ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER
January 2010

SAC Message
Welcome to 2010. The Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) is your professional organization. Region 5, in partnership with your local section, provides support for your professional and technical development as electrical and computer engineering students. The purposes of this newsletter are to keep you informed of events and opportunities and to give you ideas and resources.

I am the Student Activities Coordinator or SAC for Region 5 and my assistant is Anil Mehta, the Student Representative. We are the regional contacts for the student branches and the GOLD organizations. Let us know if you have concerns or questions.

In particular, I encourage you to participate in the many competitions and training events at the 2010 IEEE Region 5 Conference. These opportunities are described in this newsletter.

Steve E. Watkins, R5 SAC
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Associate Chair of EE Undergraduate Studies
Missouri University of Science & Technology (formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla)

Interesting Facts
Finalist in IEEE R5 Papers Contest 1982 & 1983
IEEE-USA Congressional Fellow 2004

Deadlines, Events, and Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>31 January</td>
<td>Final Submission for CCET/IEEE R5 Student Design Contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 February</td>
<td>Submission for Area Papers Contest</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 March</td>
<td>Regional Award Nominations Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>Advanced Rates End for General Registration to Region 5 Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Final Submission for Papers Contest from Area Winners</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 March</td>
<td>Robotics Contest Registration</td>
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<td>2 April</td>
<td>Student Ethics Contest Registration</td>
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<td>2 April</td>
<td>Hotel Room Block Cut-off</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 April</td>
<td>Circuit Design Contest Registration</td>
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<td>10 April</td>
<td>Travel Reimbursement Forms Due for Qualifying Student and Branch Counselor Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-17 April</td>
<td>IEEE Region 5 Business Meeting, Leadership Training, Student Contests, and Awards Banquet</td>
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</tbody>
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REGION 5 STUDENT ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (SAC)

Dr. Steve E. Watkins
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573-341-6321
steve.e.watkins@ieee.org

REGION 5 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Anil Mehta
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
618-203-4655
anilmehta@ieee.org

www.ieee.org * * www.r5conferences.org * * www.ieeeusa.org
SR Message

As your student representative to the IEEE’s Region 5, I join our SAC Dr. Steve Watkins in welcoming you to 2010! As Dr. Watkins points out, there are a lot of activities that the Region hosts, of which I passionately encourage you to be a part.

My journey with IEEE started in the engineering research labs of Southern Illinois University Carbondale 5 years ago, where I got introduced to the then-Chair of IEEE-SIUC, Shawn Muir. Through the course of involvement with IEEE I have been part of many technical professional activities which have helped me grow both professionally and socially. I co-founded and run a regional conference in SIU. Each one of you can do similar things, and it starts with a simple involvement.

I invite all IEEE students to get involved with the Region 5 conference. Also, stay tuned to this and upcoming newsletters for more information.

Anil Mehta, R5 SR
PhD Candidate in Engineering Sciences
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Interesting Facts
St. Louis IEEE Section GOLD Chair
Co-Founder, Southern Illinois University Innovative Systems (SIUIS) Conference
First Place Team, Mid-west Regional Cyber Defense Competition 2006

2010 Region 5 Business Meeting and Student Contests

The Region 5 IEEE Annual Meeting and Student Conference is 16-17 April in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas. Activities include an S-PAC on Friday, Student Contests on Friday and Saturday, and Student Leadership and Branch Counselor Training on Saturday as well. The Annual IEEE Region 5 Business Meeting and Awards Banquet are also on Saturday. Registration for the Region 5 meeting and the Green Conference are separate and each student event has a separate registration.

Early registration is recommended for both meeting attendance and student activities/events.. Early registration for meeting attendance ends 15 March 2010 and the last day for the hotel room block is 2 April 2010, but do not delay. Upon request, students may stay four to a room. Please visit the web site at http://www.r5conferences.org for details.

Reimbursements: Student branches are eligible to receive support for participation in the training workshops and some contests. Instructions and a form are available on the website.

For questions concerning Student Activities at the conference, please contact the Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Steve E. Watkins at 573-341-6321 or steve.e.watkins@ieee.org.
2010 IEEE REGION 5 AWARDS
CALL for NOMINATIONS
IEEE Region 5 is accepting nominations for the following awards.

#001 Outstanding Large Section
    (>500 members)
#002 Outstanding Small Section
    (≤500 members)
#003 Outstanding Member
#004 Outstanding Educator
#005 Outstanding Large Student Branch
    (>50 members)
#006 Outstanding Small Student Branch
    (≤50 members)
#007 Outstanding Student
#008 Outstanding Student Branch Counselor
#009 Outstanding Large Company
    (>500 employees)
#010 Outstanding Small Company
    (≤500 employees)
#012 Outstanding GOLD Member
#013 Outstanding Individual Achievement Award (up to 5 individuals)

A short description of each award and nomination forms can be obtained from the IEEE Region 5 Community
https://www.ieeecommunities.org/ieee.region5 under the Award Info – Region 5 tab.

Please send nominations to the Region 5 Awards Committee Chair, Terry Martin, t.martin@ieee.org. Please address any question to the Awards Committee Chair at 479-575-6011 or t.martin@ieee.org.

The nominations deadline is 1 March 2010.

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2010 IEEE REGION 5
STUDENT CONTESTS
Students may participate in several contest at the Region 5 Meeting. These opportunities are listed at the conference website http://www.r5conferences.org. Each contest has a separate registration (see the calendar and website for dates). However, early registration is encouraged to help in setting up the facilities. The contests are listed below:

- Student Papers – The Region 5 Contest consists of the winners of the Area Contests.
- Robotics – Team competition requiring much advanced preparation. Early registration strongly recommended.
- Circuit Design – Teams of two address a circuit design problem. All work is on-site. Early registration is strongly recommended.
- Student Ethics – Teams of two analyze a hypothetical ethic situation. All work is done on-site.
- CCET/IEEE Design – Student address a system design task. Awards are made at the meeting.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP
Branch leaders, members, and counselors get training in branch operations and activities at the Region 5 Meeting. All branches are strongly encouraged to participate with at least one officer and the branch counselor.

BRANCH TRAVEL SUPPORT
Partial travel support is available for branch officers and counselors attending the leadership workshop and for the design team. Also, the papers finalists are reimbursed for travel. Specific requests must be made for the reimbursement.
Sample Branch Activities

An important part of branch leadership is planning. A comprehensive schedule for the year or semester allows the membership to anticipate key events and the officers to make needed arrangements. Each branch will be different in its opportunities and goals and will have unique plan. Consider the following Table 1 for ideas. In this example, ‘x’ implies a standalone event, such as a speaker from Distinguished Lecture Program (DLP) or an Industry Guest (IG), ‘xx’ implies team work such as Robot building team and ‘xxx’ implies a series of events such as a conference and so on.

Table 1: Sample of yearly activities for IEEE student chapter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Meetings</th>
<th>Technical lectures</th>
<th>Student Competitions</th>
<th>Conferences</th>
<th>Trips</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>July</td>
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<td>December</td>
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Description of events

- Technical Lectures, implies an industry guest or a distinguished professor in a certain field of research, who is invited by the specific IEEE student branch to come and give a presentation. Generally IEEE or the University pays for the trip. Sometimes corporate sponsorships are also available for this endeavor.
- Student Competitions, Robotics, Black Box, Circuit design; these are examples of student competitions conducted by IEEE. Feel free to propose an idea for a student competition and run it by IEEE Region 5.
- Conferences, Region 5 has a conference every April towards the 2nd half of the month, IEEE student chapters should attend this conference. It is a networking platform and a leadership hub.
- Trips, technical trips to companies are always a welcome event for IEEE members. Find a company in your local area, contact their engineers, and organize an IEEE trip. There is help on the Region level for guidance in such activities.

Be sure to put the Region 5 meeting, training, and contests on your calendar plan.
IMPROVE YOUR E-MAIL EFFECTIVENESS

JOHN W. MEREDITH

IEEE’s volunteer leaders depend on e-mail communications to carry out their work. Unfortunately, this powerful tool in today’s high-tech society is a two-edged sword. E-mail enables us to almost instantly communicate with one another in all parts of the globe. But this pervasive tool presents a number of challenges and frustrations that can seriously hinder our efficiency and effectiveness. High volume communications traffic, along with problems such as lack of response or delayed response, spamming, bounced messages, poorly written messages, and endless message threads are some of the challenges that often leave the hapless volunteer with a feeling that e-mail is a burden.

If you are an e-mail user who suffers from this frustration, I urge you to take steps to improve your e-mail effectiveness. This article provides practical tips on using your e-mail to eliminate or mitigate many of the problems that high-volume e-mail users endure. Although my suggestions will require some effort, you will be rewarded in time savings and improved effectiveness in your ability to communicate with your colleagues.

Communication Basics
When we undertake the task of communicating information to another person or to a group by e-mail, it is important to consider three factors — the sender of the information, the message that is being sent, and the receiver of the information. Each has an influence on the effectiveness of the end result — understanding of the message and action on the message being communicated. Let’s consider these factors and their influence on the communications process.

Shaping the Message
The originator of an e-mail message makes decisions that not only shape the message itself, but also the likelihood that the recipient will act on the message in the desired manner. The sender must keep in mind that the receiver of the message is probably time-challenged and is just as interested as you are in quickly responding to your message. Liberal application of common sense and courtesy can yield improved response to your e-mails. Several important things you should consider when drafting e-mails are:
- Use a descriptive subject
- Ensure any attachments are attached prior to sending your e-mail. I recommend inserting attachments prior to drafting your message. This will reduce the chances for missed attachments — a source of frustration for e-mail users
- Be mindful of limitations that the intended recipient or recipients may have. For example, some e-mail users may have limited bandwidth that would present difficulties in handling large files. Stay with common applications when sending files. When in doubt, confirm the recipient’s capabilities before sending non-common applications or large files
- Keep your distribution lists up to date
- Use a spell checker, but follow-up with a final check to ensure clarity and to correct errors you may have missed
- Be courteous; avoid angry diatribes
- Use the priority flag sparingly; overuse will cause recipients to ignore your priority flag
- Avoid being the ‘town crier’ by resending non-business-related e-mail to distribution lists. Many busy users consider this type of traffic as spam and will block traffic to prevent your message from being delivered to their in box
- Exercise caution in using the reply to all option. Ask the question, “does the entire distribution list need to see my response?”

Content Considerations
The message that you send must be carefully drafted to communicate your message. Your message should have a purpose — this drives the content and focuses you as you write the message. Let’s consider some important points to keep in mind in when crafting your message:
State the purpose of your message briefly in your opening sentence
Provide background information where necessary
Keep your message short and to the point
When responding to another colleague’s e-mail, ensure that you are addressing their request
If you have a long message that consists of two or more unrelated topics, consider sending more than
one message
If your message contains several points, segregate each point within its own paragraph. Use of
numbering or bulleted points can facilitate this process
Where action is requested from multiple recipients, clearly identify actions required, deadlines and
assigned responsibilities

The Final Link
The person on the other end of the communications link has an important role in making the e-mail
process work efficiently. All too often, slow or missing responses are the fault of volunteers who don’t
take their communications responsibilities seriously. Volunteers who have agreed to serve must allow
enough time to regularly read and respond to their e-mail traffic. Since e-mail traffic is a two-way process
the receiver is also the sender and should consider the points made above. As a receiver of e-mail, you
should:
- Check your e-mail regularly
- Respond to your e-mail requests promptly
- When action is required respond to the issue that the sender is addressing
- Use an e-mail alias that is linked to your internet service provider (ISP). If you change your ISP,
inform your alias server promptly to ensure continuity of service

Other Efficiency Factors
In addition to the previous points, the serious e-mail user can take a number of actions to improve the
efficiency of their e-mail tasks, including:
- Organize your e-mail files into categories (normally by subject) that will enable you to quickly find old
e-mails. A couple of important categories are:
  - Priority — this is where you would file e-mails that require response as soon as possible
  - Pending — this is where you would file e-mails where you action is not yet complete
  - Completed — this is where you file e-mails where no further action is required and where they
do not fit any of your other filing categories
- Use filters to automatically file information messages from e-mail subscription lists. These are
  normally lower priority and can be read on a ‘rainy day’
- Delete obvious spam messages. In many cases you will recognize these messages by their subject lines
  and can delete the message without opening
- Use spam filters
- Remove yourself from as many e-mail lists as possible
- Create distribution lists to avoid manually inserting multiple addressees

Benefits of Your Investment
E-mail is like any other tool. It requires a modicum of maintenance to maximize its benefits. These
suggestions will increase your e-mail efficiency, freeing up more time for other activities in your busy
life.

John W. Meredith, P.E., is an IEEE Life Senior Member and was 2007 IEEE-USA President. He recently authored
the fourth in the series of IEEE-USA GOLD e-books, Launching Your Career: Lifelong Learning — Your Key to an
Enjoyable and Rewarding Career.

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R5 Director Message

Congratulations on your accomplishments this semester! I hope you have had some involvement in your IEEE student branch, and that when you graduate, you will become active as a professional member.

I started out as an active member and officer in the Computer Society Chapter of the Dallas Section, and was subsequently recruited to join the Region 5 Executive Committee. I served as the first Region 5 Women in Engineering Coordinator, and then as South Area Chair. I was encouraged to run for Director of the Region, and am now serving in that capacity in the first of a two-year term.

IEEE has provided me with tremendous growth opportunities in leadership, as I serve on three IEEE Boards, as well as several committees over the past few years. My passions are encouraging K-12 students in math and science education, and government activities geared towards keeping our country strong in STEM fields.

I hope to see you at future IEEE events.

Sandra “Candy” Robinson, R5 Director
Software Engineer on JSF Program
Lockheed Martin, Fort Worth, Texas

Websites and Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011 REGION 5 MEETING AND GREEN TECH CONFERENCE</th>
<th>REGION 5 STUDENT ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (SAC)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>Dr. Steve E. Watkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>14-15 and 16-17 April 2011</td>
<td>Missouri University of S&amp;T</td>
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<td>Information will be posted on</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.r5conferences.org">www.r5conferences.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:steve.e.watkins@ieee.org">steve.e.watkins@ieee.org</a></td>
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<td>Undergraduate and Graduate Topics</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:anilmehta@ieee.org">anilmehta@ieee.org</a></td>
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Updates from the RSR

The regional IEEE conference was a major success! The venue was great with a comforting environment, discussions were rewarding and above all we all got to meet and interact!

One of my most memorable parts from the regional conference was the student officer and counselor training session that Dr. Watkins, our SAC, and I conducted jointly. In the open forum portion of the training sessions we saw some excellent discussions between the student leaders. A major impetus of our training was to foster discussions among student peers at various branch level leadership. So it was exceptionally pleasing for us to see this type of an interaction. As a result of this interaction, we decided to form a collaboration web portal for the students of Region 5 to continue interactions with each other in-between regional events as well. This portal will contain certain features, as outlines on the right, which will allow all student reps and IEEE student members to effectively communicate with each other on a regular basis. What is more interesting is that this portal will be designed and built by students themselves!

I am very excited about the rest of the year and to have activities in the local section and the region over summer. In my home section, St. Louis, we are already discussing about activities over the summer. We will also be starting a pilot web portal for the section which will be eventually expanded for the region. If you or anyone in your section or branch is interested in helping out with the project please contact Dr. Watkins or me about this. (See the next page for more information on the portal project.)

***********************************************************************

Conference Travel Reimbursements: The reimbursements from the April conference are being processed and will be sent to the addresses you provided on the form. Please have someone check your branch mail during the summer if that is the address you provided.
2010 IEEE REGION 5 STUDENT AWARDS
IEEE Region 5 recognized the following in their awards program for 2010.

- Outstanding Educator: Frank L. Lewis
  University of Texas at Arlington
- Outstanding Student Branch (>50): Washington University
- Outstanding Student Branch (≤50): University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Outstanding Student: Jeffrey Feiereisen
  Washington University
- Outstanding Student Branch Counselor: Ovidiu Crisan, University of Houston

WEBPORTAL FOR REGION 5 STUDENT COMMUNITY
The webportal will serve as a platform for building up interactions between students of the Region 5 IEEE community. Following features are aimed to be included in the final version of the web portal:

- Forums: for initiating discussions on a specific topic of interest to the region students.
- Blogs: motivated students can share their ideas and experience by having a blog on the portal.
- RSS feeds: latest information from the region can be automatically put on the student branch website by RSS feeds.
- IM: using instant messaging students can have real-time chats with each other.
- My account: students can create and save their information of interest using my account.

Anil Mehta, R5 SR

2010 IEEE REGION 5 STUDENT CONTESTS
Students participated in several contests at the Region 5 Meeting. The contest results are listed below:

- Student Papers:
  1st – Garret LaBove, Lamar University
  2nd – Steven Bell, OK Christian Univ.
  3rd – Angela Oguna, Univ. of Kansas
- Robotics:
  1st – University of Houston (Team 1)
  2nd – Oklahoma State University
  3rd – Louisiana Tech University and University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Circuit Design:
  1st – Arie Wax and Cliff Schecht
  Texas Tech University
  2nd – Nathan West and Xu Chen
  Oklahoma Christian University
  3rd – Peiran Xu and Michael Giardino
  University of New Orleans
- Student Ethics:
  1st – Alex Marquardt and Chad Nesmith
  Louisiana Tech University
  2nd – Caroline Fernandez and Jeremiah O’Driscoll
  Washington University in St. Louis
  3rd – Sky Schoggins and Aaron Stroman
  Texas Tech University
- CCET/IEEE Design Contest:
  1st – Gerardo Trevino, Jeremy Halbardier, Olakunle Sosanya, and Javier Guerrero
  University of Texas at San Antonio
  2nd – Mike Ward, Aaron Brown, and Roman Reyes
  Lamar University
- RAB Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award: Ritabrata Das
  Louisiana State University
- R5 Nominee for Student Branch Website Contest: University of New Orleans
  http://ieee.uno.edu
  Garrett Fried, Website Contact

Congratulations all!
3RD ANNUAL IEEE REGION 5 / CCET STUDENT DESIGN CONTEST

Smart Grid Student Design Contest
The Center for the Commercialization of Electric Technology (CCET) and Region 5 of the IEEE is sponsoring their next student design contest which features technology design needs by the electric utility industry to facilitate implementation of the smart grid in combination with green technology. Unlike the previous two years where the same design was open to both undergraduates and graduate students, the 2010-2011 contest will include separate designs for both student competition levels. The undergraduate design will be a home energy management device to optimize energy flows in homes equipped with renewable energy (e.g., solar) and some form of storage (e.g., batteries) to take advantage of real-time electricity pricing. The graduate level design is being developed and is expected to either include solutions to a smart meter problem (automatic phase detection) or the application of synchrophasor technology for integration of wind energy in the Texas market. Both topics are of interest to CCET’s utility and high technology vendor members. More information can be found on the CCET website (www.electrictechnologycenter.com).

Awards and Schedule for both Undergraduate and Graduate Competition Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash prize 1st place</td>
<td>$2000</td>
<td>$2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash prize 2nd place</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>See above</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration deadline</td>
<td>Oct. 15, 2010</td>
<td>Oct. 15, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winners announced</td>
<td>March 10, 2011</td>
<td>March 10, 2011</td>
</tr>
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In addition to the trophies and cash awards, the winning teams may have an opportunity to work with industry in further demonstrating and commercializing their designs. The winning design of the 2009-2010 (UT San Antonio) have been invited to install their design in CCET’s smart grid demonstration project near Houston. The same opportunity exists for the winners of the 2010-2011 contest.

Background to 2010-2011 IEEE/CCET Undergraduate Contest
The 3rd annual IEEE/CCET undergraduate student design contest seeks a technological solution for the increasing number of home and business owners who have solar photovoltaic (PV) rooftop panels (or other renewable energy sources) and a form of storage (e.g. batteries) and who desire the capability of selling excess power back to the utility. A device is desired to automatically discharge power when RTP rates are high, and store power when RTP rates are low.

The cost of providing electricity to consumers varies considerably—sometimes tenfold—between low-cost nighttime periods and high-cost afternoon periods (especially in summer months). However, at present nearly all residential consumers are charged a flat rate (x number of cents per kWh) in the electricity retail market. With the advent of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), “smart meters” being deployed in residences and small commercial buildings will enable utilities to charge their customers at rates that reflect the actual cost of producing and distributing the power. This is called real time pricing (RTP). At issue is how consumers can take advantage of these rates without having to constantly monitor prices and make adjustments manually.

This year’s contest seeks the paper design for the described device and an economic analysis to evaluate its cost effectiveness for a hypothetical customer in a market with an actual set of retail utility tariffs using five-minute real-time pricing signals. This year’s contest requires not only the power electronics skill set,
but also an understanding of engineering economics, design optimization and the ability to make a business case for this proposed smart grid system of interoperable devices. Hence, we are encouraging (but not requiring) engineering students to team up with their counterparts in the school of business or economics.

General Description of Undergraduate Contest
Contestants will prepare a paper that includes engineering design and economic analysis of a residential energy system that includes a renewable energy source (e.g. PV and wind), an electrical energy storage device (battery, flywheel, supercapacitor, etc.), and an energy management system to minimize the cost of energy in a real-time-pricing market by charging or discharging the storage device. A successful design must emphasize user safety, leverage applicable industry standards, support a viable business case (renewable energy credits may be considered or even recommended), and perform a sensitivity study to optimize the system components.

Judging Criteria for Undergraduate Design Proposals

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<th>Value</th>
<th>Criteria Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Creativity/Innovation, Quality of Design of Residential Management System</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Safety and Standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Renewable Energy Contribution Analysis based on Weather Data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Engineering Economic Decision Making analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Quality of Presentation</td>
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</table>

Graduate Contest
The theme and description of the graduate student design contest will be available soon at the CCET website.

For more information see CCET website (www.electrictechnologycenter.com). Contest coordinators are Dr. Steve E. Watkins (IEEE) and Bob Davis (CCET).

The Center for the Commercialization of Electric Technologies (CCET) was created in 2005 by the electric industry and technologies companies. CCET is made up of 21 Texas electric and high tech companies joined with five universities in a collaborative effort to modernize the Texas electric system. CCET’s purposes are to encourage private sector initiatives that promote growth in high-quality employment and to lead to scientific breakthroughs in the operation of the Texas electric system. CCET strives to develop and capture the benefits of advancing technologies in electric energy transmission, distribution, and end use by bringing together the extensive existing facilities and technological capabilities of electric utilities, high technology leaders, and Texas universities and colleges.
R5 Director-Elect Message

I hope your semester is off to a good start whether it is your first or final and your IEEE student branch is active. My first exposure to IEEE was as a student and I have been a member for almost 40 years. I recall PE license study groups and Control Theory Proceedings supporting evening graduate school. As Region 5 Director elect and IEEE-USA VP for Government Relations I have seen the enthusiasm and value that student members bring to activities.

I am especially interested in Professional Activities like career management, resumes, entrepreneurship, teamwork, and leadership. I encourage you to plan a Student Professional Awareness Conference or joint events with sponsoring sections. I am also interested in Public Policy and know it will affect all of us so we need to take time to understand and influence it.

Student members who are moving into their full professional lives are a critical focus for membership and the value of IEEE.

James A. “Jim” Jefferies, R5 Director
R5 Director-Elect, Colorado

Direct comments and contributions for this newsletter to steve.e.watkins@ieee.org
Make plans to attend and participate in the 2011 Region 5 Meeting

The regional IEEE meeting is April 16-17 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It includes a business session for Region 5 leaders and a host of student events.

- S-PAC organized by the local student branch
- Branch Officer and Counselor Leadership Workshop
- Student Robotics Team Competition – the theme involves energy harvesting by the robot competitors. The rules are posted!
- Student Papers Competition – local contests will start in January with area contests in February. The finalists compete at the Region Meeting.
- Circuit Design Team Competition
- Student Ethics Team Competition
- Winners of the IEEE/CCET Design Contests will be recognized
- Winners of Region 5 Awards will be recognized – Awards include Outstanding Educator, Outstanding Large Student Branch, Outstanding Small Student Branch, Outstanding Student, Outstanding Student Branch Counselor, RAB Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Recipient, and Nominee for R5 Student Branch Website; nominations will be accepted early next year!

The website is www.r5conferences.org.

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2010 Green Technical Conference: Paper submissions are open until November 1, 2010 for the conference held immediately before the Region 5 Meeting. Solicited topical areas include energy generation and storage technologies, energy usage, sustainable design, smart grid, and protection of the environment. Accepted papers will be presented at the Baton Rouge, LA venue and will be published on a conference proceedings CD as well as available through the digital IEEEXplore. The website is www.ieeegreentech.org.
Opportunities for S-PAC’s & S-PAVs

As the new semester begins, it is often hard to think of fresh ideas for events at your school. One thing to consider to lessen the stress in your plans for this school year is to hold a student professional awareness activity. Now, that may sound like a mouthful but it is not as scary as it might seem. Student Professional Awareness Conferences (S-PACs) are structured events organized by student branches in which students listen to experienced engineers from diverse backgrounds and discuss topics from the six critical professional development categories (career growth, working, professional ethics and social responsibility, self-management, engineers and public policy, and the importance of professional society to you). S-PACs normally involve presentation(s) and panel sessions. The travel for a keynote speaker from the S-PAC national speaker database is funded by the IEEE-USA Student Professional Awareness Committee.

Another type of even is a Student Professional Awareness Venture (S-PAVe). S-PAVes are projects or activities organized by IEEE Student Branches to develop an awareness of engineering professionalism. S-PAVes are generally focused on one professional development category and do not have to be a conference format. These leave more room for creativity in structure and general areas of focus (business etiquette dinners, networking skills). When holding an S-PAVe, student branches may submit funding proposal requests to the Student Professional Awareness Activities Chair in lieu of a speaker as provided for S-PACs.

More information on these types of events can be found at www.ieeeusa.org/committees/spac/. On the website you can also find contact information for the region coordinator and support coordinators to help you throughout the planning process. So what are you waiting for? Think S-PAC!

Nicole L. Halper,
IEEE-USA S-PAC Committee

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IEEEXTREME 24-HOUR PROGRAMMING COMPETITION

Registration Deadline: October 8
Competition Date: October 23

The IEEEXtreme Programming Competition 4.0 is an online programming competition in which teams of up to three IEEE student members can test their collective coding expertise against other teams around the world and against the clock.

In 2009, 14 R5 teams participated and the University of North Texas placed in the top 25 worldwide. For 2010, only 4 R5 teams have registered. Do not miss your chance to have bragging rights as the top coders in R5.

See: www.ieee.org/xtreme

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EVENTS, HAPPENINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

3rd Annual IEEE Region 5 / CCET Student Design Contest

Registration Deadline: October 15, 2010

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EVENTS, HAPPENINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

2011 WISE Program

Nomination Deadline: December 31, 2010

IEEE-USA is a sponsoring society for the Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE) program. Outstanding engineering students are selected to spend nine weeks during the summer in Washington, D.C. learning about the public policy process, especially as it related to technical issues. The WISE program is ranked as one of the best internship opportunities in the U.S. by the Princeton Review. For information see the WISE website www.wise-intern.org.

2011 NCEES Engineering Award

Nomination Deadline: May 16, 2011

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) sponsors the NCEES Engineering Award. This award recognizes engineering programs that promote collaboration between students and licensed professional engineers. Each year a $25,000 Grand Prize goes to the winning school or department. Five $7,5000 winners are also recognized. More information can be found at www.engineeringaward.com.

IEEE Online Student Branch Reporting

Activity Report Deadline: May 2011

Annual activity reports and branch officer reporting can be done online at the IEEE student concourse. www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/students/index.html.

5th Conference on Innovative Systems

Conference: November 4-6, 2010

Southern Illinois University (SIU) Carbondale will host the 5th Annual Conference on Innovative Systems. The SIUIS event includes tutorials, workshops, professional activities as well as showcase seminars from industry researchers and entrepreneurs. Deemed as “Southern Illinois’ Premier Professional Networking Event,” networking among students in technology, science, and business and leaders in the profession will be emphasized. Students can participate in a project showcase, a student paper competition, and a poster competition. Some travel monies are available for those with accepted extended abstracts. Contact Anil Mehta at anil@siu.edu or see innovativeystems.siu.edu.

Region 5 Web Portal for Students
Interested students can contact Anil Mehta at anil@siu.edu. Updates in futures issues.
LEADERSHIP: BUSINESS MEETINGS

STEVE E. WATKINS

Running meetings and participating in deliberative decision-making are important aspects of leadership. A student leader in IEEE, you gain practice in such leadership skills through the normal operation of the student branch and you see these skills in practice at section and region business meetings as well. Formal business meetings operate according to defined rules and informal deliberative meetings or discussions generally follow consensus rules. For professional organizations such as IEEE and many of the other organizations, formal rules are set forth in governing documents as following Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised or Robert’s Rules of Order (latest revision) and are known as parliamentary procedure. Our governing documents specify this source for the conduct of business “at meetings of the IEEE Board of Directors, Major Boards, Standing Committees, and other organizational units …”

Rules of parliamentary procedure may be intimidating to some due to unfamiliarity and specialized terminology. However, some basic knowledge of how the rules are setup can assist in learning the details and practicing their use. The intent of parliamentary procedure is to provide a balance of efficiency, fairness, and deliberation for transacting business (making decisions) and governing a group. The rules must be specified in advance or meetings can easily degenerate into arguments of “how” to conduct business rather than conducting the business itself. As Henry Martyn Robert, the author of the first edition (1876) of Robert’s Rules of Order, said, “Where there is no law, but every man does what is right in his own eyes, there is the least of real liberty.”

Three basic principles guide the parliamentary practice as defined by Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised. They are:

- Debate, decision-making, etc. are transacted in an orderly and open manner,
- Final decisions are based on majority rules with few exceptions, and
- All participants have the right to be heard and to participate equally.

These principles are an expression of formal practice and are the basis of consensus expectations in informal settings. For instance, a group decision to limit debate on a proposed motion requires a supermajority of two-thirds. Minority participant’s rights to be heard are being balanced with the need to eventually reach a decision if the majority agrees. However, the adoption of the proposed motion would only require a majority vote. Again, the intent is a balance of efficiency, fairness, and deliberation.

The systemic approach of Robert achieved widespread success and adoption. Through a family trust and the Robert’s Rules Association, the system has been updated and a copyright maintained on a current, official version titled Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised. It is currently in its tenth edition. The website for this version is www.robertsrules.com. A common practice is to have governing documents of a civic organization include a statement such as,

“The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Society and these standing rules.”

The organization can then keep its documents focused on issues tailored to its purposes and desires while having generic procedures specified by a well-defined and readily available source.

As you conduct your student branch business, gain familiarity with this form of parliamentary procedure. It is an important part of your education as a leader.

Dr. Steve E. Watkins is an IEEE Senior Member and the Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator.
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IEEE REGION 5
STUDENT ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER
January 2011

SAC Message
Welcome to 2011. The Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) is an important professional resource for your career. Take advantage of student membership to explore technical areas, to develop skills, and to start a professional network. Region 5, in partnership with your local section and student branch, provides technical and professional support.

The Region 5 meeting provides many opportunities for you and your branch. Student awards, student competitions, and leadership training are all featured. Every branch should be represented.

I am the Student Activities Coordinator or SAC for Region 5 and my assistant is Anil Mehta, the Student Representative or SR. We are the regional contacts for the student branches and the GOLD organizations. Let us know if you have concerns or questions.

Steve E. Watkins, R5 SAC
Professor of ECE and Associate Chair
Missouri University of Science & Technology
(formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla)

Anil Mehta, R5 SR
PhD Candidate in Engineering Sciences
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadlines, Events, and Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGION 5 STUDENT ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (SAC)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Steve E. Watkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri University of S&amp;T</td>
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<tr>
<td>573-341-6321</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:steve.e.watkins@ieee.org">steve.e.watkins@ieee.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REGION 5 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Anil Mehta</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Illinois University Carbondale</td>
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<tr>
<td>618-203-4655</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:anil@siu.edu">anil@siu.edu</a></td>
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</table>
SR Message
I am leading two efforts to assist the student branches. The first is a Region 5 IEEE Student Blog. The region wants to support an online presence for student members to interact and share common IEEE experience. Volunteers are needed to help develop this resource. The second effort is to create a quick reference student manual to supplement the comprehensive IEEE Student Manual. We hope that this resource will assist new student leaders as they learn their duties. Volunteers are desired to develop this reference guide.

We are also planning to create a Facebook presence for Region 5 Students. More on this effort in the future.

If interested in assisting with any of these efforts, contact SR Anil Mehta at anil@siu.edu

IEEE Computer Society Contest
The registration deadline for the IEEE Computer Society Computer Design and Simulator Competition is 14 February 2011. The design aim is an architecture that can be used to support the teaching of computer architecture. Information is given at www.computer.org/portal/web/competition.

IEEE R5 History Chair
Is your chapter interested in a talk on a historical topic? If so, consider inviting the new Region 5 History Chair, Prof. Jonathan Coopersmith. A historian of technology at Texas A&M University, Coopersmith is currently writing a book on the rise and fall of the fax machine. The region may be able to pay some of his travel expenses. If interested, contact him at j-coopersmith@tamu.edu

2011 Region 5 Business Meeting and Student Contests
The Region 5 IEEE Annual Meeting and Student Conference is 15-16 April in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Activities include an S-PAC on Friday, Student Contests on Friday and Saturday, and Student Leadership and Branch Counselor Training on Saturday as well. The Annual IEEE Region 5 Business Meeting and Awards Banquet are also on Saturday. Early registration is recommended for attendance and activity registration is required for most of the student events. One should register for the hotel first and obtain a discount code for the conference registration. Early registration for attendance is 15 March 2011, but do not delay. Each student event has a separate registration. Continental Airlines and American Airlines offer discounts for conference travel. Please visit the website at http://www.r5conferences.org for details.

Reimbursements: Student branches are eligible to receive support for participation in the training workshops and some contests. Instructions and a form are available on the website.

For questions concerning Student Activities at the conference, please contact the Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Steve E. Watkins at 573-341-6321 or steve.e.watkins@ieee.org.
2011 IEEE REGION 5 AWARDS
CALL for NOMINATIONS
IEEE Region 5 is accepting nominations for the following awards.

#001 Outstanding Large Section
(>500 members)

#002 Outstanding Small Section
(≤500 members)

#003 Outstanding Member

#004 Outstanding Educator

#005 Outstanding Large Student Branch
(>50 members)

#006 Outstanding Small Student Branch
(≤50 members)

#007 Outstanding Student

#008 Outstanding Student Branch Counselor

#009 Outstanding Large Company
(>500 employees)

#010 Outstanding Small Company
(≤500 employees)

#012 Outstanding GOLD Member

#013 Outstanding Individual Achievement Award (up to 5 individuals)

A short description of each award and nomination forms can be obtained from the IEEE Region 5 Community https://www.ieee.org/ieee.region5 under the Award Info – Region 5 tab.

Please send nominations to the Region 5 Awards Committee Chair, Terry Martin, t.martin@ieee.org. Please address any question to the Awards Committee Chair at 479-575-6011 or t.martin@ieee.org.

The nominations deadline is 15 February 2011.

2011 IEEE REGION 5 STUDENT CONTESTS
Students may participate in several contest at the Region 5 Meeting. These opportunities are listed at the conference website http://www.r5conferences.org. Each contest has a separate registration (see the calendar and website for dates). However, early registration is encouraged to help in setting up the facilities. The contests are listed below:

- Student Papers – The Region 5 Contest consists of the winners of the Area Contests.
- Robotics – Team competition requiring much advanced preparation. Early registration strongly recommended.
- Circuit Design – Teams of two address a circuit design problem. All work is on-site. Early registration is strongly recommended.
- Student Ethics – Teams of two analyze a hypothetical ethic situation. All work is done on-site.
- CCET/IEEE Design – Student address a system design task. Awards are made at the meeting.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP
Branch leaders, members, and counselors get training in branch operations and activities at the Region 5 Meeting. All branches are strongly encouraged to participate with at least one officer and the branch counselor.

BRANCH TRAVEL SUPPORT
Partial travel support is available for branch officers and counselors attending the leadership workshop and for the design team. Also, the papers finalists are reimbursed for travel. Specific requests must be made for the reimbursement.
IEEE Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award

Request the nomination form at steve.e.watkins@ieee.org.
Award Nominations and Endorsement Letters must be sent electronically to Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Steve E. Watkins at steve.e.watkins@ieee.org.

Deadline: 1 March 2011
(Note that this is a different process and deadline than the R5 Awards shown on Page 3.)

Taken from http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/students/awards/larrykwilson.html

The purpose of this award is to recognize annually, in each Region of the IEEE, the student member most responsible for an extraordinary accomplishment associated with student activities. The value of a pattern of dedicated, ongoing service to a Student Branch, Student Branch Chapter is certainly recognized. However, this award is designed to reward a particular event, program or product of IEEE activities.

The student most responsible for a worthy accomplishment may be nominated by a Branch Counselor, Section Chair, Section SAC Chair or other IEEE volunteers. The nominator(s) shall complete a nomination form and forward it to the Regional Student Activities Chair (RSAC). Nominees must be Student members of the IEEE at the time of the accomplishment. The incumbent Regional Student Representative (RSR) is ineligible.

The nominations will be judged by a committee appointed by the Regional Director or his/her designee (RSAC). This regional committee will be responsible for establishing guidelines for judging, while maintaining fairness, objectivity, and high standards. Student nominees will be judged primarily on the impact of their accomplishment on the quality of student activities within the Region and the IEEE as a whole. If no nominations of sufficient stature are made, no award will be given for that year. Only one award per region will be presented each year.

This award consists of a customized award plaque and three years complimentary membership in the IEEE. Presentation of the award will be arranged by the Regional Director at an appropriate Regional occasion. The results will also be published Institute-wise at the earliest opportunity. The nomination form is available. The deadline varies in each Region. If you need more information, you can contact IEEE Student Services or your RSAC. This award is sponsored by the IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Board (MGA).

Region 5 Nominee for IEEE Student Branch Web Site Contest

For contest information see http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/students/awards/site_contest.html

Student Branch Web Site Address and submission information (names, contact information, and IEEE member numbers for Branch Counselor, Branch President, and Branch Webmaster) must be sent electronically to Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Steve E. Watkins at steve.e.watkins@ieee.org.

Deadline: 1 March 2011

One Region 5 nominee will be selected for the international competition.
Retiring SAC Message

Welcome to 2012. IEEE Region 5 provides many opportunities and resources for student members. An important event is the upcoming meeting and contests. Student awards, student competitions, and leadership training are all featured. Every branch should be represented.

I have enjoyed working with the students and branches of Region 5 as the Student Activities Coordinator for the last two years. I am pleased to pass these responsibilities to Dr. Anil Mehta who served ably as my Student Representative. Assisting him will be your new student representative (SR), David C. Macke, Jr. You are in good hands.

My new responsibilities in Region 5 are as Government Activities Chair. If any of you have an interest in Public Policy, please let me know. In particular there are opportunities for students to participate in our Congressional Visit Days.

Steve E. Watkins (steve.e.watkins@ieee.org)

New Student Activities Coordinator (SAC)

Anil Mehta, R5 SAC
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Direct comments and contributions for this newsletter to anilmehta@ieee.org

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<tr>
<td><strong>23 February</strong></td>
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<td><strong>20-21 April</strong></td>
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REGION 5 STUDENT ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR (SAC)

Anil Mehta
Southern Illinois University Carbondale
618-203-4655
anilmehta@ieee.org

REGION 5 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE (SR)

David C. Macke, Jr.
Missouri University of S&T
314-602-1540
david.c.macke.jr@ieee.org
SR Message
First off, I would like to welcome you to 2012. I am taking over the IEEE Student Representative position from Anil Mehta for Region 5. Anil has moved to the new Student Activities Coordinator (SAC) for Region 5. As SR, I will work on some projects Anil started and introduce a few ideas of my own.

I joined IEEE in 2010 when I began to rejuvenate the Missouri S&T AESS Student Branch. I also became a member of the Missouri S&T Student Branch. Since joining IEEE I have started a project working with fully autonomous unmanned aerial vehicles.

I hope all IEEE Students get involved with the Region 5 Conference in Tulsa, OK. In future newsletters I will detail some ideas for connecting all the student branches.

David C. Macke, Jr., R5 SR
EE Student at Missouri University of S&T
(formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla)
david.c.macke.jr@ieee.org

Interesting Facts
President of IEEE AESS Chapter at Missouri S&T
Chief Engineer for UAV Competition Team

2012 Region 5 Business Meeting and Student Contests
The Region 5 IEEE Annual Meeting and Student Conference is 20-21 April in Tulsa, OK. Student activities include an S-PAC on Friday, Student Contests on Saturday, and Student Leadership and Branch Counselor Training on Saturday. The Annual IEEE Region 5 Business Meeting and Awards Banquet are also on Saturday. Registration for the Region 5 meeting and the Green Conference are separate and each student event has a separate registration.

Early registration is recommended for both meeting attendance and student activities/events. Early registration for meeting attendance and the hotel room block ends in Mid-March; see the website for the exact date. The web site is http://www.r5conferences.org.

Reimbursements: Student branches are eligible to receive support for participation in the training workshops and some contests. Instructions and a form are available on the website.

For questions concerning Student Activities at the conference, please contact the Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Anil Mehta at 618-203-4655 or anilmeh@ieee.org.

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IEEEEXTreme Programming Competition 2011
Region 5 was well represented in the IEEEEXTreme Programming Competition. A total of 30 teams competed from Region 5 and a total of 1515 teams competed in the world. The top teams in Region 5 were the Hegahurtz from the University of Texas at Austin (1st in R5 and 59th in the world), RockstarCS from the University of Houston (2nd in R5 and 80th in the world), and Quiyobes from Letourneau University (3rd in R5 and 93rd in the world). Congratulations all!
2012 IEEE REGION 5 STUDENT CONTESTS

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- #004 Outstanding Educator
- #005 Outstanding Large Student Branch (>50 members)
- #006 Outstanding Small Student Branch (≤50 members)
- #007 Outstanding Student
- #008 Outstanding Student Branch Counselor
- #009 Outstanding Large Company (>500 employees)
- #010 Outstanding Small Company (≤500 employees)
- #012 Outstanding GOLD Member
- #013 Outstanding Individual Achievement Award (up to 5 individuals)

A short description of each award and nomination forms can be obtained from the IEEE Region 5 Community [https://www.ieeecommunities.org/ieee.region5](https://www.ieeecommunities.org/ieee.region5) under the Award Info – Region 5 tab.

For questions and to send nominations contact Region 5 Awards Committee Chair, Ruby Mehrubeoglu, at 361-815-8416 or [ruby.mehrubeoglu@ieee.org](mailto:ruby.mehrubeoglu@ieee.org).

The nominations deadline is **23 February 2012.**
IEEE Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award
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Request the nomination form at anilmehta@ieee.org.
Award Nominations and Endorsement Letters must be sent electronically to Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Anil Mehta at 618-203-4655 or anilmehta@ieee.org.

**Deadline: 1 March 2012**
(Note that this is a different process and deadline than the R5 Awards shown on Page 3.)
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Taken from http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/students/awards/larrykwilson.html

The purpose of this award is to recognize annually, in each Region of the IEEE, the student member most responsible for an extraordinary accomplishment associated with student activities. The value of a pattern of dedicated, ongoing service to a Student Branch, Student Branch Chapter is certainly recognized. However, this award is designed to reward a particular event, program or product of IEEE activities.

The student most responsible for a worthy accomplishment may be nominated by a Branch Counselor, Section Chair, Section SAC Chair or other IEEE volunteers. The nominator(s) shall complete a nomination form and forward it to the Regional Student Activities Chair (RSAC). Nominees must be Student members of the IEEE at the time of the accomplishment. The incumbent Regional Student Representative (RSR) is ineligible.

The nominations will be judged by a committee appointed by the Regional Director or his/her designee (RSAC). This regional committee will be responsible for establishing guidelines for judging, while maintaining fairness, objectivity, and high standards. Student nominees will be judged primarily on the impact of their accomplishment on the quality of student activities within the Region and the IEEE as a whole. If no nominations of sufficient stature are made, no award will be given for that year. Only one award per region will be presented each year.

This award consists of a customized award plaque and three years complimentary membership in the IEEE. Presentation of the award will be arranged by the Regional Director at an appropriate Regional occasion. The results will also be published Institute-wise at the earliest opportunity. The nomination form is available. The deadline varies in each Region. If you need more information, you can contact IEEE Student Services or your RSAC. This award is sponsored by the IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Board (MGA).

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Region 5 Nominee for IEEE Student Branch Web Site Contest
For contest information see http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/students/awards/site_contest.html
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Student Branch Web Site Address and submission information (names, contact information, and IEEE member numbers for Branch Counselor, Branch President, and Branch Webmaster) must be sent electronically to Region 5 Student Activities Coordinator, Dr. Anil Mehta at 618-203-4655 or anilmehta@ieee.org.

**Deadline: 1 March 2012**
One Region 5 nominee will be selected for the international competition.
MESSAGE FROM THE NEW SAC

Welcome to year 2012! With this year we bid farewell to 2011 and to some of our excellent officers in our R5 board, we welcome some in different capacity and others in different committees and boards. Now matter where our past officers go, we know they are still part of our IEEE family and will continue to take IEEE’s cause forward as will IEEE support their aims and aspirations. On such officer is Dr. Steve E. Watkins, our past SAC and now serving for next 2 years as our Government affairs officer. I want to thank Dr. Watkins for his service as SAC, for being my mentor and for his numerous years of service as an IEEE member and officer.

Steve E. Watkins, R5 SAC
Professor of ECE and Associate Chair
Missouri University of Science & Technology
(formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla)

My name is Anil Mehta, your RSR for the past 2 years, and now starting this year I will be your SAC. As you are all aware, I will have big boots of Dr. Watkins to fill, and I ask for your support and your ingenuity in taking IEEE R5 forward as the same pace it has been in the last 2 years. I am happy to be serving again on this board, and to have Dr. Watkins still on the board and continuing as our student competitions chair and the ethics contest chair for our regional meeting coming up in April this year. I am excited about our activities this year and for the year to follow and believe there is a lot this great board and region will achieve for IEEE and its members in these 2 years.

Steve E. Watkins, R5 SAC
CEO, Advanced Energy Solutions, Group Inc

I also want to thank our past SPAC coordinator, Sedofia Gedzah, for his excellent service and dedication to the region and the board. You may know Sedofia as the person who traveled all over the region to encourage you and your chapter to do SPAC. His services will be missed, but I am glad to welcome Nicole Skarke, Sedofia’s aid from last year, as our new SPAC coordinator.

Sedofia Gedzah, Past, SPAC coordinator and Senior Engineer, Lockheed Martin

Finally, I will like to welcome our new RSR for the region, David Macke, a senior in Electrical Engineering from Missouri Science and Technology University.

Continuation of existing efforts such as the webportal for collaboration for Region 5.
In continuation of our previous activities we will be forging ahead with creating a portal for the R5 in addition to adding to our social media presence.

Example of IEEE R5’s future web portal.

The web portal will serve as a platform for building up interactions between students of the Region 5 IEEE community. Following features are aimed to be included in the final version of the web portal:

1. Forums: for initiating discussions on a specific topic of interest to the region students.

2. Blogs: motivated students can share their ideas and experience by having a blog on the portal.

3. RSS feeds: latest information from the region can be automatically put on the student branch website by RSS feeds.

4. IM: using instant messaging students can have real-time chats with each other.

5. My account: students can create and save their information of interest using my account.

We are also looking to expand our social media presence. R5 created a Facebook page under my term as an RSR. I urge you and your colleagues to please visit us online at our Facebook address https://www.facebook.com/pages/IEEE-R5-students/168720153177631?sk=wall.

We further aim to form many committees under the SAC which will help enhance the overall reach, online presence, R5 student involvement and convincing your colleagues who have not joined IEEE and R5 yet, to become members.

Please contact me, anil.mehta@ieee.org or my assistant an RSR of R5 David Macke at david.c.macke.jr@ieee.org for becoming part of any committee under SAC.

We look forward to your help in spreading the message of IEEE to your peers and also look forward to your participating in the various competitions and activities R5 has to offer in the next 4 months in your region.

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