

## Highlights

Section's Congress  
Awards and Scholarships

## Upcoming

NECEC 2002 Conference  
Annual General Meeting



A Newsletter of the Newfoundland and Labrador IEEE Section, Volume 02, No. 2, Nov 2002

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### NECEC 2002

**Wednesday, Nov 13, 2002**

**Location:** Holiday Inn, St. John's

As we go to press the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Newfoundland Electrical and Computer Engineering Conference (NECEC 2002) is shaping up to be a resounding success. It is a great testimony to the strength and diversity of the research and development community in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The aim of NECEC 2002 is to provide a one-day forum where professionals in electrical, electronic, computer engineering and information technologies can present their work to the growing technical community within the province.

There are about forty technical papers to be presented in a broad range of areas. In addition, we have two distinguished guest speakers: Dr. Stewart Gendron, the President of Voisey's Bay Nickel Company Ltd will share some of his insights in the morning keynote address, and the luncheon presentation on the topic of ethics will be given by Dr. Wally Read, who is a long-time IEEE supporter and volunteer. Also at lunch, the Section will be introducing two new awards: the "NECEC 2002 Wally Read Best Student Paper Award"

and the "NECEC 2002 Wally Read Best Gold Paper Award", which will both be presented by Dr. Read. These awards are for the papers judged to be best that are primarily authored by student or GOLD (Graduate of the Last Decade) members of the IEEE.

NECEC's continued success depends upon the substantial effort contributed by volunteers. Jim Haynes of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro chaired the Organizing Committee, who, together with other helping hands, have put in many hours of effort to pull this together and we thank them.

We are also very thankful for the support from our many corporate sponsors, especially our Gold level sponsors: Gartner and Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, and from Memorial University of Newfoundland, which is a co-sponsor of this conference.

If you are a NECEC attendee, we hope that you enjoy the conference, and if you missed it this year, we encourage you to watch for and plan to attend NECEC 2003.

Proceeds from this event and past conferences are used to sponsor IEEE Scholarships, which are awarded to students in Terms III and VI of the Electrical Engineering or Computer Engineering program at MUN.

Registration information, as scheduled presentations, other conference details

and information on the IEEE Scholarship can be viewed on-line at

<http://www.ieee.nfld.net/NECEC02/>

**NF & Lab IEEE Section Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

**Thursday, December 5, 2002**

**Location:** S.J. Carew Building, MUN

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. start

The IEEE Newfoundland & Labrador Section's Annual General Meeting will take place on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> in Room 4002 of the Engineering Building at Memorial University.

We've planned a quick tour of the Memorial University IEEE Student Branch's McNaughton Centre, The McNaughton Centre is a self-managed learning resource area where the equipment was obtained by the students through fundraising and matching grants from the IEEE Canadian Foundation.

As always, refreshments will be served following the meeting. So, why not take a few hours out from the hectic pre-Christmas rush to relax and socialize over some wine and cheese with your fellow engineers.

**Note:** Attending technical meetings normally qualifies as "Informal Activity" for the purposes of the APEGN professional development program.

## RECENT EVENTS

### **Section's Congress October 18-21, 2002 Washington, D.C.**

The triennial Sections Congress is the only gathering of the grassroots leadership of the IEEE worldwide. This year it was held in Washington, DC, from October 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Dennis Peters and Mike Janes attended on behalf of the Newfoundland and Labrador Section and Gerard Dunphy from our section attended in his role as Professional Development chair for IEEE Canada. The Congress offered many training opportunities designed to educate attendees on becoming better Section and Region Officers and provided an opportunity for IEEE volunteers to discuss issues and solutions with each other as well as with appropriate IEEE staff and executive.

In addition to the training of current and future IEEE leaders, each Region (Canada is Region 7 of ten Regions throughout the world) made four recommendations for improving IEEE. At the closing ceremony, all recommendations from the ten Regions were presented to the assembled delegates who prioritized them. In November, the Regional Activities Board and the IEEE Executive Committee will review the prioritized list, which is available on the Sections Congress website <http://www.ieee.org/sc>. The IEEE Executive Committee will assign the recommendation to organizational units for action with obvious emphasis on the higher priority recommendations.

Just prior to the Sections Congress, Region 7 (IEEE Canada) held its semi-annual meeting to discuss activities and developments relevant to the individual Sections within Canada as well as IEEE Canada as a whole. Dennis was pleased to report that we continue to have a vibrant Section and highlighted some of the activities that we are involved with this year; most notably, NECEC 2002.

One of the more important developments on the Region 7 front this year relates to finances. IEEE (worldwide) had a

US\$356K deficit. This shortfall was resolved by reducing the annual rebate to the ten Regions. Region 7's portion was approximately US\$26K (\$40K Canadian). This clawback should not have any impact on Region 7 operations. It will result in a reduction to Region 7 reserves by \$40K. It is hoped that such a clawback on the rebate will be a one-time event.

In addition to the Region 7 meeting, there was also an Eastern Canada Council (ECC) meeting. The ECC consists of Sections east of, and including, Ottawa. At this meeting attendees discussed a number of topics including how the ECC could help the member Sections benefit by arranging for Distinguished Speaker to give presentations on topics of interest to the Sections and their members.

### **Geocenter Tour October 30, 2002 St. John's, NF**

Our fall schedule of technical meetings got off to a slow start but we have assembled a full slate of interesting and informative events for the remainder of the year.

Our first fall meeting was held Wednesday, October 30, when 14 members took part in a private guided tour of the Johnson GeoCentre, buried in the rocks of Signal Hill. This fascinating natural history museum focuses on the geology of Newfoundland & Labrador and the widely varied formations, fossils, minerals, and rocks which constitute "The Rock". The tour was followed by hors d'oeuvres and networking in the Quidi Vidireception room.

Of course, our flagship conference, NECEC 2002, is the highlight of November's activity.

Keep an eye on our website, [www.ieee.nfld.net](http://www.ieee.nfld.net) for details on technical activities taking place in the New Year. Everyone is encouraged to take a couple of hours and participate in the activities that the Section organizes. It's always an opportunity to learn and network with your local colleagues.

## AWARDS

The academic year 2001-2002 was a very productive one for our Section in terms of awards and scholarships. Local IEEE scholarships were awarded to a student member in each of Terms 3 and 6 of the Engineering program at Memorial University. On the national scene, the IEEE Exemplary Student Branch Award (Region 7) was received by the student branch of the Newfoundland and Labrador Section, and Dr. John Quaicow was the deserving recipient of the Outstanding Engineering Educator Award.

Since the last newsletter, we are very pleased to have learned of other national awards being received by members in this province. These awards are elaborated on below, and the Section extends well-deserved congratulations to the recipients.

### **Canadian Council of Professional Engineers' (CCPE) Gold Medal**

**Wallace Read**, former executive vice-president of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro, former President of IEEE, and a founding father of the IEEE Newfoundland & Labrador Section, has been awarded the *Canadian Council of Professional Engineers' (CCPE) Gold Medal*. This recognizes his exceptional individual achievement and distinction in a field of engineering.

### **IEEE Canadian Foundation Scholarship**

**Sheldon Andrews** has been awarded an *IEEE Canadian Foundation Scholarship* (formerly the *McNaughton Scholarship*) in recognition of his commitment to IEEE student activities. Sheldon has been intimately involved in all aspects of the local Student Branch since Term 3 of his Computer Engineering programme. In Term 3, he received the locally awarded IEEE scholarship, and his continued activities in the Student

Branch, coupled with high academic performance, made him an excellent candidate for the Canadian Foundation Scholarship. Sheldon is currently completing Term 6 and is the Student Branch Chair.

### ***Nominations Requested***

Over the years, the Newfoundland and Labrador Section has been successful in its nomination of members for a variety of IEEE awards. With a changing executive, it is important that the membership at large be aware of the many possibilities of becoming involved in the awards nomination process so that deserving members can continue to be recognized at the local, national and international levels of the organization. Should any of the readership be cognizant of individuals who would be suitable nominees for such honours, please email the local Scholarships and Awards Chairperson at [egill@engr.mun.ca](mailto:egill@engr.mun.ca) or phone 737-8922 (Eric Gill). Information about awards can be found at the following webpages:

*IEEE International:*  
<http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/>

*IEEE Canada :*  
<http://ewh.ieee.org/reg/7/awards/index.html>

## **PROJECT MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE**

Established in 1969 and headquartered outside Philadelphia, Pennsylvania USA, the Project Management Institute (PMI) <http://www.pmi.org/info/default.asp> is the world's leading not-for-profit project management professional association, with over 95,000 members in 125 countries worldwide. The Newfoundland & Labrador PMI Chapter <http://www.pmi.nfld.net/default.asp> received its Charter in March 2001 and now has 56 members. Individuals associated with project management can network with other professionals, share

ideas and experiences, access industry information, attend seminars and workshops and gain leadership experience through PMI.

PMI members are individuals practicing and studying project management in many different industry areas, including aerospace, automotive, business management, oil & gas, construction, engineering, financial services, information technology, pharmaceuticals and telecommunications. Over time, PMI has become, and continues to be, the leading professional association in project management. Members and project management stakeholders can take advantage of the extensive products and services offered through PMI.

PMI provides global leadership in the development of standards for the practice of the project management profession throughout the world. PMI's premier standards document, *A Guide to the Project Management Body of Knowledge (PMBOK® Guide)*, is a globally recognized standard for managing projects in today's marketplace.

Since 1984 PMI has been dedicated to developing and maintaining a rigorous, examination-based, professional certification program to advance the project management profession and to recognize the achievements of individuals in project management. PMI's Project Management Professional (PMP®) certification is the world's most recognized professional credential for individuals associated with project management. In 1999, PMI became the first organization in the world to have its Certification Program attain International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001 recognition. The Newfoundland & Labrador Chapter of PMI can help you receive your PMP, or if you already have it, they can help you keep your credits up.

We would like to invite you to join the tens of thousands of professionals worldwide who are taking advantage of the educational, networking and career advancement opportunities that PMI has to offer. As a member, you will benefit from member's only services and discounted rates on PMI products and

services. Please visit our website <http://www.pmi.nfld.net> to see how to become a member, or email us at [pmi@nfld.net](mailto:pmi@nfld.net)

### ***Newfoundland and Labrador PMI Chapter Invites You to a Dinner Meeting***

**Wednesday, November 20, 2002**

**Location:** Holiday Inn, St. John's

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. registration and networking (Cash Bar)

6:30 p.m. Dinner:

Fresh Garden Salad, Stuffed Chicken Breast, Croquette Potatoes, Buttered Broccoli, Glazed Carrots, Cheesecake, Strawberry Topping, Coffee/Tea

7:30 p.m. Introductions and Speaker

Cost (HST included): \$35 (Chapter Members), \$40 (Non-members)

**Topic:** Sources of Risk in Technical Projects: What You Can't See CAN Hurt You

Dennis Hanlon (Assistant Professor and Associate Chair at Memorial University's Faculty of Business Administration) will discuss an important new research study by Memorial University examining risk assessment in technology-driven firms.

He will share insights from in-depth interviews with 15 Newfoundland firms recently involved in technology commercialization projects.

In addition to learning about the types of risks encountered during these projects and the methods the firms employed to assess these risks, you'll leave the session with a better understanding of how to ask the right questions in your own firm.

Additional details on the meeting can be found at

[http://www.pmi.nfld.net/events/event\\_dinner\\_nov2002.asp](http://www.pmi.nfld.net/events/event_dinner_nov2002.asp).

# INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE (IEMC)

The IEEE local section has formed a planning committee to develop a proposal to host the International Engineering Management Conference (IEMC) in St. John's in September 2005.

This conference is intended for Engineering and Technology Manager practitioners who need to learn the state of the art in this field, and researchers in the field of Engineering and Technology Management who want to gain insight from these practitioners on the most compelling problems in the field and share their views with colleagues.

It is affiliated with the Engineering Management Society (EMS) of IEEE. The EMS Field of Interest encompasses the management sciences and technologies applicable to individuals and organizations in or over seeing the management of engineering or technology.

If you would like to find out more about IEMC, EMS, or become involved in planning activities, please contact either Charles Randell (Charles.Randell@core.ca) or Kathleen Chafe ([chafek@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:chafek@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)).

## McNaughton Centre Grant

The Memorial University IEEE Student Branch was recently awarded an upgrade grant for their McNaughton Centre. The total amount of the grant is \$3,400. It will go towards purchasing new equipment and software for the Centre including software for loudspeaker design.

# MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## Member-Get-A-Member (MGM) and Student-Get-A- Student (SGS) Campaigns

From September 1, 2002 through August 15, 2003, the IEEE is conducting its Member-Get-A-Member and Student-Get-A-Member campaigns. Introduce a friend or professional colleague or a fellow student, if you are an IEEE Student member, to the benefits of IEEE membership and earn yourself credit toward next year's membership or IEEE products.

For more information, please see <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/mgm.html>

## Senior Membership

### What are the Benefits of Senior Membership?

- The professional recognition of your peers for technical and professional excellence.
- An attractive fine wood and bronze engraved Senior Member plaque to proudly display.
- Up to \$25.00 gift certificate toward one new Society membership.
- A letter of commendation to your employer on the achievement of Senior member grade (upon the request of the newly elected Senior Member).
- Announcement of elevation in Section/Society and/or local newsletters, newspapers and notices.
- Can serve as Reference for Senior Member applicants.
- Invited to be on the panel to review Senior Member applications.

### Are You Eligible to Become a Senior Member?

Elevation to the senior membership grade is possible when the following hold true:

*"... a candidate shall be an engineer, scientist, educator, technical executive or originator in IEEE-designated fields. The candidate shall have been in professional practice for at least ten years and shall have shown significant performance over a period of at least five of those years."*

**IEEE-designated fields:** These fields of endeavor are defined by the areas of technical interest included in the 37 technical Societies/Councils that are part of IEEE. A list of IEEE technical Societies/Councils may be found at [www.ieee.org/society](http://www.ieee.org/society).

**Ten years of professional experience:** The Committee evaluating your application will count the years you have been in professional practice. Your educational experience is credited toward that time as follows:

- 3 years for a baccalaureate degree in an IEEE-designated field
- 4 years if you hold a baccalaureate and masters degree
- 5 years if you hold a doctorate

**Five years of significant performance:** Many prospective applicants make the mistake of assuming that "significant performance" requires special awards, patents or other extremely sophisticated technical accomplishments; such is not the case. Substantial job responsibilities such as team leader, task supervisor, engineer in charge of a program or project, engineer or scientist performing research with some measure of success (papers), or faculty developing and teaching courses with research and publications, all are indications of significant performance.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Any event notices, technical information, potential technical activities or suggestions and comments are welcome for Newsletter submission. Please e-mail any suggestion to [mike.janes@ieee.org](mailto:mike.janes@ieee.org) or contact any member of the Section Executive.