

Highlights

IEMC 2005 Conference
New Membership Benefits/Services
Awards

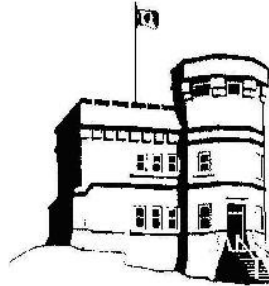
Upcoming

NECEC 2005 Conference
Officer Elections
Annual General Meeting



IEEE

IEEE Newfoundland & Labrador Section
www.ieee.org/newfoundland_labrador



A Newsletter of the Newfoundland and Labrador IEEE Section, Volume 05, No. 2, Nov 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

NECEC 2005

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Location: Holiday Inn, St. John's

We are currently busy planning our 15th annual Newfoundland and Labrador Electrical and Computer Engineering Conference (NECEC). NECEC is a forum in which professionals in electrical, electronic and computer engineering as well as information technologies can present their work to the growing technical community within the province. The conference will focus on technical concepts, innovations and implementations. NECEC 2004 attracted over 100 delegates and over 50 papers/presentations.

The cost of this full day event is \$100 for members and \$120 for nonmembers. Student registration is \$55. Please refer to our website for registration and other details - <http://necec.engr.mun.ca/>.

Registered conferees will be provided with lunch, refreshment breaks, and conference proceedings on CD as well as the opportunity to win plenty of prizes.

Proceeds from this event and past conferences have been used to sponsor IEEE Scholarships, which are awarded to students of the Electrical Engineering

or Computer Engineering program at MUN. At this event the Section also gives monetary awards for the best Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) and Student papers.

The IEEE section extends a warm "thank-you" to all of our sponsors, supporters, presenters, and attendees over the last fourteen years who have made this event a continued success!

NF & Lab IEEE Section Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Location: S. J. Carew Building, MUN

Time: 7:00 p.m. start

IEEE members are invited to attend our upcoming AGM. As a prelude to the meeting, we are currently arranging a technical presentation. Please check our website for further information as the date approaches. The business meeting will consist of officer reports followed by elections of new officers (see associated article later in newsletter). A wine and cheese reception will follow. We hope to see you there!

TAT-1 Milestone

September 25, 2006

Location: Clarenville

The IEEE established the Electrical Engineering Milestones program in 1983 to honor significant achievements in the history of electrical and electronics engineering. Milestones are proposed, nominated, and sponsored by an IEEE Section, Society or Chapter. After recommendation by the IEEE History Committee and approval by the IEEE, a bronze plaque commemorating the achievement is placed at an appropriate site with an accompanying dedication ceremony. To be designated an achievement it must be at least 25 years old, must have involved a unique solution to an engineering problem, and must have had at least regional impact. Currently there are more than 60 Milestones around the world.

Work has begun, in conjunction with the IEEE History Center and the UKRI Section, to commemorate TAT-1 (Transatlantic No. 1) as an IEEE Milestone. TAT-1 was the first submarine transatlantic telephone cable system, laid between Gallanach Bay, near Oban, Scotland and Clarenville, Newfoundland between 1955 and 1956. It was inaugurated on September 25, 1956, initially carrying 36 telephone

channels. The 50th anniversary of the inauguration would be the perfect time to have the Milestone dedication ceremony. A proposal has been prepared and we are awaiting approvals. Further information will be communicated to members once available.

RECENT EVENTS

Lobster Boil

June 17, 2005
St. John's, NL



We were quite pleased with our 2005 annual Lobster Boil held at the Fluvarium in St. John's. Attendees feasted on their choice of steak, vegetarian, or, of course, lobster. Quite a few door prizes were handed out at the end of the meal.

Feedback was quite positive and, everyone enjoyed the socializing component of the event. We hope to see you next year and will continue this event for many years to come!

International Engineering Management Conference (IEMC) 2005

September 11-14, 2005
Fairmont Hotel, St. John's, NL

Over the past few years many members of our Section have been busy planning the 2005 International Engineering Management Conference (IEMC) in St. John's. This large and prestigious conference was sponsored by IEEE Engineering Management Society (EMS), the IEE Management Professional Network, IEEE Canada, and our local Section. IEMC is a forum for the exchange of ideas, experience, theories, and knowledge between all persons involved in engineering management - engineers, managers,

business and management consultants, as well as academics and researchers.

The conference theme was "A Strategic View of Engineering Management" and we had 187 papers submitted on a variety of topics. We had over 230 delegates from all over the world. Our keynote speakers were Stephen Dorgan, Associate Principal, McKinsey & Company and Dr. Irving Engelson, 2004-2005 President Engineering Management Society. Our luncheon speaker was H. Stanley Marshall, President and CEO of Fortis Inc.

Feedback from participants was extremely positive. As a result of this conference we have generated a healthy profit which will be shared between IEEE/IEE sponsors.

Further details on this conference can be found at <http://www.iemc2005.org>.

Region 7 Fall Meeting

October 13-14, 2005
Tampa, Florida

The fall meeting of IEEE Canada (Region 7) was held recently in Tampa, Florida. This event is normally held within Canada but this year it was scheduled immediately prior to the triennial Sections Congress 2005. Mike Janes and Kathleen Chafe were pleased to represent the Newfoundland and Labrador Section at both events.

The business component of the meetings, in addition to the usual discussions relating to regional activities and budgets, included results from a survey conducted of Section Executive members. The results of this survey will be used in part to prioritize the goals/objectives of the Region. In addition, in an effort to engage Section Chairs and to ensure goals of the Region are reflective of those of the Section a planning session was conducted. Through small groups and then in plenary, meeting participants identified and prioritized important issues for the Sections. Between now and the spring meeting, teams consisting of Section representatives will start to develop

plans to address these issues. The top issues were:

- Demonstrating Value to Members
- Raising the Profile of IEEE
- Creating an Improved Technical Product
- Maintaining a Vibrant, Healthy Membership Community
- Attracting and Retaining Students

Sections Congress 2005

October 14-17, 2005
Tampa, Florida

IEEE Sections Congress, held every three years since 1984, provides IEEE Section leadership with a priceless opportunity to impact the future of the IEEE.

The theme of this year's Congress was "Promoting a World Class Volunteer Community" and the goals were:

- to provide an opportunity for delegates to gain information and training skills;
- to network and build relationships with other volunteers within the IEEE;
- to serve as a forum for Section representatives and other local leaders, enabling them to voice – on behalf of the collective membership – the ideas, issues, and recommendations which will impact on the development and growth of the IEEE throughout the world, reinforcing its vitality and relevance to those it serves.

There was core volunteer training provided and then delegates had a choice to attend sessions relating to a wide variety of topics in three tracks – Relationship, Section Operations, and Membership.

In addition, issues caucuses generated specific, practical recommendations for action. During the Closing Ceremony, the delegates had the opportunity to assign a priority level to each of the recommendations through electronic voting. The results will be delivered to the IEEE Executive Committee for implementation in strategic planning for the future of the IEEE.

OFFICER ELECTIONS

The term of the current IEEE NL Section Executive comes to a close on December 31, 2005. A Nominating Committee, comprised of Mr. Ken Butt, Mr. Yves Fontaine and Dr. Dennis Peters has been approved by the NL Section Executive Committee.

The slate of nominees offered by this Nominating Committee is as follows:

Incoming Chair: Ms. Kathleen Chafe (role accepted, automatic ascendancy from current Vice-Chair)

Incoming Vice Chair: Dr. Eric Gill

Incoming Secretary: Mr. Jason Lee

Incoming Treasurer: Mr. Paul Thorburn

Additional nominations for the last three positions above are accepted until the end of day **Friday November 4, 2005**.

The nomination is by petition; said petition must be signed by ten or more voting IEEE NL Section members. Candidates for the elected positions must be of Member, Senior Member or Fellow grade. Nominations and associated petitions must be sent to Dennis Peters (dpeters@engr.mun.ca, 709 737-8929) as follows:

*IEEE NL Section Nominations Committee
c/o Dennis Peters*

*Faculty of Engineering & Applied Science
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, NL A1B 3X5*

An election, if required, will be held by secret ballot and the results will be announced at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on **December 8, 2005**.

Information about the section, including the Bylaws under which these elections are conducted, is available at the section website.

AWARDS

The last academic year has been a very encouraging one for our Section, especially in terms of awards and scholarships

Friend of the IEEE Award

In the spring of this year, the Section nominated **Newfoundland and**

Labrador Hydro to the Regional Activities Board (RAB) as a prospective recipient of a 2005 Supporting Friend of the IEEE RAB Award. At the Board meeting in June, the selection was approved by acclamation. The IEEE and, in particular, the provincial Section extend their gratitude to Hydro for providing faithful years of support to the IEEE NL Section, since inception of the Section. We are grateful that Hydro encourages employee participation in Section and Regional activities and promotes the values of IEEE membership. This award consists of an engraved plaque which carries the following citation:

"For continued involvement and support of many IEEE activities within IEEE Canada at the Section and Regional levels."

Membership Growth Award

On June 18, the IEEE Regional Activities Board (RAB) recognized the Newfoundland and Labrador Section as a recipient of the 2004 RAB Section Membership Growth Award for Outstanding Leadership and Results in IEEE Membership Development Activities for Region 7. We are extremely honored to receive this prestigious award.

Charles Proteus Steinmetz Award

We would like to extend our congratulations to **Dr. Wallace S. Read** for receiving the Charles Proteus Steinmetz Award for "sustained leadership in organizing IEEE standards activities to be responsive to industry and the global marketplace." Dr. Read continues to make invaluable contributions to IEEE globally, regionally, and for the Section. We thank him for his continued support and friendship.

Senior Membership

We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Eric Gill** has achieved IEEE Senior Membership status. The grade of Senior Member is the highest for which application may be made and requires experience reflecting significant

professional performance. Dr. Gill is currently an engineering educator at Memorial University and conducts research in remote sensing and radar. He has been a very active IEEE member for many years. Most recently he is the Section Awards Chair and the NECEC Technical Chair. Congratulations Eric!

YOUR MONEY

We are proud to report that our Section continues to be financially healthy. It is this funding that allows us to host events, support the student activities, and provide awards/scholarships.

Our main source of income is the membership rebate, which we receive from IEEE every year. In addition, the annual Newfoundland Electrical and Computer Engineering Conference (NECEC) usually generates some income above expenses. The International Engineering Management Conference (IEMC) held September 11-14 in St. John's was sponsored, in part, by our section. The conference was quite successful, as reported elsewhere in this newsletter, and should mean extra money for the section. The exact amount will not be known until the accounting process is complete.

IEEE has taken additional steps in 2005 to ensure that all Sections spend their money wisely and in accordance with IEEE rules and regulations. An external auditor, Ernst & Young, has verified bank accounts and investments of all Canadian sections for the 2004 financial year. Each Canadian section is now required to have an audit committee to review finances and spending practices.

We hope to continue to manage our finances in a manner in which we can be fiscally responsible and also use funds to serve our membership effectively.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The membership development of our section improved over the past few months. The number of active IEEE members by the end of August 31, 2005

was 137, which includes Life Fellow (1), Fellow (1), Senior Member (13), Life Member (1), Member (60), Associate (6), and Student Member (55).

Renew your IEEE Membership for 2006

It is time to renew your IEEE membership for 2006. Renew online **November 15, 2005** and you will be entered for a chance to win a new Dell™ Inspiron™ laptop! To join IEEE, visit <http://www.ieee.org/join> or <http://www.ieee.org/renewal>

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

For the new academic semester, the IEEE Student Branch has been very active.

A member of the Branch participated in the **annual leadership seminar**, held this September in Vancouver, BC. Many new ideas and information have been gained and will be used to improve student branch activities and management.

Thus far this semester a **membership drive** has taken place whereby students were informed of the many benefits in becoming a student member. This drive was a success with additional students joining soon after the event.

The student branch has had a profitable **fundraising** project come to a close. The Term 3 programming class notes were reproduced with the permission of the course professor and distributed to students for a nominal fee. Revenue of approximately \$150 was collected, a special thanks to Dr. Michael P. Bruce-Lockhart for allowing this annual fundraiser to be a success.

In the works is the development of a **new executive for the Society 'B' branch**, positions to be filled include Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Hopefully excited student members will volunteer their time to fill these important positions in the near future!

A grant process is in the works to receive funding this fall to upgrade the

equipment at the **McNaughton Center** at the Memorial Campus for the benefit of all IEEE members. This Center caters to the "audiophile" with oscilloscopes, tools, and a semi-anechoic chamber. More information is available at www.engr.mun.ca/~ieeess/mcnaughton/

If any student would like to become more involved in their student branch, please do not hesitate to contact Rob Coish at coish@engr.mun.ca.

IEEE ONLINE COMMUNITIES

IEEE Online Communities are the latest information sharing, communication, and collaboration tools offered by IEEE. Each Online Community consists of a group of individuals who have a shared purpose and common interests. They provide you with a place to discuss vital issues in your technical area, network with others, seek peer and expert advice to help you in your job, collaborate on various IEEE activities, and so much more. Best of all you are not restricted by geographical boundaries or time of day - you can participate anytime and anywhere through the Internet! This service is free of charge.

To preview or join any of the IEEE Online Communities visit <http://www.ieeeonlinecommunities.org>

myIEEE

In September IEEE launched a new version of its **members-only Web portal** that includes significantly improved usability and functionality. The new features in myIEEE Release 1.2 enable IEEE members to connect with their local section, access online benefits, and manage various aspects of their membership from one location. IEEE members who sign into myIEEE are no longer required to re-enter their Web Account name and password to access their membership account. In addition, various tools and utilities used to access IEEE member benefits online have been grouped into "desktops" on myIEEE's left navigation.

- The **Knowledge Desktop** is a consolidated area for research and subscription-related benefits.

- The **Community Desktop** provides access to information on local and worldwide networking opportunities, as well as IEEE member grade elevation. This desktop also contains the "mySection" module, which connects members to information on their local section, its officers and its technical chapters. In addition, the "IEEE Worldwide" module sorts and presents global IEEE activities and contacts by country or IEEE region. A listing of upcoming IEEE conferences is updated daily, with reference links to conference sponsors and contacts.

- The **Profession Desktop** enables direct searches of the IEEE Job Site, as well as timely announcements on IEEE awards and scholarship opportunities.

- The **Volunteer Desktop** will appear in myIEEE for those IEEE members who also serve as an IEEE volunteer.

myIEEE is an exclusive benefit of IEEE membership, and is available to all active IEEE members with an IEEE Web account. Visit myIEEE at <http://www.ieee.org/myieee>.

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