

IEEE GOLDRush September 2007

The quarterly newsletter of IEEE GOLD for young professionals.



Message from 2007 RAB GOLD Committee Chair, Soon Wan

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- **Brand new section with GOLDRush invited articles from reputable authors** (Pages 3 and 4)!
- **GOLD Shines in Hawaii** (Page 5).
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Dear GOLD members,

Since July, three new GOLD Affinity Groups have been formed:

- Binghamton GOLD (Region 1)
Guruprasad Madhavan, Chair.
- Baton Rouge GOLD (Region 6)
Jeffry Handal, Chair.
- Lebanon GOLD (Region 8)
Imad H. Elhajj, Chair.

Let us congratulate and welcome them to the GOLD community.

The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional society with more than 365,000 members worldwide. The IEEE has to continuously evolve in response to changes in members' needs and technology. Volunteers are fundamental to the IEEE's success. Recently, RAB GOLD launched a new program called "GOLD Volunteer Opportunities", with the purpose of identifying suitable volunteers to serve at IEEE major boards. The program includes two ways of submitting members' resumes: firstly, by a self-nomination process, and secondly by a peer nomination process.

Please visit the GOLD webpage at <http://www.ieee.org/gold> for more information and volunteers' testimonials.

The success of a GOLD Affinity Group depends on hard work and dedication from volunteers. By contributing your time and energy towards engaging volunteers, productivity and morale can be improved. Here are some ways to engage volunteers:

Lead by example. As a leader, you should lead not only with your competences, but by demonstrating a great example for your volunteers to follow.

Communicate a clear vision and mission. With clear vision and mission statements, your volunteers can channel their energies to focus on meaningful tasks and achieve results that exceed your expectations.

Value feedback and suggestions. Volunteers will feel a real sense of pride when their opinions and ideas are heard and respected. Not all suggestions are practical to implement, but simply listening to your volunteers will show that you value their suggestions.

Encourage and mentor. As a leader, you should continuously assess the performance of your volunteers. Praise them if they have done a great job. If not, encourage them to try and improve their weaker areas. Volunteers will

always appreciate leaders who inspire them by bringing out the best in themselves.

Volunteering with the IEEE has helped me to develop leadership skills that transfer directly to my work environment. As Teilard de Chardin once said, "Our duty as man is to proceed as if limits to our ability did not exist."

Best wishes,

Soon Wan
(2007 RAB GOLD Committee Chair).



GOLD volunteers.

Food for thought: Collaboration

By Adrian Pais

(IEEE GOLDRush Editor)

Recently, I received an e-mail from a colleague asking whether I would be interested in co-authoring a paper for a telecommunications development conference. This colleague is based in Pretoria, South Africa, while I am based 7500 miles away in Auckland, New Zealand. This was our very first contact with each other, as he was referred to me by another colleague. Additionally, the deadline for the 8000-word paper was only 10 days away.

I took up the invitation to collaborate, and within a couple of days received the proposed outline of what the paper would contain. In the meanwhile, I contacted three other colleagues (one in the Netherlands, and the other two in different locations in Zambia) and asked them to join us. Despite *all five of us being in different locations*, we worked tirelessly and submitted a high quality paper on time. I believe that this success was because of our commitment, hard work, and willingness to collaborate. We distributed the work among ourselves efficiently and made excellent use of the different time zones by having a 24-hour work cycle!

I strongly believe that in doing any collaborative work, the question that we should ask ourselves is, “*What can I give?*” rather than, “*What can I get out of this?*” If we focus on

what *we can give*, then our commitment to the cause and our respect for our peers can never be questioned. This attitude brings out the best in us and unites the team we are in. I certainly felt a unity with the other four co-authors of the conference paper despite all of us being in different locations.

My objective as *IEEE GOLDRush* Editor is to continuously improve the relevance of *IEEE GOLDRush* to you, the young engineers throughout the world. To this end, in this edition I have included two *GOLDRush invited articles* written by highly successful fellow engineers. This will be a regular feature in *IEEE GOLDRush* from now on.

The first article, entitled “Michelangelo didn’t multitask”, is by Jeffrey Andrews, an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin and a world renown expert in wireless communications. In a world where “multitasking” has become a buzzword, Jeffrey Andrews reminds us of the necessity to focus if we want to achieve “big” things. The second article, entitled “Where Technology Intersects with Marketing”, is by Arun Gopalakrishnan, a Marketing Manager at Dupont. In his article, Arun Gopalakrishnan explains that an engineering background combined with good business training gives a unique skill set to market innovations that have a real impact on the world. I would like to thank both Jeffrey and Arun for so enthusiastically accepting my invitation to write these articles for *IEEE GOLDRush*.

Towards the objective of improving the quality of *IEEE GOLDRush*, in the past two months I have assembled a team of “GOLDRush Editorial Assistants” to help with reviewing the articles submitted. These are Claudio Camasca (New Zealand), George Gordon (New Zealand), Lori Hogan (Canada), Kristi Hummel (USA), and Lisa Lazareck (UK). I am grateful to them for putting their hands up to do this despite the demands of their daily lives. Without their hard work and commitment, the high quality of this newsletter would not be possible and my role as *IEEE GOLDRush* Editor would be extremely difficult. Well done and congratulations to my assistants!

My gratitude also goes to the many IEEE GOLD volunteers who have contributed the articles for this edition of *IEEE GOLDRush*, based on the submission request I made earlier this year.

IEEE GOLDRush will keep growing with your motivation and willingness to contribute. I certainly encourage you to contact me if you’d like to submit an article for publication. Your comments on the articles in this newsletter are also welcome.

I’m seeking volunteers to help improve the layout/design of *IEEE GOLDRush* and review the articles submitted. If you’re interested in doing either (or both) of these, then please e-mail me at a.pais@ieee.org.

IEEE GOLDRush Call for Articles

IEEE GOLDRush would like to invite you to submit articles (500 to 700 words) on any topic related to engineering for publication in this newsletter.

Please e-mail your article for the *December 2007 edition* to the IEEE GOLDRush editor (Adrian Pais) at a.pais@ieee.org before November 1, 2007.

Visit us on the web!
www.ieee.org/gold

Michelangelo Didn't Multitask (GOLDRush Invited Article)

By Jeffrey Andrews

As I get ready to head on a mid-summer vacation to Italy with my wife Catherine, I've been thinking about some of the classic works of art that we'll see in Florence, Siena, and Pisa. Having been to Italy before, I recall the ones by Michelangelo in particular standing out as being inspired by something very deep, and representing considerable scientific inquiry and exploration on his part. It makes me wonder: could Michelangelo have accomplished such works of genius in the current digitally connected age? Can you imagine Michelangelo sending emails instead of writing in his journal or learning about anatomy via Google instead of breaking into the local morgue and performing dissections?

I use this anachronistic example to illustrate that from what I can tell, great deeds are almost always accomplished by a single-minded determination and focus that is hard to maintain in any age, but particularly in our interconnected one. Perhaps the 21st century will be known as the "ADD" century, a stepping stone towards a future time where we rediscover the wisdom of keeping things simple. In the meantime though, successful people – creative people in particular – will need to find ways to manage (and avoid!) the intense multi-tasking demands placed on them. I have found thus far in my career that maintaining focus is the most difficult challenge I face. My main accomplishments have re-

sulted when I have established a goal and been successful in concentrating on it.

I think one of the main merits in getting a PhD is spending several years learning better how to focus on a task that is deep, narrow, and often nebulous. This does not come naturally for most people, and requires drive and self-discipline in fairly large propor-

'It makes me wonder: could Michelangelo have accomplished such works of genius in the current digitally connected age?'

tions. In fact, I noticed quite early on during my PhD years at Stanford that the most successful PhD students were not necessarily the "smartest" – although they were usually pretty smart! – but instead were the ones who seemed most inspired by their work, and driven by something internal to them, rather than external, such as exams, fear of their advisor, or arbitrary deadlines. For the majority of us who struggle with drive and motivation – and I count myself in that group – it is important not to let the buzz of life overwhelm and distract us (too much).

Although I am certainly no expert in this, I'd like to share a few tools I use to help me stay focused. If some of these sound cliché, it is

because they are true, and worth repeating.

Know your goals. It's hard to be focused if you don't know what you are trying to accomplish. As obvious as it sounds, I think a lot of people suffer from lacking clear goals. I realized, after a helter-skelter first year as a professor, that I was spending lots of time on tasks that did not have a clear payoff. To minimize this, and to keep myself focused, I make a list about every 4-6 months (usually coinciding with the start of an academic semester) of what I want to accomplish during the next 4-6 months. Even though I am yet to fully complete such a list, it's a very useful exercise, and helps keep my attention focused on tasks that I deem important outside of the day-to-day things that come up, and seem so urgent at the time.

Getting into "the zone". I find the hardest part of any task is getting started. The harder I perceive the task to be, the harder I find it to commence work on it. Once I start working, I find that my ability to focus increases considerably. Basketball players call this state of focus and clarity "the zone". I try to document where my work stands at the end of each day – when in "the zone" – and what the next steps are for tomorrow. I find this radically helps with getting started the next day on a difficult task. Figure out tools for finding "the zone" yourself and make it into a routine.

Escape distractions. I'm a sucker for distractions, particularly in that

delicate 30 minutes or so of work prior to getting in "the zone". It is important to find a way to avoid distractions, be they phone calls, checking email, or being bothered by colleagues. Some people wear earphones, but I like to work somewhere external to my workplace like a café or the library. I'm sure there are other successful approaches, many of which seem to involve caffeine at some level. Working at home is a popular choice these days, but that has its own pantheon of distractions.

Finally, it's very difficult to do good work unless you have drive and are centered personally. Don't forget to do things you enjoy other than work. It will make that time at work seem more finite and will keep you more focused when working. And of course that's the stuff that in the end really matters. That is, unless your work is as timeless as Michelangelo's. I have no such pretenses.



Jeffrey Andrews

The author is an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas at Austin and author of Fundamentals of WiMAX. He received the NSF CAREER award in 2007.

Where Technology Intersects with Marketing (GOLDRush Invited Article)

By Arun Gopalakrishnan

In today's world, technology and business professionals have to collaborate to create success in the marketplace for their organizations. Gone are the days when the technology department of an organization creates new products, and throws them over the fence for sales and marketing to sell. Today, engineers, salespeople and marketers are in a cross-functional team from the earliest stages of product development.

'Gone are the days when the technology department of an organization creates new products, and throws them over the fence for sales and marketing to sell.'

My career path to-date is a reflection of this increasing collaboration. I started as an electrical engineer in the Research and Development department of a Fortune 500 company. In my experience, engineers were left to come up with their own ideas for new technologies and start working on them, with little involvement from sales and marketing. The best-in-class technology companies have now realized that this is a recipe for a high percentage of failed product launches.

I moved from technology development to marketing after getting my

MBA degree. I work in a company which sells highly technical products to technical professionals in the industry.

The lifeblood of many technology organizations is creating and launching new products to stay relevant and differentiated from competition in the marketplace. A major aspect of my job in marketing is to understand the market needs and translate them into opportunities for new products that Research and Development teams can develop at the front end of the innovation process.

The best-in-class organizations employ a cross-functional team to build the business case for developing new technology, answering questions such as:

- Is the market large enough?
- Do customers have a strong need for our product concept?
- Will entrenched competitors undermine our product launch significantly?
- Will our company get a good return on the investment?
- Does our company have the technical capability to deliver the product?
- How would we launch this product in the marketplace?

Having an engineering background is helpful. Firstly, it provides a problem solving mindset that is important for identifying and meeting customer needs. Secondly, through my experiences in engineering, I have developed the necessary communication skills to

interact with technical professionals and capture their unmet and often unstated issues. Thirdly, my project management skills have enabled me to lead cross-functional teams through the innovation process from idea to launch.

Undoubtedly, there are many things I have had to learn in addition to the above skills. Developing an external, market-driven orientation took some time. As an engineer, one has a natural fascination with the latest, coolest technology. Staying focused on understanding and delivering on customer needs requires us to put aside a bias towards developing "cool" technology and focus on the practical solutions that will create business value.

The "softer" skills are also critical – for example, acting as 'translator' in a cross-functional team, listening well, building effective teams, building productive customer relationships and coaching team members when needed. As one moves higher up the organization in a marketing career path, these softer skills increase exponentially in importance.

I believe that strong collaboration between technology and marketing professionals is essential to develop successful new products and businesses. There are significant opportunities for engineers who want to move into marketing roles, especially in technology companies. Marketing as a career path is emerging and taking shape in industrial companies such as DuPont, 3M, GE, Honeywell, and countless others.

'Staying focused on understanding and delivering on customer needs requires us to put aside a bias towards developing "cool" technology and focus on practical solutions that will create business value.'

There is a strong recognition that marketing is not just for consumer products, and the myth that marketing is only about advertising is being put to rest.

Engineers are well placed to take advantage of the above trend. An engineering background combined with good business training provides a unique skill set to market new products and solutions that make a real impact on the world.



Arun Gopalakrishnan

The author is a Marketing Manager at DuPont, in Wilmington, Delaware, USA.

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not imply an endorsement by Dupont or any other company.

GOLD News

GOLD Shines in Hawaii

By Sergio Pacheco

(GOLD Representative on Microwave Theory and Techniques Society)

The Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) GOLD Committee held a couple of events at the International Microwave Symposium 2007 in Honolulu, Hawaii to elevate the awareness of GOLD within the MTT Society and to increase interaction amongst its GOLD members.

The first event was a MTT-S GOLD Committee-sponsored panel session on *Career Development* that included an exceptional line-up of speakers and topics, including:

Dr. Peter Blakey, Southwest Windpower – *Understanding And Influencing The Dynamics Of Your Engineering Career*.

Dr. Barry Perlman, Army Research Labs – *From Dilbert to the Boss - Developing Talent for Success*.

Professor Rhonda Drayton, University of Minnesota – *An Academic Career: Is It For Me?*

Dr. Mike Golio, Microwave Magazine Editor – *Investing And Retirement, Is It Ever Too Early To Start?*

Dr. Larry Dunleavy, Modelithics – *So You Want To Start A Company? Better Be Sure Before You Do!*

The panel session – complete with many fruitful questions and discussions – was very well attended by an enthusiastic audience (a good mix of young and seasoned professionals).

The second event was a joint MTT-S and GOLD evening reception and luau (Hawaiian feast) held at the Diamond Head Lawn and Royal Hawaiian Hotel. The reception was open to all eligible MTT-S GOLD members, while complimentary tickets to the luau were provided to those who filled out a brief survey at the IEEE Membership Booth during the conference. A total of 102 surveys were collected and should provide the MTT-S GOLD Committee with valuable feedback regarding our GOLD members' perceptions of the bene-

fits of our Society. In addition, AdCom and Instrumentation & Measurement Society (IMS) Steering Committee members were also invited to the Reception, providing an excellent networking opportunity for our GOLD members. With a backdrop of the beautiful Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach, the nearly 300 luau attendees were greeted with fresh leis (Hawaiian garlands) and refreshing Mai Tais (Hawaiian cocktails). The evening continued under the stars with a feast of foods from the Islands in the exceptional all-you-can-eat buffet, followed by a spectacular Royal Polynesian Extravaganza show encompassing songs and dances from the Pacific Rim. The luau culminated with the exciting presentation of the Fire Dance.

For any inquiries, thoughts, or suggestions, please feel free to contact the MTT-S GOLD Coordinator Sergio Pacheco at Sergio.Pacheco@ieee.org.



Folks enjoy the all-you-can-eat buffet during the luau at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel at Waikiki Beach.



The spectacular Royal Polynesian Extravaganza show which culminated with the exciting Fire Dance.

Your Next Step!

By Nahel Muhammad

(IEEE GOLD Chair, Egypt)

The 6th Egyptian Engineering Day (EED) was held at the Cairo International Conference Centre (CICC) on July 29, 2007. It was inaugurated by Dr. Tarek Kamel (Egypt's Minister of Communications and Information Technology), Dr. Hani Helal (Egypt's Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research) and Dr. Ahmed Darwish (Egypt's Minister of State for Administrative Development).

The Egyptian Engineering Day is an annual nexus for engineers in Egypt. The event is an opportunity for all engineering professionals to meet new associates in the field, share ideas, collaborate on projects and learn something new. For freshly graduated engineers, the timing of the event is suitably chosen to introduce them to the engineering market in Egypt.

This year the slogan of the Egyptian Engineering Day was 'Your Next Step'. EED 2007 was held with a focus on small and medium size enterprises, entrepreneurship, and start-up companies in the engineering field. The technology industry in Egypt is growing, but it will not develop without fresh and innovative ideas for technology businesses. It is time for young engineers to

take control of their careers, lead the industry, and market their dreams.

The graduation project exhibition enabled graduate students to share their work with academics and industrialists. It was an excellent way of promoting the skills of new graduate students to industry. It also gave graduate students the opportunity to have an edge in the job market, and possibly even develop their project into a practical product or service in the real world. About 200 graduate projects being done by engineering and IT students from Egyptian universities, were showcased during the two-day event. Ten winning projects were chosen to receive the many awards including the MICT Awards, the Egypt Section Award, the SEE Award and the I2P-Egypt Award.

'Made In Egypt' (MIE) is a competition between faculties of engineering from several universities. Teams of final year students, professors and industry mentors participate in the design and implementation of actual industrial cases, chosen by experts in the field. The MIE finals were held during EED 2007 and there were special booths for MIE participants and their sponsors.

At EED 2007, there were also a number of seminars and discussions on developing personal and entrepreneurial skills, market-

ing research, financing small enterprises and the latest practical tools and methods for starting up projects. For example, there were presentations entitled 'Managing a Software Project', 'How to be a Successful International R&D Engineer', 'Smart Start-ups', 'New Trends in Mobile Communications', 'Wireless Technology: Present and Future', and many others. There were also two panel discussions: the first was 'Youth Responsibility Towards the Technical Development of Society', and the second was 'Enhancing Technical Education in Egypt'. For more details see the full program on the EED 2007 website.

Finally, sincere gratitude to the sponsors:

Official Sponsor: ITIDA.

Platinum Sponsor: Vodafone.

Golden Sponsors: IBM, NTRA, Telecom Egypt, Ericsson.

Silver Sponsor: Jelecom, ICT, NileSat.

For further information visit:

EED 2007 site:

<http://www.ieeegoldegypt.org/new/>

EED 2007 Opening Video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-YhgWoq6s>.

EED 2007 Volunteers Video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjJoHu_RS9g.



EED 2007 volunteers.



Distinguished delegates at EED 2007.



A project team presents its work to Egypt's Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Dr. Tarek Kamel.

Rock River Valley Section Holds GOLD Graduation Appreciation Event

By William O. Serre

(Region 4 GOLD Coordinator)

Javvad Qasimi, GOLD Chair of the Rock River Valley Affinity Group, together with the Northern Illinois University Student Branch held a graduation event for students. The event was held on the 27th of April at Eduardo's Mexican restaurant in DeKalb, Illinois.

Approximately 85 student members, faculty, GOLD members and section executive committee members attended this event. The meeting included social networking, discussion of the student projects

and introductions of all attendees. The GOLD members discussed the value of IEEE membership and the difficulties they encountered in moving from college to the working world.

The guest speaker William O. Serre gave the keynote address, inviting the participants to maintain their IEEE membership and make use of the benefits IEEE has to offer. He explained that having IEEE GOLD membership helps people in their careers and professions by giving them excellent networking opportunities. He added that it provides members with access to knowledge, helping them stay in touch

with the latest state-of-the-art technology. William O. Serre informed them how to get more involved with IEEE and meet members from all over the world to share knowledge and ideas.

The GOLD group finished the night by giving away an Apple iPod to a lucky GOLD member that answered the pre-meeting quiz correctly.

Overall, it was a very successful meeting that gave student members an insight into the magnitude of the IEEE as a worldwide society.

Summer Days in Region 8

By Pilar Molina Gaudó

(Region 8 GOLD Coordinator)

God is merciful! Zaragoza, mainland Spain, can be horribly warm in the summer with daily highs around 42°C/107°F. Fortunately, on the 23rd and 24th of August 2007, we had nice fresh days that were highly conducive to an effective meeting of the Region 8 GOLD volunteer taskforce. This committee of four - me, Eva Gutsmiedl, Gerald Anleitner, and Marko Delimar - is pictured during our August meeting. Martin Bastiaans, Region 8 Vice-Chair for Student Activities, was there too.

The meeting, or as we called it, our *Summer Working Retreat*, was a tremendous success. We met for two days and completed several key objectives, including the production of documents required to request money to start a pilot project on rejuvenation. Additionally, we launched a new project to create content for an IEEE.tv program that will be of great interest to young professionals. This idea is based on

a 2-minute video contest using YouTube, something our young members know much about. We also had time to plan strategically for the future of GOLD in our Region, and we came up with many ideas for future projects that hopefully will be the subject of articles such as this soon.

During our retreat, we organized an online conference with all Region 8 Affinity Group Chairs, which allowed us to chat with several of them. We did this with Skypecasts, a promising technology that once a little more mature, will allow us voice and chat connections (as well as file sharing capabilities) without any cost at all. This is something really important for the diverse and geographically spread out Region 8 (Europe, Africa and Middle East).

During our breaks, foreign attendees of our working retreat (I am local, so I don't count) had the chance to taste the local specialties in the Spanish "tapa" fashion. Having "tapas" means having dinner in different places, while mostly standing,

enjoying the specialties of a bar. You might have a small snack or a platter to share along with a drink, and then walk a little further to another place to do the same. On it goes until you are more than full or the drinking prevents you from walking in a straight line any longer (actually zigzagging you may still be able to reach another bar ...).

We did have a lot of fun in our work, conversations, and free time, and we really hope the IEEE and you will benefit from these efforts.



Gerald, Pilar, Marko, Eva and Martin sightseeing in Zaragoza after the meeting.

News from IEEE Societies and Major Boards

GOLD and IEEE Societies

By Gerald Anleitner
(GOLD Society Overseer)

Over the last three years, a growing number of IEEE Societies have teamed up with RAB GOLD towards the objective of enhancing young member value. Examples of such initiatives include articles related to GOLD in IEEE Society newsletters and GOLD-related events, and tracks and receptions at Society conferences and

Chapter events. These activities are intended to attract more GOLD members to get Society memberships.

GOLD, initially founded and based within RAB (Regional Activities Board), is a broad initiative to increase membership value for young IEEE members. It is only natural that GOLD also reaches out to IEEE Societies to influence their products and services so that they are more relevant

for young engineers.

Are you member of a society? Are you interested in volunteering within your society and raising the voice of young members? If so, please get in touch with me (g.anleitner@ieee.org) and let us work together on this issue. I am also very interested to hear your feedback about your interactions with IEEE Societies.

IEEE Computer Society

By Carlos Rueda-Artunduaga
(GOLD Representative on IEEE Computer Society)

The Chapter Activities Board (CAB) of The IEEE Computer Society (CS), in its efforts to enhance the values of membership for CS GOLD members and CS young affiliates members, has created a new position within the Computer Society: The CS GOLD Committee Coordinator.

This new committee has members from

India, Germany and Colombia to seek and apply new benefits to young professionals within our Society. Some of these new benefits are:

- A new CS GOLD Web Site (under construction).
- The new GOLD Summit Web Site (under construction).
- New articles and publications packages, oriented to young professionals (Web Engineering, Open Source, etc.).

- Promote new CS Chapters (especially CS Clubs) to improve computer skills in our young membership (students becoming professionals).
- Improve the CS DVP (Distinguished Visitors Program) by getting more young professional lecturers.
- Create new awards and recognitions for outstanding CS GOLD members.

For more information please email Eng. Carlos Rueda-Artunduaga, SMIEEE at artunduaga@computer.org.

IEEE-USA

By Kristi Hummel
(GOLD Representative on IEEE-USA)

My experience this year as the GOLD representative to the IEEE-USA Board of Directors has been a great opportunity and particularly insightful in regards to the challenges faced by engineers in the US and across the world. This group of volunteers actively engage themselves to create

programs and services that aim to elevate the engineering profession.

A few key programs and initiatives I've seen develop this year include the *IEEE-USA Innovation Institute*, the approval of the *America COMPETES Act*, and the start of a new initiative to educate engineers on highly sought after technologies with technical symposiums. I've also learned more about existing programs such as the *Salary*

Service (free to use if you contribute to the survey), the *IEEE Job Site*, and the *Beyond Job Satisfaction Fieldbook*. If you're not familiar with these programs, I'd encourage you to spend a few minutes to see what you've been missing.

For website links to the above programs and initiatives, please see the same article in the online version of IEEE GOLDRush at <http://www.ieee.org/gold>.

Notices

Recognize Outstanding IEEE Volunteers

You can help recognize the efforts of outstanding volunteers by nominating someone for one of the prestigious Regional Activities Board (RAB) awards. Each prestigious award has a unique mission and criteria, and offers the opportunity to honor distinguished colleagues, inspiring teachers and corporate leaders.

Do you know someone who has made substantial Regional contributions through

innovative projects, exemplary leadership, service, or by fulfilling the goals as related to Transnational Activities? Consider nominating them for one of the following awards:

- RAB Achievement Award.
- RAB GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Achievement Award.
- RAB Innovation Award.

- RAB Leadership Award.
- RAB Larry K. Wilson Transnational Award.

The deadline for nominations is 15 October 2007. More information and nomination forms are available at the RAB Awards website: <http://www.ieee.org/rabawards>. Questions can be sent to ra-admin@ieee.org.

IEEE Expert Now Courses — Be Part of a New Pilot Program

IEEE Expert Now courses are available for use by IEEE Regions, Sections, and Chapters interested in participating in a new pilot program. Through the IEEE Expert Now Section-Chapter Program, local IEEE volunteers can organize an event where attendees can view one or more IEEE Expert Now course(s) and discuss the materials with a local expert on that topic. There is no charge for participating in this pro-

gram in 2007. An added bonus for IEEE Regions, Sections and Chapters who participate in 2007, is that they will be able to award Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for their event free of charge.

IEEE Regions, Sections and Chapters interested in participating work with IEEE Educational Activities (EA) Staff to organize the event. IEEE EA Staff provide access to the selected course(s) and can make recom-

mendations or provide “best practices” for organizing the event. They can also provide surveys for attendees’ feedback and CEUs to attendees who return completed surveys. For more information visit the IEEE Expert Now Section-Chapter Program web page at http://www.ieee.org/web/education/Expert_Now_IEEE/sc_program.html or send a message to expertnowinfo@ieee.org.

Upcoming Events

Your Career and Networking with IEEE EDS AdCom Members

By Ravi Todi

(GOLD Representative on IEEE EDS)

You are invited to join us on Sunday, 9 December, 2007, from 5pm to 7pm, at the Washington Hilton and Towers Hotel, Washington, DC, for a career development strategy session especially designed for graduate students and young professionals who are Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) members. This event is sponsored by the Electron Devices Society (EDS).

The session will include a seminar on career development strategies in today's globally competitive world. Mary Ann Bopp, Manager for Career Development at IBM, will present the seminar entitled **Career Development: Imagine the Possibilities**. She will talk about how to approach career development at different stages of your life, for example

- if you are tenured in your profession and want to continue to grow in your field of expertise.
- if you want to change your career path but don't know how to start.
- if you're fresh out of college and are just beginning your career journey.

The discussion will include information on how to use mentoring as a means to developing your career, no matter whether you work in a small company or large corporation. Leveraging many relationships throughout your career is instrumental in helping you progress in your career path.

The session will also include a panel discussion focusing on career options and career path selection, featuring expert panelists from academia, research, design, development and manufacturing. This will

be followed by a golden opportunity for you to meet with EDS Officers and Administrative Committee (AdCom) members at a special networking session. Establishing a network with successful EDS AdCom members and enjoying some of the other key EDS benefits (e.g. online access to ED Letters and Transactions and the IEDM Proceedings) are some of the primary reasons for joining EDS.

This event will be held in conjunction with the EDS' flagship conference, the International Electron Devices Meeting (IEDM), to be held on December 10-12, 2007. For information visit the conference web site at <http://www.his.com/~iedm/>.

For additional details on this first EDS-sponsored GOLD event, please contact the GOLD Representative on IEEE EDS, Dr. Ravi Todi, at rtodi@ieee.org.

Next GOLD Online Seminar: "Business and Entrepreneurship"

Please join us for GOLD's next online seminar on "Business and Entrepreneurship" by Professor Kevin B. Krauss. This seminar will be held on Wednesday, 26 September, 2007 from 5pm to 6pm EST. Please visit <http://www.ieee.org/gold> for more information and the link to reach the online seminar.

Professor Krauss will provide you with the vision, knowledge and skills that you need to succeed in business. This is a great opportunity for you as a young professional to

learn more about business and entrepreneurship, and maybe consider taking up an MBA course.

Professor Krauss currently serves as a Professor and Director of Suffolk University's Center for Entrepreneurial Studies. His current activities also include serving as advisor/board member/CEO to a number of emerging technology companies including Dirt Glue Enterprises, Trilithon Technologies, Masterbond, SP and Advin Systems.



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