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**MathCounts** 

## **SECON Panel Discusses DoD Uses of Sensor Technologies**

By Tim Weil **Washington Section Editor** 

The IEEE Communication Society's Conference on Sensor, Mesh and Ad Hoc Communications and Networks (SECON 2006) offered a thought provoking panel on the military's viewpoint of using this technology for DoD communication.

A group of distinguished speakers from industry, government and academia participated in the panel, "Ad-Hoc and Sensor Technology: The Defense Industry's Perspective," at the September conference in Reston, Virginia. They addressed the challenges and opportunities for next generation Department of Defense (DoD) wireless networks to provide critical support to the military Warfighter and to extend the reach of the Global Information Grid (GIG) to the tactical battlefield environment. Topics such as Mobile Ad-hoc Networks (MANETs), Future Combat Systems (FCS), Joint Tactical Radio Systems (JTRS), and GIG

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SPS Kick-off Lecture—Guest speaker Rama Chellappa (center) joins Signal Processing Society colleagues and chapter officers (left to right) Min Wu, chapter chair; Ramant Duraiswami, vice chair; Phillip Regalia, December speaker; and Ray Liu, SPS vice president. (Photo: Avinash Varna)

## Washington Signal Processing Chapter Hosts First Lecture, Elects Officers

Nearly 80 people from universities, industry, and government agencies attended the kick-off lecture of the Washington Section's new Signal Processing Society chapter, held in September at the University of Maryland, College Park.

The lecture was given by Rama Chellappa, Minta Martin Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and director of the Center for Automation Research of the Institute for Advanced Computer Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Dr. Rama gave the audience an overview on the recent advances of using face and gait to identify persons and their activities. These advances are enabling the integration of these biometrics into video-based surveillance systems for homeland security and other applications. Through a number of fascinating examples, he discussed the challenges in getting the biometrics to work reliably, and how cutting-edge research, including award-winning work from his research group, can help address these problems.

# **Needs Coaches**

By Michael Flicker

In Fairfax County, 14 of 26 middle schools participated in the nationally-recognized MathCounts program during the 2005-06 school year. We would like to extend MathCounts to more schools this year, and are seeking volunteers who want to help middle school students prepare for mathematics competitions.

MathCounts is a math enrichment, coaching and competition program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement through grassroots involvement in every U.S. state and territory. With over 23 years experience, MathCounts is one of the most successful education partnerships involving volunteers, educators, industry sponsors, and students. The MathCounts program has received two White House citations as an outstanding private sector initiative.

After several months of coaching, participating schools select students to compete individually or as part of a team in one of the more than 500 written and oral competitions held nationwide and in U.S. schools overseas. Winners at the local level proceed to state competitions, where the top four "Mathletes" and top coaches earn the right to represent their state or territory at the national level. At all levels, MathCounts challenges students' math skills, develops their selfconfidence and rewards them for their achievements.

There are a variety of reasons why

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## **EMBS Chapter Speaker Explores Tele-Medicine Security Protocols**

By Debi Siering

On September 28, the Washington and Northern Virginia chapter of the Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society invited Fari Schlake to give a presentation on "Security Protocols and Their Impact on Quality of Service in Tele-Medicine Communications."

Ms. Schlake discussed the network protocols currently being used in the telemedicine and telehealth industry, and quickly identified some of their QoS loopholes while providing secure communications. She then introduced her design of a security protocol that combines the best of the three worlds of broadband, secure, and high quality

communications. By using an example of a preferred network and backbone protocol-the Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)-she described the QoS signaling and negotiable parameters such as Cell Transmission Delay (CTD), Cell Delay Variation (CDV) and Cell Loss Ratio (CLR). She went on to discuss the ATM security infrastructure, illustrating the in-band three-way Security Message Exchange (SME) and the Security Specifications Information Elements (SSIE) that are required to establish a secure service.

Her design framework took into

## Washington Section Elections: Call for Nominations

The Washington Section will hold its annual elections at its November 7 meeting (see Calendar). At that time, all members present may vote for 2007 Section Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. Officers serve a one-year term. Election of four of the eight-member Board of Directors will also take place that evening. Section Directors serve two-year terms. A slate of candidates will be announced in the eScanner (www.ieee.org/escanner) on or about Nov 1. Officers and Directors must be IEEE members in the Washington Section. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor on Nov 7. Please contact Ron Ticker at rlticker@ieee.org for more information.

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#### WASHINGTON SECTION http://www.ieee.org/washsec

#### Chair

Haik Biglari, P.E. 301-228-3538 hbiglari@ fairchildcontrols.com

Vice Chair Kiki Ikossi

703-960-0261 ikossi@ieee.org

Richard Benjamin, P.E. 301-228-3471 rbenjamin@ieee.org

#### Secretary

Gerard J. Christman 703-697-8195 gerard.christman@ieee.org

Past Chair Ron Ticker

202-358-2429 rlticker@ieee.org

#### Directors

James Christian jchristian@wmata.com

Doug Holly dougholly@ieee.org

Howard Needham howardn@ieee.org

Harry Sauberman hrs@cdrh.fda.gov

Debi Siering siering@ieee.org Harold Stinger

hstinger@sgt-inc.com Tim Weil trweil@ieee.org

Steve Weiss

sweiss@arl.army.mil

#### NORTHERN VIRGINIA SECTION http://ieee-nova.org

#### Chair

Michael Cardinale 703-788-7754 cardinal@ieee.org

Chair Elect

Chuck Sisung 703-267-9524 sisung@ieee.org

#### Treasurer

Barry Tilton 703-655-3621 barrytilton@ieee.org

Secretary Monica A. Mallini, P.E. 703-387-6021 m.a.mallini@ieee.org

#### Past Chair

Murty Polavarapu 703-367-1497 murtyp@ieee.org

Syed Ahmed syed.f.ahmed@ieee.org

Chuck Baldi cbaldi@ieee.org

Amarieet Basra amarjeet.basra@ieee.org

Dave Booth dbooth@ieee.org

Scott Goldstein

s.goldstein@ieee.org

Kerry Hartman hartman\_k@ computer.org

**Jeff Palermo** jpalermo@

kemaconsulting.com

Tim Settle settlet@saic.com

#### NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA

#### Office Manager Debra Meale

P.O. Box 6814 Woodbridge, VA 22195-6814 703-492-0047 (voice and fax) nca-admin@ieee.org

#### **IEEE REGION 2** SOUTH AREA'

Murty Polavarapu 703-367-1497 murtyp@ieee.org

\*Including Washington, Northern Virginia, and Baltimore Sections and Annapolis Subsection

#### SCANNER STAFF

Northern Virginia

#### Editor-in-Chief Pete Sypher 703-216-3203 p.sypher@

ieee.org

ieee.org

Managing Editor Elsie Grant 301-661-5921 ncac-scanner@

Section Editor Kerry Hartman 703-623-1432 hartman\_k@ computer.org

Washington Section Editor Tim Weil 301-452-3641 trweil@ieee.org

Webmaster Rex Klopfenstein 703-610-1534 r.klopfenstein@ ieee.org

Advertising Manager

Dave Booth 540-364-1350 dbooth@ieee.org

## TECHNICAL SOCIETY CHAPTERS AND AFFINITY GROUPS

### **Technical Society Chapters**

#### **Aerospace and Electronic** Systems Society (W/NV)

Mr. Roger Oliva 703-573-6887 axe@computer.org http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/ wash\_nova/aess

#### **Antennas and Propagation** Society (W/NV)

Dr. Scott Kordella 703-883-6282 kordella@mitre.org

#### **Communications Society (W)**

Mr. Doug Holly 240-404-1601 dougholly@ieee.org

#### **Communications Society (NV)**

Dr. Dennis Moen 703-625-2611 dennis.moen@ieee.org

#### **Computer Society (NV/W)**

Mr. Shahid Shah 703-475-6146 shahid.shah@ieee.org

Dr. Tirumale K. Ramesh tkramesh@ieee.org http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/wash\_ nova/computer/

## Control Systems Society (W) Mr. Mike Gilliom

301-228-3591 mgilliom@fairchildcontrols. com

## Control Systems Society (NV) Mr. Seddik Benhamida

703-414-4082 sbenhamida@dc.devry.edu

#### **Electromagnetic Compatibility** Society (W/NV)

Mr. Greg Snyder 301-417-0220 gregs@wll.com

#### **Electron Devices Society (NV/W)**

Mr. Murty Polavarapu 703-367-1497 murtyp@ieee.org www.ieee.org/eds\_nova

#### **Education Society**

Mr. David Bourner 410-455-2855 bourner@umbc.edu

#### **Engineering Management** Society (W/NV)

Mr. Doug Holly 240-404-1601 dougholly@ieee.org http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/ wash\_nova/ems/

#### **Geoscience and Remote** Sensing Society (W/NV)

Dr. James C. Tilton 301-286-9510 james.c.tilton@nasa.gov http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/no\_ virginia/grss

### **Industry Applications Society (W/NV)**

Ms. Monica A. Mallini, P.E. 703-387-6021 m.a.mallini@ieee.org

#### Information Theory Society (W/NV)

Mr. Greg Strutt 301-645-0380 gstrutt@ieee.org

#### **Lasers and Electro-optics** Society (W/NV)

Dr. Mary S. Tobin 301-394-2046 mtobin@arl.army.mil

### **Magnetics Society (W/NV)**

Dr. Can E. Korman 202-994-4952 korman@gwu.edu

#### **Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (W/NV)**

Dr. Joe Qiu 202-404-4510 joe.qiu@ieee.org www.ieee.org/mtt-wnva

#### **Nuclear and Plasma Sciences** Society (W/NV)

Mr. Harry Sauberman 301-443-8879 HRS@cdrh.fda.gov

#### Oceanic Engineering Society (W/NV)

Mr. Mike Goldberg 703-610-1717 mgoldber@mitretek.org

#### Power Engineering Society (NV/W)

Mr. Sirak Belayneh 703-472-1621 sbelayne@ieee.org

#### Signal Processing Society (W) Dr. Min Wu

301-405-0401 minwu@umd.edu

#### Signal Processing Society (NV) Dr. Timothy Settle

703-814-8247 settlet@saic.com Society for Social Implications of

## Technology (NV/W/Baltimore) Mr. Murty Polavarapu 703-367-1497 murtyp@ieee.org

### Vehicular Technology Society, Land Transportation Committee Mr. Karl W. Berger, P.E.

703-803-7917 kwb@dcm-va.com

#### **Southern Maryland Communica**tion, Computer and EMC Chapter Mr. Fred Heather

301-342-6975 heatherf@navair.navy.mil

#### **Affinity Groups**

Consultants' Network (W/NV) Ms. Monica A. Mallini, P.E. 703-387-6021 m.a.mallini@ieee.org

#### www.ieee-consultants.org **Graduates of the Last Decade (NV)**

Mr. Kerry Hartman 703-623-1432 hartman\_k@computer.org

#### Life Members (W/NV)

Mr. Amarjeet S. Basra 703-324-2821 amarjeet.basra@ieee.org

## Women in Engineering (W/NV)

Ms. Danielle Obuchon 703-863-8852 dobuchon@gmail.com

## **Editorial Policies and Procedures**

### Calendar Items and Announcements

Please submit calendar items in the format used in the Calendar of Events. You can send email to ncac-scanner@ieee.org. If possible, include a synopsis of the event and a biographical sketch of the presenter including academic background, current position, notable achievements, and IEEE and other professional affiliations.

Other contributions, such as reports on chapter events and other member activities, reviews of books by or of interest to members, are most welcome. Please submit them to the managing editor, electronically if possible, at ncac-scanner@ieee.org

#### On the Web

#### **eSCANNER Calendar of Events**

The calendar is available at www.ieee.org/escanner. Check here for events submitted too late for print publication.

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The editor reserves the right to set policies and procedures necessary to provide members with a newsletter that is informative and timely. Deadlines must be strictly adhered to to keep the publication on schedule. If you are planning an event and have insufficient information by the deadline, please contact the

The deadline for the upcoming issue will always be published on this page. The deadline for the January-February issue is December 1, 2006

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# CALENDAR OF events

#### Wednesday, November 1, 2006 ◆ Global Earth Observation System of Systems

Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Sponsor: Speaker: Ms. Kathy Fontaine, Global Change

> Data Center, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD

Time: Refreshments 3:00 pm; lecture 3:30 pm Place: NASA Goddard Visitor Center

Directions: See www.nasa.gov/centers/goddard/ visitor/directions/index.html.

More Info: See Diamond story, p. 4, and http:// ewh.ieee.org/r2/no\_virginia/grss.

**Contact:** James C. Tilton at james.c.tilton@nasa.gov.

#### Wednesday, November 1, 2006 Ubiquitous Multimedia Computing and Communication: **Challenges and Future Trends**

Signal Processing Society, Washington Sponsor: Chapter

C.-C. Jay Kuo, University of Southern Speaker: California

Time: Reception and networking 6:00 pm, lecture 6:30 pm

Place: University of Maryland, Kim Engineering Building, Room 1110, College Park,

Directions: From the north or I-495, take Route 1

South. Approx. 2 miles south of the Beltway, turn right onto Campus Drive, then immediately turn right onto Paint Branch Drive and the Kim Engineering Building will be on the left (after a stop sign). From the south on Route 1, turn left onto Campus Drive, and follow above directions. Free parking after 4:00 pm in Lots T and XX. See www.parking.umd.edu/themap. From the College Park Metro Station (Green line), take the free UM campus shuttle, get off at the first stop, walk back for a hundred vards, turn left onto Paint Branch Drive and look for the Kim Engineering Building on the left.

More info: See Diamond story, p. 4. All are welcome to attend.

Cost: Free for IEEE members. Contact: Send an email message to washington.sps@ieee.org.

#### Thursday, November 2, 2006 **◆ Spin Electronics**

Sponsor: Magnetics Society Cosponsor: Electron Devices Society

Speaker: Michael Coey, Trinity College, Dublin,

Ireland Time: 2:00 pm

Place: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Building 101, Lec-

ture Room A, Gaithersburg, MD

Directions: See http://www.nist.gov/public\_ affairs/maps/nistmaps.html.

See Diamond story, p. 5. This is an IEEE Magnetics Society Distinguished Lecture.

For access to the NIST campus, attendees Contact:

from outside NIST must preregister by contacting Philip Pong at 301-975-8876 or ppong@nist.gov.

#### Tuesday, November 7, 2006 **Washington Section Administrative Committee Meeting**

Time: Dinner at 6:00 pm; meeting at 6:30 pm Place: Bethesda Marriott, 6711 Democracy

Blvd., Bethesda, MD

Directions: From Silver Spring, take I-495 West to Exit 36 North (Rt. 187, Old Georgetown Rd.), turn right onto Old Georgetown Rd., then left onto Democracy Blvd. and look for the Marriott on the right. From Rockville, take I-270, follow the signs for Northern Virginia at the divide, then take Exit 1 (Democracy Blvd.), turn left onto Democracy Blvd, and look for the Mar-

wood Rd.). From Northern Virginia, take I-495 to I-270, then take Exit 1 (Democracy Blvd. East), and proceed as above. All interested IEEE members are wel-More Info:

riott on the left (make a U-turn at Fern-

come. Elections for 2007 section officers and 2007-2008 directors will be held at this meeting. See story, p. 1.

Contact: Debra Meale at 703-492-0047 or ncaadmin@ieee.org. Please include the term IEEE in the subject line of your email.

#### Wednesday, November 8, 2006 **Education Society Meeting**

Sponsor: Education Society, Washington and Balti-

more Chapter

Time: 6:30-9:00 pm

Place: University of Maryland Baltimore County, President's Room, ITE-456,

**Directions:** From the south, take I-95 to Route 166 (Exit 47B, Catonsville), and follow signs to UMBC. See http://www.umbc.edu/ aboutumbc/campusmap/map\_ flash.html and select "Information Technology/Engineering" from the

Building Directory list. More Info:

This is the first meeting of the joint Washington and Baltimore chapter of the IEEE Education Society. This will be an organizational meeting to plan future events and directions for the new chapter. Refreshments will be provided. All interested IEEE members are invited to attend.

Contact: For more details, please contact Prof. David Bourner at 410-455-2855 or bourner@umbc.edu.

#### Wednesday, November 8, 2006 **Northern Virginia Section Administrative Committee Meeting**

Time: 6:30 pm

TBA (see www.ieee.org/escanner) Place: All interested IEEE members are invited More Info:

to attend.

Debra Meale at 703-492-0047 or nca-Contact: admin@ieee.org. Please include the term

IEEE in the subject line of your email.

Friday, November 10, 2006

#### ◆ Top Reasons Why Small Businesses Fail...and Avoiding Them

Women In Engineering Cosponsor: Consultants' Network Speaker: Vera Connolly

7:00 pm Time: George Washington University Place: (building and room TBD, please see

www.ieee.org/escanner) More Info: See Diamond story, p. 5.

Contact: Please RSVP by November 7 to Debi Siering at siering@ieee.org.

#### Tuesday, November 14, 2006 Terahertz Technology in Outer and Inner Space

Microwave and Theory Techniques Society Sponsor: Dr. Peter Siegel, Jet Propulsion Labora-

tory, Pasadena, CA

Social period 5:30 pm; dinner 6:00 pm; Time: lecture 7:00 pm

Mitre Corporation, Building 2, 7515 Col-

Place: shire Drive, McLean, VA

See www.mitre.org/about/locations/ **Directions:** mitre2\_map.html.

More info: See Diamond story, p. 5. This lecture is the second event in the chapter-sponsored series, Millimeter-Wave and Terahertz Technologies and Applications.

Cost:

Contact: Please RSVP by COB, Friday, November 10 to Roger Kaul at r.kaul@ieee.org or

301-394-4775.

#### Tuesday, November 14, 2006 **Open Source and Free Tools** for Engineers, Part 2

National Capital Area Consultant's Network Sponsor:

Time:

Chevy's Fresh Mex Restaurant, Ballston Place: Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA

Directions: Ballston Common is two blocks south of Ballston Metro station (Orange line).

More Info: This is the second installment in the Open Source Software series, which started with the September 19 meeting. Members will demonstrate their favorite "free" software programs and discuss the usefulness and limitations of each. See Diamond story, p. 5.

Contact: Rick Cunningham at rick@corridor-

#### Thursday, November 16, 2006 **Power Quality (Topic TBA)**

Sponsors: Power Engineering Society; Industry

**Applications Society** 

Speaker:

Time: Refreshments at 6:00 pm, speaker at

6:30 pm

CALENDAR continues on page 4

#### CALENDAR

continued from page 3

Virginia Tech Advanced Research Place:

Institute, 4300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 750,

Arlington, VA

Directions: From Ballston Metro Station (Orange

line), turn right at top of escalator then left on the street. Proceed two blocks toward Hecht's, turn right and walk one block to Ballston Point at the intersection of Wilson Blvd. and Glebe Rd. ARI is on the 7th floor. If driving, see www.ari.vt.edu/ari\_directions.htm.

More Info: A light dinner buffet will be served, fol-

lowed by the program.

Cost: Free for IEEE members; \$10 for guests. Contact: RSVP to Monica Mallini at 703-387-6021

or m.a.mallini@ieee.org.

#### **Tuesday, December 5, 2006 Washington Section Executive Committee Meeting**

Time: Dinner at 6:00 pm; meeting at 6:30 pm Place: Bethesda Marriott, 6711 Democracy

Blvd., Bethesda, MD

Directions: From Silver Spring, take I-495 West to Exit 36 North (Rt. 187, Old Georgetown

Rd.), turn right onto Old Georgetown

Rd., then left onto Democracy Blvd. and look for the Marriott on the right. From Rockville, take I-270, follow the signs for Northern Virginia at the divide, then take Exit 1 (Democracy Blvd.), turn left onto Democracy Blvd, and look for the Marriott on the left (make a U-turn at Fernwood Rd.). From Northern Virginia, take I-495 to I-270, then take Exit 1 (Democracy Blvd. East), and proceed as above.

More Info: This meeting is for officers only. Contact: Debra Meale at 703-492-0047 or ncaadmin@ieee.org. Please include the term IEEE in the subject line of your email.

### Wednesday, December 6, 2006 Information Hiding: A Tutorial

**Information Theory Viewpoint** 

Signal Processing Society, Washington Sponsor:

Chapter

Speaker: Phillip Regalia, Catholic University of

America

Reception and networking 6:00 pm, lec-

ture 6:30 pm

Place: University of Maryland, Kim Engineer-

ing Building, Room 1110, College Park,

Directions: From the north or I-495, take Route 1

South. Approx. 2 miles south of the Beltway, turn right onto Campus Drive, then

immediately turn right onto Paint Branch Drive and the Kim Engineering Building will be on the left (after a stop sign). From the south on Route 1, turn left onto Campus Drive, and follow above directions. Free parking after 4:00 pm in Lots T and XX. See www.parking.umd.edu/ themap. From the College Park Metro Station (Green line), take the free UM campus shuttle, get off at the first stop, walk back for a hundred yards, turn left onto Paint Branch Drive and look for the Kim Engineering Building on the left.

More info: See Diamond story, p. 5. Contact: Send an email message to washington.sps@ieee.org.

### Tuesday, December 19, 2006 ◆ Open Source Web Content

**Management Systems** Sponsor: National Capital Area Consultant's Net-

Time:

Chevy's Fresh Mex Restaurant, Ballston Place:

Common Mall, 4238 Wilson Blvd.,

Arlington, VA

Directions: Ballston Common is two blocks south of

Ballston Metro station (Orange line).

Contact: Rick Cunningham at rick@corridor-

rd.com.



## DIAMOND STORIES



#### Wednesday, November 1, 2006 **Global Earth Observation System** of Systems

The international Group on Earth Observations (GEO) was established in 2003 to engage all the nations of the Earth in building a coordinated, comprehensive, and sustained Earth observation capability. Key to that capability, and perhaps the greatest challenge, is the realization of a Global Earth Observation System of Systems, or GEOSS. The GEOSS 10-Year Implementation Plan has identified nine Societal Benefit Areas to which member agencies and participating organizations can focus relevant assets-anything from actual sensors and data sets to processing expertise to user requirements. GEO members and organizations strive to make GEOSS a reality by pooling their collective expertise to address critical issues either within one or more of those areas, or across all nine at once. The GEO website describes GEOSS this way: "GEOSS will build on and add value to existing Earth-observation systems by coordinating their efforts, addressing critical gaps, supporting their interoperability, sharing information, reaching a common understanding of user requirements, and improving delivery of information to users."

Each member nation has responded to GEO by establishing some sort of coordinating body; within the United States, that is the United States Group on Earth Observations (USGEO). This talk will describe the establishment of GEO and USGEO, will provide an overview of the activities and challenges in the area of architecture and data management, and will highlight some of the major efforts underway within USGEO today.

Kathy Fontaine works on general policy issues of interest to NASA and its Earth science data commu-

nity. She co-authored a study which recommended the way forward for NASA's Earth science data systems (referred to as the SEEDS Study). She now manages a set of community-based working groups which are a follow on of that study, and which examine issues of interest to the Earth science community, including standards adoption, technology infusion, metrics reporting, and software reuse. Part of her work also involves developing a cost estimation tool to determine what both Earth and space science data systems should cost (this software tool is currently in the preliminary stages of the patent process at Goddard).

She received a B.S. in physics (astrophysics) from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in 1984, and an M.A. in science, technology, and public policy from the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., in 2002. She has authored or coauthored more than a dozen papers and articles on various aspects of earth science policy.

#### Wednesday, November 1, 2006 **Ubiquitous Multimedia Computing** and Communication: **Challenges and Future Trends**

With recent flourishing of embedded media applications such as MPEG-2, H.264 and VC-1 encoders/ decoders and wireless broadband communication infrastructures such as 3G, WiMax and Wi-Fi, realtime multimedia computing and communications on embedded systems becomes a major focus for both software and hardware designers. In the first part of the talk, the tradeoff between several design choices is analyzed, including the RISC processor, the SIMD processor and the dedicated ASIC.

Then, in the second half of the talk, three emerging R&D efforts will be highlighted. First, the design of a multi-format video codec to strike a balance between flexibility and performance is addressed. This is motivated by the observation that there are multiple audio video compression formats to be adopted currently. The trend of embedded processors is to support a wide range of audio video formats such as MPEG-2, H.264 and VC-1. The design of multi-format codec demands a careful architecture consideration. Second, we consider the design of low-complexity integrated encryption and compression speech and video coding algorithms, which can significantly lower the power consumption of mobile terminals for the digital rights management (DRM). This gives an example of lower power design from an algorithmic level. Third, the rate-distortion-complexity (RDC) optimized video coding techniques are discussed. We emphasize a concept called "decoding-friendly encoder design," where many computational heavy operations can be saved at the decoder end while high visual quality can still be preserved.

C.-C. Jay Kuo received a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1987. He is now with the University of Southern California (USC) as director of the Signal and Image Processing Institute and professor of electrical engineering, computer science and mathematics. His research interests are in the areas of digital media processing, multimedia compression, communication and networking technologies, and embedded multimedia system design. Currently, there are about 40 Ph.D. students his research group at USC, which is one of the larg-

> **DIAMOND STORIES** continues on page 6

est academic research organizations in multimedia technologies (see http://viola.usc.edu).

Dr. Kuo is a Fellow of IEEE and SPIE. He received the National Science Foundation Young Investigator Award and Presidential Faculty Fellow Award in 1992 and 1993, respectively. He is a co-author of about 800 technical publications in international conferences and journals as well as seven books. Dr. Kuo is editor-in-chief for the Journal of Visual Communication and Image Representation, and editor for the Journal of Information Science and Engineering and the EURASIP Journal on Applied Signal Processing. He was on the editorial board of the IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, and served as associate editor for IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology and IEEE Transactions on Speech and Audio Processing.

#### Thursday, November 2, 2006 Spin Electronics

Conventional electronics has ignored the spin on the electron. Besides its fundamental unit charge, the electron has a magnetic moment due to its quantum of angular momentum. Things began to change in 1988, with the discovery of giant magnetoresistance in metallic thin film stacks. This led to the development of spin valves and magnetic tunnel junctions, which allowed magnetic recording to ride the tiger of 100 percent year-on year growth of recording density for the past ten years. Tunnel junctions are the active elements for most schemes for nonvolatile magnetic random-access memory, which will be briefly surveyed.

These devices, which underpin the multi-billion dollar magnetic recording industry, are nothing more than sophisticated magnetoresistors, the simplest two-terminal electronic device. If we are to see a second generation of spin electronics, it will be necessary to develop more complex devices such as a three-terminal spin transistor with gain. Here magnetic semiconductors are required, or at least the ability to manipulate spin-polarized currents in normal semiconductors. The puzzling new family of dilute magnetic oxides, such as ZnO:Co or SnO2: Mn, and the emerging class of d0 ferromagnets such as HfO2 or CaB6 may produce a new paradigm for magnetism in solids, and support entirely new device concepts. A major challenge is to separate spin and charge currents in solids, and transmit information magnetically, without dissipation.

# Friday, November 10, 2006 Top Reasons Why Small Businesses Fail... and Avoiding Them

Have you thought about pursuing the American Dream of becoming your own boss? Despite all the wonderful incentives that motivate individuals to become self-employed, within a year most self-starters are in the red and have to go back to work for someone else. This presentation will identify the major causes of small business failure and how to avoid them, thus creating an opportunity to be successful as a small business owner.

Vera Connolly is president of Connolly Business Solutions. Before starting her own business, she was an executive manager for 26 years in the retail and federal government sectors, and held a variety of management and leadership positions in operations, customer relationships, education and training, and human resources.

Mrs. Connolly has substantial management experience in a multi-cultural work environment, as well as expertise in standing-up new organizations, developing marketing strategies, and budget management. As a skilled facilitator and mentor, she

helped management teams develop strategic plans, and guided senior executives in creating a communications strategy, performance expectations, and management processes for customer relationship management hubs within a global enterprise. During a two-year assignment in Australia, she designed new hire orientation, on-the-job training, and train-the-trainer programs for a diverse set of operational positions.

She has an M.S. in nonprofit management and expects to receive her M.B.A. in December from the University of Maryland, University College.

# Tuesday, November 14, 2006 Terahertz Technology in Outer and Inner Space

After more than 30 years, the field of terahertz technology is entering a true renaissance. The past few years have seen an unprecedented expansion of terahertz applications, components and instruments. Broad popular interest in this unique frequency domain has emerged for the first time, spanning applications as diverse as biohazard detection and tumor recognition. This talk will broadly survey terahertz technology from the cradle applications in space science and spectroscopy to more recent biomedical and chemical users.

Peter H. Siegel has been involved in the analysis and development of millimeter and sub-millimeter sensors for 30 years. Dr. Siegel has worked at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies and the National Radio Observatory, and he is currently at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. At JPL, he has contributed to more than 60 R&D programs as well as developing and delivering hardware for four major space flight instruments. Dr. Siegel is chair of the IEEE MTT Technical Committee on Terahertz Technology and a Distinguished Microwave Lecturer.

## Open Source and Free Tools for Engineers, Part 2

Open source isn't just for software developers and programmers any more! It's not necessary to write code and extend open source software just to be able to use it. In fact, you don't even need to know what a compiler is, let alone know how to use it in order to benefit from open source. Lots of complete, highly functional tools for engineers are available as free, open source projects, and can greatly enhance the consultant's bag of tricks. Similarly, many commercial programs, while not open source, are frequently available in "lite" or express versions for the occasional user, with hopes of eventually making you a paid user. However, there's a lot of junk out there, too, and it's not always easy to know whether obtaining and learning to use a particular

tool will be worth the time investment.

At this meeting, members of the Consultant's Network will discuss a number of free tools that they are using in their work, and will give attendees an idea of just what can be accomplished with them. The format will be a series of brief demonstrations of the actual use of the software to solve a real-world engineering problem. Features and limitations of the free versions of each tool will be highlighted. Attendees should come away from the meeting with a good idea of whether a particular tool would be right for them, what the learning curve might entail, and where to find some local expertise on its use.

If you have a favorite tool you would like to demonstrate in a 10-15 minute time slot, please contact Rick Cunningham at rick@corridor-rd.com and mention "November Meeting Topic" in the subject line.

# Information Hiding: A Tutorial Information Theory Viewpoint

Information hiding is a recent viewpoint of watermarking, which exploits information theory to deduce fundamental limits on how much information can be hidden in a cover signal, subject to distortion constraints from embedding, and resilience due to signal degradation. Applications include copyright protection, fingerprinting, embedding confidential patient information in medical images, and other areas of stenography.

This talk presents a tutorial overview of recent results in information hiding stemming from an information theory viewpoint, along with coding techniques which are adapted to information hiding, including dirty paper coding and nested lattice codes. Some standard techniques for watermarking are revisited in this framework, and gaps between theoretically achievable embedding capacity and practical attainable rates are emphasized. Relationships to cryptography, dual source coding problems, and high-capacity multi-user communications are also reviewed.

Phil Regalia received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1988. He spent many years working in France at the National Institute of Telecommunications, with sabbatical visits at the Delft University of Technology and the Army Research Lab in Adelphi, Maryland. He returned to the United States two years ago and is now at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Regalia was elected as an IEEE Fellow in 2000 for his contributions to adaptive filtering, and has been active in signal processing for communications in recent years. He is the founding editor-in-chief of the EURASIP Journal on Wireless Communications and Networking, and serves as an associate editor with the IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems, the International Journal of Adaptive Control and Signal Processing, and the EURASIP Journal on Applied Signal Processing.

## **DeVry Student Branch Holds First SPAC**

The first annual DeVry University-IEEE Student Professional Awareness Conference (SPAC) was held on September 27. More than 40 students, faculty and visitors attended the event, which was sponsored by the IEEE Student Branch at DeVry University, Arlington and the IEEE Northern Virginia Section.

The conference included excellent presentations on the following topics: Intellectual Property Law by Kerry Hartman; Project Management by Doug Holly; Interviews and Resumes by Dr. Van B. Le; and Preparation for Career Changes by Tom Wellington. Each speaker was presented a DeVry University coffee mug and T-shirt in appreciation of their support. Breakfast and lunch was also provided for the attendees.

Individuals who helped to make the SPAC a success included Vernon Dickerson, student services; Vaugh Dabney, DeVry student; Broderick Pierce, facilities; Kevin Shanahan, DeVry student; Ryan Niles, student member; Melvin Menns, director of student services; Cary Whitcup, dean of student affairs; Christian Campos; and Aubrey Humphrey, student branch president.

#### **SECON PANEL**

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provided for a wide ranging discussion by both speakers and conference attendees.

The panel was moderated by Les Owens, a principal with Booz Allen Hamilton and associate professor of computer science at Georgetown University. Mr. Owens opened the seminar by posing questions to panelists on the current DoD wireless environment, the impact of MANETs and sensor networks in the combat zone, information assurance and security issues, scalability problems and network routing challenges. To identify what are the right problems to fund and research in this field, Mr. Owens challenged his colleagues to focus on the key points in these areas so that "we don't study the fuzz on the bee."

The four speakers followed this lead with discussions from their unique professional viewpoints. The succession of presentations included Sherin Kamal (Booz Allen Hamilton) on "MANETs for DoD and DHS," Curtis White (U.S. Air Force) on "Integrated Battlefield Defenses-A Communications Overview," David Lofquist (Boeing) on "Software Communications-The Battleship Internet," and Scott Midkiff (NSF), on "Ad-Hoc and Sensor Technology: The Defense Industry's Perspective (As Seen by an Academic)."

Dr. Kamal's discussion pointed to the complexity of the interoperable networking environments used with MANETs to provide a Tactical Edge to the battlefield combat soldier. Soldier Radio Waveform (SRW), Mobile User Objective Systems (MUOS), Wideband Network Waveform (WNW), Airborne Radio Frequencies and External Networks are the major components he presented as a networking integration problem. Dr. Kamal noted that the battlefield application of MANETs provides either "the worst nightmare for network designers" or a challenge to move beyond current design models (such as the OSI layers). Dr. Kamal noted that industry has moved beyond 'tweaking' the IETF MANET standards to the DoD requirements. He pointed to new standards, network building blocks, and vocabulary to expand the scope of what needs to be done.

The vantage point of an Integrated Base Defense and Battlefield Security Zone (BsZ), as presented by Curtis White, highlighted the overwhelming complexity of protecting the modern Warfighter with both sensors and AdHoc networking. In this BsZ model, soldiers are outfitted with Body Area Networks equipment (IEEE 802.15.4 standard) including cameras, VOIP communication, and multiple sensors (chemical, radiation, acoustic and biologic). And don't forget the canine companion ("dogs are the most reliable sensors we use"). Views of Close In Battles zones, C2 Situational Awareness models for Data/Voice/ Video, and the Integrated Battlefield Defense introduced the complexities of meeting military design requirements (scalability, transparency, life cycle costs to name a few). Mr. White also highlighted the SMARTDUST project, which has been tested by DoD using wireless microelectrome-

#### **EMBS**

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account the QoS parameter degradation caused by performing security operations, noting that QoS degradation values are specific to each network element containing a security agent, selected security service and algorithm. As one of the foremost requirements, the QoS should keep its end-toend characteristics. Furthermore, the developed protocols should be based on and extend the existing standardized ATM SECurity (SEC) protocols.

Ms. Schlake performed an ATM model network simulation of an existing network, the Health System in Minnesota (HSM). To perform this exercise, she demonstrated and used her own simulation software, which simulates all existing ATM SEC standardized security exchange protocols (SME) along with her newly developed protocols (SME\_Q). She compared three cases of a non-secure connection, a secure connection running the existing ATM SEC SME protocol, and a secure connection keeping the promised QoS using her developed SME\_Q protocol. She analyzed the end-to end CTD over an increasing number of security associations. In this real-life example simulation, she used the typically available network devices (and their values) needed to transfer real-time video transmissions. Typical codecs introduce a wide range of delays from 4.8 microsec to 38.4 microsec per cell. Furthermore,



Fari Schlake

she assumed a ballpark figure of 20 percent protocol processing overhead and ATM switches at 155 megabits, which introduce 2.8 microsec delay at the network nodes and encryptors with an average delay of 15 microsecs. The simulation showed that using her SME\_Q protocol increased the overhead only by about 2.6 percent, while securing the connection raised the CTD values from 200 percent to 800 percent!

Cosponsors of the meeting, held at the Mitre Corp. in McLean, Virginia, included local chapters of the Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society, Communications Society, Signal Processing Society, Computer Society, and Oceanic Engineering Society, the National Capital Area Consultants' Network, and the Women in Engineering affinity group.

chanical systems (MEMS) sensors, and which can detect light, temperature, vibration pulsing signals.

Work on Joint Tactical Radio Systems was the subject of the next panelist, Boeing Technical Fellow David Lofquist. He presented a broad look at the requirements to transform today's wireless and radio networks into the Interoperable Battlefield Network of tomorrow. The challenges presented by Mr. Lofquist's talk highlighted such areas as multiple waveforms for heterogeneous mobile extension to GIG; interoperability through the capacity to communicate with legacy systems; and relay and translation nodes for tactical users. Multiple radio system (JTRS HMS, FAB-T, GMR, AMF) provide integration challenges for throughput, power, weight, size and cost. Boeing's JTRS program will continue to transform these radio platforms for the evolving Network-Centric Operations (NCO) model of tomorrow. "With all these interworking radio frequency channels, we have to save spectrum availability as a number one priority," he noted.

Dr. Scott Midkiff is an IEEE Senior Member with broad work in the wireless and mobile computing field ranging from Bell Labs, the University of Virginia electrical engineering department, and most recently the National Science Foundation (NSF). In his panel presentation, Dr. Midkiff led the discussion on several key research and development themes. He noted that the DoD wireless and networking problems present 'hard problems' in fields such as MANET and Sensor integration. He urged the audience to focus on accurate research, and the right targets to look at problems such as radio frequency propagation and modeling problems in the areas of RF interference, networking, mobile computing and application workload.

This was a very informative panel discussion. Sensor networks are increasingly critical for providing Intelligence-Surveillance-Reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities across the battlefield. Future battlefields may have high mobility, high fidelity sensor nodes as well as an ever increasing number of lower-cost, expendable, multimode sensors-all serving as a backbone for an ad-hoc communications network capable of detecting, processing, and fusing battle data in real time. As presented to SECON attendees, this panel discussion demonstrated that this technology offers an urgent and challenging opportunity for the partnerships of industry, government and academia.

For more information about the conference, see www.comsoc.org/confs/ SECON/2006.

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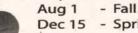
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#### **MATHCOUNTS**

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a school might not participate, but a key reason is that no school staff members are available to coach the students. In some schools where the staff cannot support the program, the coaches are provided by the school's business partner. However, not all schools have business partners. In Northern Virginia, there is a small MathCounts volunteer organization whose primary function is to run the regional competition in February and support the state competition in March.

This fall we are starting a pilot program to provide volunteer coaches to schools that did not participate in the last few years. Initially, the schools we will be working with are Poe Middle School in Annandale, and Holmes Middle School in Alexandria.

The MathCounts program is built around approximately 300 problems that the students and coaches work through together from October through February. The coaches meet with the students after school. Typically each volunteer will coach once a week on the same day. There should be sufficient flexibility to accommodate last minute changes in individual schedules. If we have more than six coaches, we can add a school.

This is a fun thing to do. The stu-

#### SIGNAL PROCESSING

continued from page 1

During the meeting, Washington chapter members also elected Min Wu as chapter chair and Ramani Duraiswami as vice chair. Dr. Wu is an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Maryland, working on information security and multimedia signal processing. She has been coordinating the formation of the new chapter. Dr. Duraiswami is with the computer science faculty of the same university, with broad research interests on spatial audio, virtual environments, microphone arrays, computer vision, and statistical machine learning. Both individuals have been active in the professional activities of the Signal Processing Society.

dents are smart and motivated, and there are more schools interested in volunteer coaches, in addition to Poe and Holmes. What we need are the coaches! If you are interested, contact Michael Flicker at mflicker@ieee.org or 703-860-1342.

For those who are interested in coaching in other parts of the Washington metro area, go to www.mathcounts.org/volunteer/volunteersearch.asp to find volunteer coordinators for the District of Columbia and Maryland.

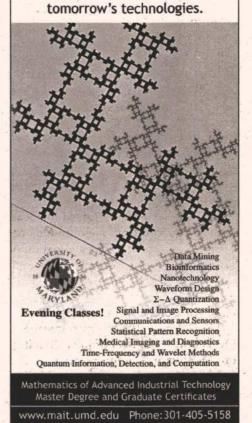
Many technical activities are being planned for this fall and next spring (see Calendar). If you have any questions about the chapter's activities or have suggestions to share, please send them to washing ton.sps@ieee.org.

The guest speaker, Dr. Chellappa, received his Ph.D. from Purdue University. He served as director of the Signal and Image Processing Institute at University of Southern California before joining the University of Maryland faculty. Over the last 25 years, he has published six books and numerous book chapters, peerreviewed journal and conference papers in image and video processing, analysis and recognition.

Dr. Chellappa has served on the IEEE Signal Processing Society's Board of Governors and as its vice president of awards and membership. He received the NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award, two IBM Faculty Awards, the Technical Achievement Award from the Signal Processing Society, and several paper awards and teaching recognitions. He is past editor-in-chief of the IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, and has served on the editorial boards of several leading journals. He is a Fellow of the IEEE and the International Association for Pattern Recognition, and a

Golden Core Member of IEEE Computer Society. Information about Dr. Chellappa's research can be found at http://www.umiacs.umd.edu/~rama/index.html.

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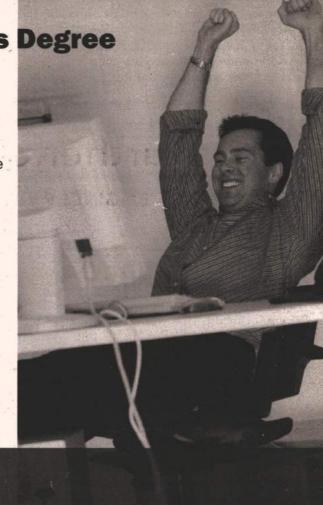
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## Leo Young

#### Past President of IEEE and Microwave Pioneer

On September 14, 2006, IEEE lost a past president and pioneer in microwave technology when Leo Young, 80, passed away from complications with cancer at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Dr. Young was president of IEEE in 1980 and a Fellow of IEEE. He was an expert on microwave technology and held 20 patents, published numerous scholarly papers and was the author, co-author or editor of 14 books, including Microwave Filters, Impedance-Matching Networks and Coupling Structures (1964). Considered "the bible" by those in the field, the reference book has been translated into Russian and Japanese, still sells well decades after publication and is included in the Microwave Hall of Fame.

Born in Austria to a prominent Jewish family—his father was a medical doctor—Dr. Young described in a memoir how his family escaped the Nazis. The year was 1938, and England seemed to be the most feasible destination for Jews desperate to leave Austria. Although the Youngs had relatives in the United States, they knew that the U.S. quota system would probably keep them on a waiting list for at least two years.

One morning, his parents went to the British Embassy in their home town of Vienna, where they joined a huge crowd of people waiting patiently for their turn to enter the compound before the gates closed for the day. They had been standing in line for hours when suddenly an embassy employee came running out. "Is there a doctor here?" he shouted. Someone inside had fainted. The elder Young's hand shot up, he and his wife were hustled inside the embassy and soon they had visas for the family to immigrate to England.

Dr. Young received an undergraduate degree in physics and math in 1946 and a master's degree in physics in 1949, both from Cambridge University. He then won a full scholarship from Westinghouse to come to the United States and study at Johns Hopkins University, where he received a doctorate in electrical engineering in 1957. He became a U.S. citizen.

As a Westinghouse engineer from 1953 to 1960, he worked on military radar research and development, including microwave components and

## Patrick J. Gibbon

The Scanner staff announces with regret the death of Patrick J. Gibbon, 21, a student at Virginia Commonwealth University. He was in his fifth semester as a psychology major. A native of Falls Church, Virginia, he was the son of Betsy and Jerry Gibbon (the IEEE Region 2 Educational Activities Chair) and brother to Lisa Laing and Jeri Gibbon. A graduate of O'Connell High School, he attended Northern Virginia Community College before he transferred to VCU. He was a member of Saint Philip's Parish and performed many acts of charity for the community. His interests were wide-ranging, from building computers and writing code, to performing in plays and publishing his poems. Patrick was a gifted musician and active in track and field as a distance runner. An Education Foundation Fund has been established at VCU in memory of Patrick. Contributions may be made to the attention of Ann Hoffler, P. O. Box 842039, Richmond, VA 23284-2039.

antennas. From 1960 to 1973, he was a fellow at the Stanford Research Institute in Menlo Park, Calif., where he worked on microwave filter design. He also taught at Stanford University and consulted for industry. He taught at the technology institute Technion in Israel during a 1970-71 sabbatical and then joined the Naval Research Laboratory in Bethesda, where he was an associate superintendent of the Electronics Division.

He joined the Office of the Secretary of Defense as Director for Research in 1981. His principal assignment was oversight of basic research, but he also played a key role in implementing a number of programs, including the Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative and the Small Business Innovation Research programs. He retired in 1994 but continued working as a consultant for several years. In retirement, he also served on the board of Filtronic, a maker of microwave components, wrote his memoirs and enjoyed studying Hebrew.

Throughout his career, he received numerous awards, including the Woodrow Wilson Award for Distinguished Government Service from Johns Hopkins, the Naval Research Laboratory Outstanding Performance Award and a letter of appreciation from the Secretary of Defense.

His first wife, Fay Young, died in 1981. His second wife, Ruth Breslow-Young, died in 1996. Survivors include his wife of seven years, Jo-Ellen Turner of Baltimore; three children from his first marriage, Philip Young of Chevy Chase, Sarah Krosner of Potomac and Joe Young of Lafayette, Calif.; three stepchildren from his second marriage, Faith Szydlo of Acton, Mass., Rachel Seidel of Washington and Abby Jaffe of Longmeadow, Mass.; three stepchildren from his third marriage, Bobby Turner of Los Angeles, Jon Turner of Philadelphia and Suzy Turner of Bethesda; a sister; and 18 grandchildren.

## **Senior Members**

Congratulations to the following new Senior Members:

Daniel Adams (NV) Syed Ahmad (W) Sved Faisal Ahmed (NV) Jesse Alexander (W) Ryon Coleman (W) James Cross-Cole (NV) Izabela Gheorghisor (NV) Usman Goni (NV) Sinisa Peric (W) Gernot Pomrenke (NV) Bryan Reese (NV) Timothy Settle (NV) Carol Smidts (W) James Talman (NV) Richard Yentis (NV) Min Wu (W)

If you are interested in becoming a Senior Member, please consult www.ieee.org/senior member for qualification requirements. For help with references, contact Michael Cardinale at cardinal@ieee.org for Northern Virginia (NV) Section members, or Howard Needham at howardn@ieee.org for Washington (W) Section members.

# GlobeCom 2007 Seeks Applicants for Marketing Position

The IEEE GlobeCom 2007 committee (GC07) is organizing activities and participation for next year's 50th anniversary Communications Society event here in Washington DC (11/26-30).

To develop the corporate sponsorship for this milestone program, the GC07 committee is soliciting a Marketing Manager to work on a commission basis to develop our program for business participation and patronage.

Interested parties can apply for this position by contacting Tim Weil at 703 377-0948 or trweil@ieee.org.

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