



Central Area Report

Bob Lesniewski
Central Area Chair

Region 2 Annual Meeting
Hershey, PA, May 3-5 2019

CENTRAL AREA

SECTION	CHAIR	MEMBERS
CENTRAL PA	JULIO URBINO	385
ERIE	SREELA SASI	106
JOHNSTOWN	MARTIN BRANDAU	101
PITTSBURGH	DAVE VAGLIA	1926
SUSQUEHANNA	LUIS CARLOS TORRES	583
WEST VIRGINIA	KENAN HATIPOGLU	120

Total 3221



Central PA Section

OFFICERS, Student Branches, Membership

- Chair: Prof. Julio V. Urbina
- Vice Chair: Dr. Sawyer D. Campbell
- Secretary: *Vacant*
- Treasurer: Dr. Sawyer D. Campbell

- 3 Student Branches: Penn State University Park, Bucknell, Penn College of Technology
- Active Membership: 385 (as of 4/25/2019)

Recent Accomplishments and Upcoming Plans

- Visited Prof. Aldo Morales at Penn State Harrisburg to discuss ways to increase member engagement in our Section.
- Sent students to 2018 IEEE R2 RISE conference for YP/WIE in Philadelphia.
- Sponsored Centre County Robotics Club (2018 First Robotics World Champions)

GOALS FOR 2019

- New Section website. Want it to be up to date with upcoming events and have useful resources (e.g., IEEE/PSU/Bucknell websites, social media, etc...)
- Invite speakers from IEEE Distinguished Lecturers program to give unique talks to Central PA Section.
- Work with PSU student chapter to engage with undergraduate students and increase Section participation/interest.
- Increase communications and connections with student branches at PSU and Bucknell.
- Increase senior membership count by encouraging faculty to apply for advancement.
- Plan “off campus” trip to external industrial sites. Successful past examples include an extended tour at Three Mile Island (Harrisburg area), and the Locust Ridge Wind Farm (Schuylkill County PA).



Central PA Section

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- Faculty are well served by societies, but many have little time/interest to participate in Section volunteer roles/activities.
- Students ask themselves: ***why should I maintain IEEE membership?***
They want to know how being an IEEE member helps them in their career.
 - Does IEEE help with job placement, salary negotiation?
 - How does IEEE USA lobby congress?
 - Collective bargaining, unionization, department accreditation?
- Finding volunteers to fill roles within Section has been challenging.
- Even connecting with our Student Branch advisors in our own Section has been extremely difficult.
- How can R2/Central Area help us to improve the vitality of our Section?
We need help!

Erie Section

OFFICERS

- Chair: Sreela Sasi
- Vice Chair: Yong-Kyu Jung
- Secretary: Jonathan Liaw
- Treasurer: Brian Bogacki
- Membership Development: Mohammad Rasouli
- Educational Activities: Joshua Nwokeji
- Webmaster: Richard Zhao

Membership: ~128

GOALS FOR 2019

- Support Women in Engineering Event
- Increase 10% of New Prof/Stud Membership
- Invite the IEEE Student Branch Leaders at GU and PSU to one or two of the Erie Section Meetings for interactions and advices
- Co-host Invited Talks or Lectures with other Professional Organizations in Local (i.e., ACM Chapter in Erie)
- Participate Local Volunteer and Service Opportunities (e.g., ServeErie, advertise service opportunities to section members.

2019 Calendar of Events

- March: Professional Development: Invited Talk 1 (Mr. A. Kumar, GE-Cleveland)
GU/PSU Student Paper Competition
- Sep.: IEEE Picnic at Penn State, Behrend
- October: IEEE Day Celebration
Invited Talk 2 (Mr. M. Jones, GE Trans.)
- November: New Members' Dinner & Invited Talk 3 (Dr. S. Shenoy, DoD-Cleveland)
- Monthly ExComm. Meeting (Jan. ~ May & Sep. ~ Dec.)

ISSUES & CONCERNS

- Recruit New ExComm Members
 - *Our solution:* Encourage young professionals including tech-based entrepreneurs and graduate students; formed IEEE grad Stud branch at GU in 2019 (17 grads)
- Nurture Young and WIE activity in the Erie Section
 - *Our Idea:* Provide engineering and science experiment opportunities to local HS students or recognize female engineering students
 - *Our solution:* Created a Best Woman Presenter Award for the IEEE paper competition



Johnstown Section

Officers

- ▶ Chair: **M. Ed Brandau III**
- ▶ Vice Chair: **John Sivec III**
- ▶ Secretary: **William Wieserman**
- ▶ Treasurer: **Michael Ream**
- ▶ 1 Local Student Branch
- ▶ Current Membership Count: About 101

2019 Events and Projects

- 4 EXCOM meetings
- 1 Section meeting already, likely 4 to come
- 2 PACE Projects
- Link with local student branch
- Need to find a web site volunteer

• 2018 Reported L31 Meetings

- 4 Admin (EXCOM)
- 6 Section

• 2018 PACE Projects

- Fund local robotics team
- MathCounts funding
- 1 Future leaders forum attendee

Goals for 2019

- Offer PHD
- Meet at new medium/high voltage design firm
- Continue joint meetings with our local universities to encourage students to continue their IEEE membership and participate in the Section meetings upon graduation-newer student branch needs to be further developed.
- Send notices to delinquent members
- Solicit ideas for meetings/training/etc.
- Request officer candidates

Johnstown Section

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- ▶ Employment degradation leads to member retention issues, lack of industry support, fewer candidates
- ▶ Continued lack of interest

Pittsburgh Section

OFFICERS

- Chair: David Vaglia
- Vice Chair: Ted Zyra
- Secretary: Haifeng Wang
- Treasurer: Evan Watson
- Asst. Treasurer: Joe Schaad
- Immediate Past Chair: Dan Wilson
- Special Events Chair: Kal Sen
- Webmaster: Gerry Kumnik
- Bulletin Editor: Philip Cox
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- Membership: ~2300

MEETINGS

70 – L31's filed in 2018

- 12 – Pittsburgh Section Executive Committee Meetings
- 4 – Computer Society (C16)
- 2 – Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMB18)
- 4 – Electromagnetic Compatibility Society (EMC27)
- 2 – Electronics Packaging Society/Electron Devices Society (EP/ED15)
- 2 - Life Member
- 4 - Magnetics Society (MAG33)
- 7 – Power and Energy Society/Industry Applications Society (PE31/IA34)
- 6 – Power Electronics Society (PEL35)
- 2 – Consultants Network Affinity Group (CN)
- 2 – Robotics and Automation Society (RA)
- 4 – Society on Social Implications of Technology (SIT30)
- 1 – SP01/CS23
- 7 – Upper Mon Subsection
- 2 – Vehicular Technology Society/ Communications Society (VT06/COM19)
- 3 – Women in Engineering
- 1 - Young Professionals

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monthly Executive Committee meetings
- On-Going Chapter, and affinity group meetings
- April: Support Student Activity Conference in Morgantown
- May: Region 2 Meeting in Hershey
- May: Annual History and Awards Dinner
- May: Roof-Top Social in preparation for August EVO Conference
- August: Support EVO Conference being held in Pittsburgh, sponsored by IEEE USA

GOALS FOR 2019

- Continue to provide members with quality technical events to enhance their knowledge and abilities.
- Develop volunteers to support multi-section Council on Electronic Design Automation (CEDA)
- Develop relationships with Student Chapters
- Find replacement for Student Branch Interface
- Continue supporting joint events between industrial, commercial, and academic units, to better integrate the section members.
- Continue to conduct events to engage Women in Engineering and Young Professional members
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Pittsburgh Section

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- Getting more members involved, both in attending and supporting local activities
- Recruiting and developing members for leadership roles (to have more depth in our leadership)
- Overall membership retention and elevation (e.g. Student/Graduate Student member to Member, and Member to Senior Member)
- Fundraising and funding for new membership development opportunities (e.g. International Distinguished Lecturers, Industrial Relations, Entrepreneurship)

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Susquehanna Section

Officers

- ▶ Chair: **Luis Carlos Torres**
- ▶ Vice Chair: **Dr. Robert Pittman**
- ▶ Secretary: **Dr. Sangkook Lee**
- ▶ Treasurer: **Dr. Harold Underwood**
- ▶ Consumer Elect. Chair: **Dr. Aldo Morales**
- ▶ Nanotechnology Chair: **Dr. Wolfram Bettermann**
- ▶ 3 Local Student Branches: **PSH, ETOWN, SHIPPENSBURG**
- ▶ 5 other members of EXCOM: **ieee.org/susquehanna**
- ▶ Current Membership Count: **583 Active Members**

2019 Events and Projects

- 3 EXCOM meetings
- 4 Chapter meetings
- 8 Section meetings
- 2 Life Member meeting
- 6 PACE Projects

- Reactivate WIE Affinity Group
- Add 2 more local student branches
- Add an activities page to the web site which documents recent section activities with photos

• 2018 Reported L31 Meetings

- 3 Admin (EXCOM)
- 4 Chapter
- 8 Section
- 1 Life Member

• 6 2018 PACE Projects

- SI Symposium
- Capitol Area Science & Engineering Fair
- Senior Membership Drive
- Harrisburg Area High School Robotics Competition
- Engineering Movie Project
- Math Count

- Added the Life Member Affinity Group

Goals for 2019

- Continue to provide members with quality technical briefings to enhance their knowledge in various technologies that will benefit their work place skills.
- Continue joint meetings with our local universities to encourage students to continue their IEEE membership and participate in the Section meetings upon graduation.
- Conduct senior membership drives
- Target Section membership to 700 by Dec. 2019
- Encourage our 40 women members to join WIE
- Enhance membership development activities



Susquehanna Section

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- ▶ Off shoring engineering jobs continues to impact IEEE membership retention
- ▶ Membership cost has a big impact on IEEE retention
- ▶ IEEE should consider lower membership cost for first 5 years of membership to improve membership retention

West Virginia Section

OFFICERS

- Chair: Kenan Hatipoglu, Ph.D.
 - Vice Chair: Sanish Rai, Ph.D.
 - Secretary: Michel Ouendeno, PhD.
 - Treasurer: Mingyu Lu, Ph.D.
 - Membership: Russ Safreed, PE
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- Membership: 140
(Current Active members – 04/22/2019)

2018 ACTIVITIES

- 2/22 - Technical Presentation: “**Wireless Power Transmission based on Retro-reflective Beamforming**” by Dr. Mingyu Lu
- 3/1 Technical Tour: - **Eagle Research, Hurricane, WV**
- 4/27 - 2018 **Student Awards in STEM fields**
- 10/8 - Technical Tour: **Invenergy Beech Ridge 100.5 MW Wind Farm Tour**
- 11/06 - **SPAX CONFERENCE AT MARSHALL UNIVERSITY**
- 12/07 - Technical Tour: **AEP JOHN AMOS POWER PLANT TOUR**

2019 ACTIVITIES

- 2/20 - Technical Presentation: “**Research and Internship Opportunities at Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory**” by Dr. Hatipoglu
- 3/05 - Technical Presentation: by Russell Harrison, **IEEE-USA’s Director of Government Relations**
- 3/28 - Technical Tour of **TransCanada Gas Control Operations**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September/2019 - Technical presentation / tour: TBD
- November/2019 - Technical presentation: TBD
- December/2019: **Student Awards in STEM fields**

GOALS FOR 2019

- Provide members with quality technical briefings to enhance their knowledge in various technologies that will benefit their work place skills.
- Conduct joint meetings with our local universities to encourage students to continue their IEEE membership and participate in the Section meetings upon graduation.
- Conduct senior membership drives and encourage life member participation in the Affinity Group projects.
- **Establishing the Women in Engineering Affinity Group**

WEST VIRGINIA Section

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

- ▶ The high cost of membership dues keep potential members away considering the only benefit is a Spectrum magazine. To access periodical requires additional costs, to join societies requires additional costs as well.
- ▶ Recruiting and developing members for leadership roles
- ▶ Ways to improve participation to activities and elections.

