



## Chair's Corner

"If you could travel back in time, who would you go to see and why?" That was the question posed at my book club after reading *The Time Traveler's Wife* by Audrey Niffenburger. Interestingly, in response to the question, several participants expressed a desire to meet with people from the past to give them proper recognition. We all know IEEE members whom we admire for their accomplishments. Please take a little time from your busy days to identify someone deserving of recognition. This issue of e-Scanfax highlights several awards in need of nominations. Of course, as chair of the Chicago Section, I'd especially like to draw your attention to the **Chicago Section Outstanding Member award**. Please don't miss this opportunity to honor your heroes. Time travel is an interesting concept, but let's try to avoid having to resort to it to give our IEEE members the recognition they deserve.

Regards,

John Zulaski

P.S. I hope you've put Tuesday evening, June 26, 2007 on your calendars for the Kane County Cougars Baseball game for IEEE members and their families.

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## Upcoming Events:

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## NetSecure07

### Focus On Security, Digital Forensics, Data Recovery & Privacy

The IEEE Communications Society, [IEEE Fox Valley Subsection](#), [Illinois Institute of Technology Center for Professional Development](#), and [UniForum Chicago](#) invite you to attend **NetSecure07: The 5th Annual Computer and Network Security**

EMC Practical Applications  
Seminar and Workshop  
(with take-home computer programs)



April 26, 27,  
30 & May 1,  
2007  
Northbrook,  
Illinois

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Contact Michele at  
[michele@workinmotion.net](mailto:michele@workinmotion.net)

**Conference and Expo** at Illinois Institute of Technology Rice Campus in Wheaton Illinois on Wednesday, March 21, 2007. Presentations will include:

- Using GPG (GNU Privacy Guard) Strong Encryption for Fun and Profit (Argonne National Laboratory)
- Building and Information Security Assurance Function (INARMA LLC)
- Security challenges associated with integrating mobile and VoIP networks (Bridgeport Networks)
- Security Management, Governance and Compliance (Remington Associates Ltd)
- Secured Storage via Data Encryption (Decru)
- Secure Authorized Guest Network for Wheaton College (Wheaton College)
- Access Data Password Recovery Toolkit methods for steganography (AccessData)
- Athena Verify (Lisle Technology Partners)
- Anatomy of a Database Attack (Application Security, Inc.)
- sudo - Secure and Convenient (Uniforum)
- Wireless Security 802.11 (Rauland)
- Endpoint and Data Security in a Mobile World (Check Point Software)
- Honeypots: Learning about Cyber Threats (HoneyNet Project)

Conference details can be found at [NetSecure07 website](#). IEEE members with a valid membership number will receive a discount when registering via the [IEEE Fox Valley website](#). Advance registration is required.

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## Chicago Section Awards

Safoora Fatima, Chair

## Looking For Outstanding Members

Do you know a Chicago Section member who, through his or her professional and technical abilities, has made outstanding and noteworthy contributions to the Section, fellow professionals, the community, and humanity? Consider nominating that person for **Outstanding Member of the Chicago Section**. The award is not designed to recognize a single achievement, but rather collective contributions. The first step is to contact the [IEEE Chicago Section Awards Chair Safoora Fatima](#). As a starting point, she will need the identity of the individual to be honored and a short description (100 words or less) of why the individual is deserving of recognition. Safoora will then guide you through the next steps. **Nominations are due by March 31.**

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## Illinois Engineering Council

## Seeking Engineering Award Nominees

Do you know of an engineering project, a significant process, a contribution towards solving an engineering problem or some industrial research that contributed to meeting a human or social need? Consider nominating it for an **Illinois Engineering Council (IEC) Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award**. Last year, two IEEE-sponsored nominations won awards: **Improved Prostheses through Muscle Re-energization** by the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago/Northwestern University and **Streaming Video Over Voice Grade Lines in Lieu of Permanent Sensors** by the Illinois Department of Transportation, Bureau of Electrical Operations. **Nominations are due March 31**. The IEC represents over twenty engineering societies, including IEEE, and serves as an advocate for education, registration and public safety. For more information on nominating worthy candidates, visit the [IEC website](#). Or email [Andy Gremer](#).

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## Engineering Week

### Michael Birck Urges Focus On Technological Education

Those who went to the reception preceding the **Chicagoland Engineering Award Benefit** at the University Club on Friday, February 23 got to meet Engineering Week's award-winning students and see demonstrations of their impressive projects. The students proved the premise of **94<sup>th</sup> winner of the Washington Award and co-founder and chairman of Tellabs, Michael J. Birck**: We must put more emphasis on math and science education. Engineers can and must be America's visionaries, its leaders, and its moral compass.



**The Illinois FIRST winners demonstrate their robots for Washington Award attendees.**

**Photo by George Thomas.**

Illinois winners of the **FIRST** (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) **Lego League** competition were judged in four categories: research, technology, teamwork, and the table, which involved preprogramming a small robot to complete nine different required missions in 2.5 minutes. Team member Greg Goeden explained that the micro-processor chip processes several senses – touch and light – in helping the robot navigate. He was so poised and articulate that this reporter did a double-take when he said that he was from Rotolo Middle School. Middle School? Yes! He is an eighth grader – one of many up and coming students to watch.

After dinner, guest speaker **Congressman Daniel Lipinski** noted that, when he last counted, of the 435 representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives, there were just nine engineers. Lipinski is one of them. He said, “We’d be better off if there were more engineers in congress.” Being an engineer helps him understand science, transportation, and manufacturing issues, but more than that, his training in engineering provides him with a way of thinking: “At its heart,” the congressman said, “engineering is problem-solving.” The congressman urged the engineers present to use their analytical and innovative thinking, their creativity and ingenuity to move the United States forward.

After accepting the Washington Award, **Birck** spoke “to the youngsters.” He told them, “Engineering is a delightful career, but it’s not an easy one. The preparation is pretty difficult. There’s fear in creating and building things, but there is satisfaction, too.” He acknowledged that “it is not accurate today to say that one aspect of engineering has all the glory. In the next decades, technological advances won’t come from compartmentalized engineering disciplines, but from multi-disciplinary activities as witnessed by the miracles of nanotechnology.”

Citing “the challenges of the environment,” including global warming and the management of the world’s energy resources, he saw a “higher calling for engineers: preserving a world in which these challenges are addressed.” He urged engineers to “lose their insularity” because our nation needs “more engineers and maybe fewer lawyers in public life.” With the number of engineers in the United States declining by 20% at the same time the profession is growing by 40% in other countries, “We could relinquish our future to Asia.” Birck said, “The leadership of the world is in question.” We may be able to outsource the design and manufacture of televisions and other products but, he warned, “we cannot outsource our security.” The solution is quality education in math and science beginning at the elementary school levels. While 72% of Chicago eighth graders failed to display a basic understanding of science, the students who displayed their ingenuity at the opening reception certainly did. While there is much work to do, there is much hope.

**Washington Award  
Commission Chair and  
IEEE Chicago Section  
Board Member  
Dennis Lamont and 2007  
Washington Award  
Winner Michael Birck.  
Photo by  
George Thomas.**



Watch for the Chicago Section Yearbook for more stories and pictures on this year’s e-week activities, including the **Speaker’s Forum** and **Engineering the Future: Creating Sustainable Engineering** at the **Illinois Institute of Technology’s Rice Campus**, the **DeVry Chicago Senior Project presentations** and the **Black Family Technology Awareness & National E-Week Event at Calvary Academy** in South Holland.

## Career Corner

### January And February Meetings Yield Good Networking



At the January career networking meeting, motivational speaker and award-winning humorist [Conor Cunneen](#) (left) presented eight concepts to get and keep motivated during a job transition: structure, help others, environment, improvement, goals, attitude, and behavior. For the first concept, he encouraged those in transition to create the structure in their days that they would have at a job. By writing down tasks they want to accomplish, job seekers will feel good

about themselves when they can check those tasks off their lists, better even than they would feel if they completed the tasks but did not have a list.

At the February meeting, Michael Skowronski, IEEE member and Director of Engineering at [BVR Technologies Company](#), explained to the group how his company develops avionics and control products. Moving forward, the company will need engineers with military spec backgrounds to design and program small, lightweight electronic components that can stand up to extreme temperature and vibration. In this demanding quest, the company will, like more and more other companies, need engineers with cross functional electrical, mechanical, and software development experience.

The IEEE Chicago Section Career Networking group meets every third Wednesday at 7PM at the Addison Campus of DeVry University. Join them on March 21<sup>st</sup> for another informative networking get-together: Tarek Lahdhiri, IEEE ECS Regional Coordinator, will speak on the how to access and use the career employment features of the IEEE International website. Five people came to the January meeting looking to hire engineers. You'll never know who you might meet unless you attend.

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