

**Calendar of Events**

**Upcoming in October**

**Sat. Oct. 4, 8:00am**  
[Project Management Fundamentals](#)  
 IEEE-Chicago PACE

**Wed. Oct. 8, 11:30am**  
[Lighting Technologies](#)  
 Power & Energy

**Sat. Oct. 11, 6:00pm**  
[70th Annual Awards Banquet](#)  
 Illinois Engineering Council

**Tues-Fri. Oct 14-17**  
[DySPAN 2008](#)  
 Communications

**Tues. Oct. 14, 7:00pm**  
 Executive Committee  
 DeVry - Addison  
 IEEE- Chicago Section

**Wed. Oct. 15, 5:30pm**  
[Hospital Critical Distribution](#)  
 Industrial Applications

**Wed. Oct. 15,**  
 EMI Filtering  
[Electromagnetic](#)

**Thurs/Fri Oct. 23&24**  
[VoIP Conference and Expo](#)  
 IEEE-Chicago

**Upcoming in November**

**Sat. Nov. 8, 8:00am**  
[Effective Business Writing](#)  
 IEEE-Chicago PACE



IEEE SYMPOSIA ON NEW FRONTIERS IN DYNAMIC SPECTRUM ACCESS NETWORKS  
**DySPAN 2008**  
 Dynamic Spectrum Access Networks  
 Chicago, Illinois • 14-17 October 2008  
[www.ieee-dyspan.org/2008](http://www.ieee-dyspan.org/2008)

**This Month's Articles**

**Chair's Column**

How the Chicago Section's gradual succession of responsibilities prepares volunteers for leadership roles. [\[more\]](#)

**Upcoming Events of Special Note**

IEEE-Chicago Offers Project Management Fundamentals workshop on October 4 [\[more\]](#)

Illinois Engineer Council Annual Awards Banquet to Feature EE Feats [\[more\]](#)

DySPAN, IEEE ComSoc International Conference on Leading Edge Wireless Technology, To Be Held in Chicago, October 14-17 [\[more\]](#)

October 23 & 24 IIT VoIP Conference to Feature IEEE Distinguished Lecturer [\[more\]](#)

IEEE-Chicago Offers Effective Business Writing on November 8 [\[more\]](#)

**New Members Elected to IEEE-Chicago Section Executive Committee**

At the Officer Orientation, important vacant positions were filled, but more are still available. [\[more\]](#)

**Chicago Officers Get Tips for Successful Chapters**

Veteran Chapter Chairs shared their experiences at the IEEE-Chicago Section Officer Orientation [\[more\]](#)

**Career Searchers Learn the True Purpose of Resumes and Interviews**

Attendees of the September meeting of the IEEE-Chicago Career Networking Group came away with some surprising insights. [\[more\]](#)

**Chair's Column: Succession of Responsibilities Builds Volunteer Leadership**



This month I wanted to share with you some of how I have grown as a result of being a Section Officer. My volunteer efforts have required time and energy, but I have also gained much from those experiences. I also would like to challenge each of you to consider the IEEE as a way for you to build skills and extend your professional support network.

The Chicago Section is a geographical unit in **Region 4 of the IEEE** and supports the IEEE vision to advance global prosperity by fostering technological innovation, enabling members' careers and promoting community worldwide. The Section also plays a key role in promoting IEEE membership and retaining members.

Advisory



Chair



Vice-Chair



Treasurer



Secretary



Volunteer

The traditional succession in the Chicago Section is **from Volunteer to Secretary to Treasurer to Vice-Chair to Chair to Advisory**. This succession provides growth opportunities in a supportive environment for interested volunteers. Each volunteer leadership role that I have filled in the last several years has given me new experiences and with it new knowledge and skills. Each successive role has given me more responsibility but also the opportunity to have more impact on my professional organization. The roles have sometimes added stress to my life, but I have also had a lot of fun and met some great and very supportive people. My network of contacts now includes new people in the Section, across the United States, and around the world. Today I am a more confident, more skilled, and certainly better connected member of my profession than I was when I first volunteered.

The Chicago Section faces many challenges, but challenges also provide opportunities. If you are interested in building leadership skills and establishing

[Kellogg/Northwestern University](#)



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a support network while helping your Chicago Section, please contact our Section's volunteer coordinator, [John Zulaski](#), or [me](#). Current open positions include **Program Chair**, **Women In Engineering Affinity Group Chair**, **Computer Society Chapter Chair**, and **Graduates Of The Last Decade (GOLD) Chair**. There are also openings for committee members.

**Bernard Sander**  
Chair  
IEEE-Chicago Section

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### [PACE Offers Opportunity to Learn Project Management Fundamentals](#)

The October 4<sup>th</sup> **Project Management** workshop, sponsored by IEEE-Chicago Section **Professional Activities Committees for Engineers (PACE)** and held at **Harper College** in Palatine, is intended for engineers, technical leaders, project leaders, and functional managers who manage projects at work, at home, for IEEE, or in the community. The program will start at 8AM on Saturday morning and end at 2:30. Saturday early risers are sure to benefit from the insights and experience of presenter **Tarek Lahdhiri**, PhD, PE, Project Manager and Team Leader for the Advanced Development and Validation Group, Global Systems Engineering Department at **General Motors Corporation** in Detroit, Michigan. Participants will learn basic project management techniques, and most importantly, how to apply them in real life without excessive paperwork or overhead! The workshop will include templates and checklists to take away, and examples of how to apply project management techniques to engineering, IEEE, and personal projects. All materials and lunch are included in the fee, which is \$99 for IEEE members and \$49 for IEEE student members. To register, call 847-925-6300 and refer to course number LIC2002.

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### [Illinois Engineering Council Annual Awards Banquet to Feature EE Feats](#)

Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, the **Illinois Engineering Council's 70th Annual Awards Banquet** will recognize the contributions of its member societies, including the IEEE, to the public welfare.



Rolls of integrated circuits show IEEE Fellow Dan Gamota's award-winning work at Motorola.

The third annual induction into the **Illinois Engineering Hall of Fame** will take place and the **Annual Engineering Achievement Awards** will be given to the **City of Chicago** for its city hall green alley project, which features "dark sky lighting" to reduce light pollution, and for the replacement of the North Avenue bridge; **Motorola, Inc.** for IEEE Fellow **Dan Gamota's** work on conductive ink; and **Lake County** for its traffic management and reporting system, which features a computerized traffic sensor system. Keynote speaker for the dinner, which will be held at the **White Eagle Banquet Hall** in Niles, will be **Rosemarie S. Andolino**, Executive Director of the **O'Hare Modernization Program**, which features lots of new electrical and electronics "toys": runway illumination, electronic control systems, a new control tower and security systems. Festivities begin at 6:00 PM. To order tickets, contact **Andy Gremer** at 847-827-8457 or visit the

[IEC website](#).

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### [ComSoc Holds International Wireless Conference in Chicago this Month](#)

The **IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc)** is hosting the [International Dynamic Spectrum Access Networks \(DySPAN\) symposium](#), a preeminent event on emerging wireless technology, from **October 14th to 17th** at the **Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel** in Chicago. DySPAN focuses on complex next-generation wireless systems and the efficient use of the radio frequency (RF) spectrum, including cutting-edge technical and multidisciplinary research and practical applications related to commercial smart radio system technologies. Scheduled keynote speakers include



**Christopher B. Galvin**, Chairman & CEO of **Harrison Street Capital LLC**; **Gee Rittenhouse**, Vice President of Wireless Research at **Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs**; **Jorge Pereira**, Principal Scientific Officer at the **European Commission**; **Dave Borth**, Vice President, CTO and Head of Advanced Technology, Standards and Common Engineering at **Motorola**; **David Cleevely**, Chairman of the **Communications Research**

**Network**; and the Honorable **Jonathan S. Adelstein**, Commissioner of the **U.S. Federal Communications Commission**. Additional highlights of this four-day event include 17 demonstrations, four tutorials, and a technical and policy program.

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### VoIP Conference to Feature IEEE Distinguished Lecturer

**Koichi Asatani**, IEEE distinguished lecturer, will present the keynote at the [IIT VoIP Conference and Expo](#) as the first stop on a four-city tour. His topic, **Trends of Next Generation Networks (NGN)**, is intimately connected with the global expansion of VoIP technologies. Other keynote topics for the multi-track conference on October 23 & 24 include: "Peer-to-Peer VoIP: Revolution or Better Plumbing?" by **Henning Schulzrinne**, "Blending SIP with Rich Internet Applications" by **Henry Sinnreich**, and "The App Gap" by **Carl Ford**. IEEE is once again a sponsor of the VoIP Conference and Expo at **Illinois Institute of Technology Wheaton Campus** so IEEE members receive a discounted rate by indicating registration type as "Society."



Koichi Asatani

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### IEEE-Chicago Offers Effective Business Writing

Learn how you can write clear, concise copy that gets your point across and holds your reader's attention. Learn how to deliver your message more effectively— in fewer words and with less time and effort. The **IEEE-Chicago Section Professional Activities Committees for Engineers (PACE)** is offering an **Effective Business Writing** workshop on **Saturday, November 8, 2008** from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon at **Harper College** in Palatine. Presenter **Marianne Rowe-Dimas**, owner of **The Image Factor**, has more than 20 years of management experience in marketing, sales and customer service. To register call 847-925-6300 and refer to Course Number: LIC2001. Fee is \$79 for IEEE members and \$39 for IEEE student members.

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### Chicago Officers Get Tips for Successful Chapters

The IEEE officers and members who attended the **IEEE-Chicago Section Officer Orientation** on **September 9, 2008** at the **Illinois Institute of Technology's** Wheaton campus were treated to a scrumptious dinner and insights into running a successful society chapter by three chapter chairs. **Jack Black**, Chair of the **Chicago Chapter of the Electromagnetic Compatibility Society**, posited that his chapter was successful because of the strength of its executive committee, and he urged chapter chairs to "get yourself an executive committee."

**Yigang Cai**, former Chair of the **Chicago Chapter of the Communications Society**, revived the chapter after it had been dormant for a dozen years. He recalled his trepidation before the first meeting he organized, fretting that people didn't know him and wondering whether anyone would come. He need not have worried: the meeting drew 110 people for a room that held only 90. With so many communications companies in the greater Chicago area – Motorola, Lucent, and AT&T – and universities – IIT, Northwestern, and University of Chicago, Yigang didn't have any problem getting speakers.



**Bob Burke** explained that "more people showed up at Yigang's meeting than are in my chapter." After going over, as he described it, "to the dark side" and getting a degree in engineering management, Bob volunteered to chair the **Chicago Chapter of the Engineering Management Council**, which was one of the chapters that Jack Sherman had been "incubating." Because the chapter is so small, Bob has linked up with other groups, most notably the Fox Valley Sub-Section, to co-host their meetings: "If they had an opening in their schedule, I volunteered to fill it."

The Chicago chapters fulfill professional engineers' need for continuing education credits; nevertheless, with the economy tightening, IEEE membership has been

New PACE chair Robert Morrow gets some tips from former PACE chair John Zulaski after the meeting. declining. So, these chapter-building tips were important for stemming the tide.

In his "State of the Section" presentation, Chicago Section Treasurer **Jim Phillips** reported that with membership declining, rebates from national will decrease. The section's largest budget item is member communications, which includes this publication, the Year In Review, and the section website. With a projected budget shortfall, the section will be transferring money from its reserves this year. Other revenue sources such as expanded advertising opportunities and the new Chicago Section Fund are being developed. Your help is always welcome.

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## New Members Elected to IEEE-Chicago Section Executive Committee

As announced in the June e-Scanfax, the following officers were elected at the May 13<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting:

### Section Officers

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Chair</b>      | Bernard Sander  |
| <b>Vice Chair</b> | William Nartker |
| <b>Treasurer</b>  | James Phillips  |
| <b>Secretary</b>  | Gary Diaz       |

### Standing Committees

|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Advisory</b>                | John Zulaski     |
| <b>Awards</b>                  | Jianhui Wang     |
| <b>Conference</b>              | Alexander Choren |
| <b>Membership Services</b>     | Jack Sherman     |
| <b>Professional Activities</b> | John Zulaski     |
| <b>Program</b>                 | Nicholas Buris   |
| <b>Publication</b>             | George Thomas    |

According to Section 4 of the manual, any vacancy occurring during the year can be filled by a majority vote of the Section Executive Committee, and so it was that at the September 9, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting and Officer Orientation, several new members were elected to the previously vacant standing committees:

|                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Special Events</b>     | Ramakrishna (Ram) Yellapantula |
| <b>Student Activities</b> | Gil Adams                      |

In some musical chairs, John Zulaski and Jack Sherman resigned their professional activities and member services positions, but then John was promptly elected to Jack's previous position and a new volunteer took John's old position. As someone noted at the meeting, "Well, John had free time for 30 seconds."

|                                |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Membership Services</b>     | John Zulaski  |
| <b>Professional Activities</b> | Robert Morrow |

There are still open and available positions, including include Program Chair, Women In Engineering Affinity Group Chair, Computer Society Chapter Chair, and Graduates Of The Last Decade (GOLD) Chair, so contact [John Zulaski](#), the Chicago Section's volunteer coordinator, if you're interested.

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## Career Searchers Learn the True Purpose of Resumes and Interviews

"The purpose of a resume is not to tell everything about you but to get people interested enough to grant you an interview. The purpose of an interview is not to tell people how wonderful you are, but to build rapport, to give them a reason other than your resume to want to hire you." That's how long-time IEEE-Chicago section member **Paul Gill** summed up one of the many insights he gleaned from the **IEEE-Chicago Section Career Networking** meeting held at **DeVry University** in Addison on September 17<sup>th</sup>.



During the meeting, Certified Career Coach [Jody Eriksen](#) walked attendees

through her **Job Search Proficiency Inventory**. The four elements are personal readiness, resume and cover letter, generating viable leads, and interviewing. Under generating leads, Paul realized that he's "good at talking myself out of jobs I'd have a shot at." So, it was helpful to hear the feedback that "You're doing H.R.'s job for them." That's H.R.'s job: to weed people out, not to include them. So, another tip from the session, "If there's a job you're interested in, it never hurts to get to the hiring manager and not just H.R. You won't lose anything by sending a personal letter to whomever is hiring."

**Presenter Jody Ericksen blends her practical business management experience with her passion for bringing out the best in others.**

Paul also reported, "The style for resumes now is very different from when I learned it twenty years ago." Then, the standard was one page written in whole sentences "like an English research paper." Now, two pages are acceptable for someone who's been on the job scene. And bullet points to highlight achievements make resumes more readable.

The Career Networking Group meets the third Wednesday of the month and is open to everyone. In these tumultuous economic times, wise engineers keep their job search skills honed!

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