



## Chair's Corner

February is the month we recognize engineers and their accomplishments. It is a good time for all of us to think about how we might influence young students to study science or engineering. If you are looking for material to **encourage a youngster to consider an engineering career**, take a look at [the student page of the Chicagoland Engineering Week website](#). It links to a wealth of websites that kids should find interesting and fun. And, you might consider taking a kid to the Expo highlighted in the Future Engineers' Corner of this e-Scanfax. In my quest to further influence my grandson to consider an engineering career, I bought him a book for Christmas called **Cool Stuff and How it Works** by Chris Woodford. It is a wonderfully illustrated book that takes you into the insides of things without having to take them apart. There are lots of resources: let's use them!

On another note, have you ever wanted to attend a Chapter meeting but business travel or family schedules prevented you from attending? The Executive Committee has initiated a project to look for **ways to take advantage of technology to expand meeting attendance**. If you have ideas, or better yet experience, with techniques that have worked well for other organizations, please [email me](#).

Regards,

John Zulaski

P.S. 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:

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



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

For more info, visit [D.L.S. Electronic Systems](#)

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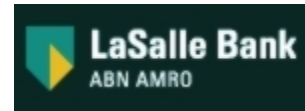
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## Engineering Week

### Tellabs Chairman Michael Birck To Receive Washington Award

IEEE Chicago Section members are invited to the **Chicagoland Engineering Awards Benefit**, featuring the 94<sup>th</sup> presentation of the Washington Award to the co-founder and chairman of Tellabs, **Michael J. Birck** on **Friday, February 23, 2007** at the **University Club of Chicago**. Mr. Birck will be acknowledged for this foresight and vision in revolutionizing the communications industry around the world. Tellabs is now the market leader in the U.S. bandwidth management and fiber access markets. More than one-third of the world's wireless calls are made on networks owned by Tellabs customers. Named after our nation's first president who was an engineer, the Washington Award is conferred upon engineers whose achievements have advanced the welfare of humanity. Previous winners include Herbert Hoover, Orville Wright, and Neil Armstrong. Forty-five of the top middle school and high school achievers in Engineering Week's math and science program competitions will also receive accolades at the dinner. Tickets are \$75 each. For reservations or sponsorship information, email the [Western Society of Engineers](#), visit the [website](#), or call 630-724-9770.



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### A Week Full Of Learning Activities

**Chicagoland Engineers' Week**, this year **February 18-24**, highlights the contributions of engineers to the well-being of society and stimulates junior and senior high school students to consider careers in engineering, especially through hands-on school projects. Chicago area activities include the **Future City Competition** for junior high students, the **Bridge Building Contest** for high school students, the high school Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science (**TEAMS**) **Competition**, **MATH Counts** program for junior high students, the **Illinois Science Fair**, and an **Essay and Poster Contest** for grade school students. In addition, during engineering week, two Chicago-area institutions are encouraging girls to consider engineering: Northwestern University is sponsoring **Women's Career Day**, and Argonne National Laboratory has its Annual **Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day**. For more information, visit the [Chicagoland E-Week website](#).

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### Speaker's Forum To Feature Rehabilitation Institute Of Chicago

**Paul Marasco from the [Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago \(RIC\)](#)** will explain the latest RIC accomplishments that treat a range of conditions from cerebral palsy, spinal cord injury, stroke and traumatic brain injury to more common ailments such as arthritis, chronic pain, and sports injuries. (As reported in this issue of e-Scanfax, RIC won the Illinois Engineer Council's Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award last fall.) This free lecture at the at **Illinois Institute of Technology's Rice Campus on Thursday evening February 22** is open to the public. Appetizers and dessert at 6:00PM are followed at 7:00 PM by the presentation. For more information, visit the [DuPage Area Engineers Week website](#).

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## Future Engineers' Corner

### DuPage Expo Free And Fun!

Come to **Engineering the Future: Creating Sustainable Engineering**, a free fun day of hands-on activities designed to introduce children to engineering including Cryogenics, Lego Robotics, Lasers, The Future of Water, Fiber Optics, Intelligent Prosthetics, Civil Air Patrol, VoIP Calling and Art Through Science. It's **Saturday, February 24 from 11:00am to 3:30pm at the Illinois Institute of Technology's Rice Campus**. For more information on the Expo, visit the [DuPage Area Engineers Week website](#).

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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. Nominations are due by March 31. Forms can be obtained at the [Chicago Section website](#).

**Chicago Section Awards Chair Safoora Fatima** is also developing criteria for other award categories such as student members, friends of IEEE, and certificates of appreciation. If you have any thoughts or perspective on what the Chicago section or other sections have done in the past or might do in the future to honor those who serve the section, please [contact her](#).

## Illinois Engineering Council

### Seeking Engineering Award And Hall Of Fame 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. The IEC Awards recognize outstanding engineering projects that capture the innovative and dynamic spirit of a profession dedicated to public service and that demonstrate interdisciplinary engineering accomplishment and creativity for the benefit of society. **Award nominations are due March 31.**

**The IEC is also looking for inductees to the [Illinois Engineering Hall of Fame](#).**

IEEE Medal of Honor winner John Bardeen and IEEE fellow Henry Magnuski were among the first five engineers named to the newly-established Hall of Fame last fall. The next elections to the Hall will take place this summer, but nominations may be sent at any time.

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](#) for awards or [Jim Fancher](#) for Hall of Famers.

## Student Corner

### Brainstorming Yields Two Year Plan



IEEE Student Chapter Presidents, Adam Berg of IIT Chicago and Joe Popovic of DeVry Chicago, present their ideas for successful activities.

Photo by Ahmed Khan. 

"I have met with the majority of schools in our area," declared **Pat Hutson, IEEE Chicago Section student coordinator**, "and they need our help." In her introductory remarks at the **Chicago Section IEEE Student Activities Development Workshop at the Embassy Suites O'Hare on January 15**, Pat told the twenty attendees – industry professionals, students from [Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago](#) and [DeVry University Chicago](#), professors from [ITT Technical Institute in Mount Prospect](#) and [DeVry University in Addison](#): "When we leave here today we will have created a 24 month tactical plan for the Chicago IEEE chapters."

And, plan they did. In the morning, the participants divided into groups to brainstorm ideas for activities, facilitating mentorship, increasing student members, and retaining student members once they graduate. Suggested activities, in addition to lectures and plant tours, were workshops to develop networking skills and industry people judging senior projects. The mentorship group looked at providing students both technical mentors and career mentors. It also suggested make connections between student chapters and Chicago section chapters by rotating section meetings to different school campuses. The membership group examined ways to subsidize student membership fees and suggested that the Section present awards to advisors, mentors, and active students. Finally, the retention group looked at leveraging international IEEE resources, such as internet forums; rebroadcasting local meetings for those who couldn't be physically present; and developing smaller geographic groups to facilitate face-to-face communications.

After lunch, the participants divided up into groups by school and developed next steps based on the morning's suggestions. [Email](#) Pat Hutson if you'd like to get involved.

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