

IEEENA Minutes Wed 6-Wed_2022

Zoom meeting

Start 5:00 PM

Attendees: Maryam, Kevin Huang Tao, Mostafa (Chair), Shou-Han Zhou, Kenny Leong, Mel Olsen, Zia Ahmad, Graham Woods, Ethan Waters, Janina Mazierska, **Lance Fung, Deepak Mathur.**

Apologies: Ron Goodwin, Mohan Jacob, Bronson, Kianoush Emami, Mal Heron.

5:15 – Mostafa opens session and welcomes guests (Lance and Deepak) and all. Deepak requests topics/items of discussion to begin. Deepak says no formal presentation will be given but can present some details from a document stored within an email.

5:16 – Mostafa introduces our members to Lance and Deepak.

5:20 – Mostafa says he will discuss some points. Event to propose – a first year engineering activity. Lance asks – what are the technical background of members, and any industry members? Graham says – some members are in the power area, and Melanie is involved in submersible robotics.

5:26 – Deepak asks about participation at events. Melanie says more people attended webinars during covid times.

5:30 - Mostafa mentions more points for discussion – including advice/feedback from Deepak or Lance regarding challenges of cost of travel to events, such as 2022 SYWL congress, and getting students to attend due to limited student numbers. Deepak mentions – expected to send one 'YP' and one 'WIE'. Lance mentions that no spending was done with the incentives for the last 3 years (given for training), and asks what was the amount for the incentives for the last three years. Mostafa mentions bonus of \$1000 last year, and \$1000 for the previous year before last. Deepak says this year's incentive needs to be used/spent for activities. Approximately \$3000 (US) incentives is in IEEENA bank. Lance says he thinks we are not in the situation of having no assistance (incentives).

Deepak says money (finance) would not be a problem. Mostafa mentions we do have financial challenges, and will begin to get expression of interest from IEEE members to attend the events.

Deepak says if we have under-spent money, then we can use it to send a couple of students to events. And also says if IEEENA gets exhausted of money, then IEEENA can send a request for assistance.

Mostafa says there are six WIE members. Deepak says six is a small number.

Deepak says that IEEE provides support for creating activities.

Mostafa mentions that Kevin needs to leave at 5:45 PM.

5:42 – Mostafa mentions that we support students for ANZCON. Deepaks says that if we are involved with an activity, then the section will get support. Deepak also says that the section should recognise volunteers (give recognition to volunteers).

Deepak says – if we need guidance from other sections, then that is ok.

5:47 – Mostafa asks for advice regarding how to improve member retention. Deepak says that the advice was given earlier. Deepak says NA region (R10) is doing very well, with 150 members. Deepak says that he came from a small section.

5:49 – Mostafa ask if anyone needs to ask questions to Deepak.

5:50 – Deepak prepares to do a short presentation. Mostafa says there are a few members in CNS, and some in Darwin.

5:51 – Deepak asks if there are members associated with robotics. Ethan mentions AIMS (Australian Institute of Marine Science), robo-x boat competition.

Shou-Han asks if any support can be received for the boat competition that involves both members and non-members. Shou-Han asks if they could get the 50%-50% support for the competition involving Nan-Yang university, Georgia Tech etc. Zia recommends contacting IEEE Robotics and Automation Society for that, which has a funding cycle, and the deadline was in April. The society may fund if the project is relevant to healthcare or humanitarian areas.

5:56 – Mostafa says boat competition is related to RoboClub, and says that IEEEENA can provide some support. Zia confirms – that the competition is an existing activity, so IEEEENA could provide support. Events (if any) unrelated to IEEE with non-members cannot be supported.

6:00 – Graham discusses engagement with industry, and indicates that industry members are interested in technical components, and asks if we can bring more practical programs – tech workshops and presentations. Zia says we did have a program associated with this, but had poor turn-up.

Melanie says boat competition used for tests (guinea pig) for establishing directions to go, and standards etc for marine robotics.

6:04 – Melanie says there is a strong power and energy component in our section.

Mostafa asks what resources can we access for industry engagement and incentives?

Deepak mentions “Roadmaps” resource. Jana says good to keep funds for rainy days.

6:08 - Lance asks if we are aware of ‘IEEE Academics’ training – free, IOT and A.I, IEEE Learning Networks.

6:09 – Deepak says Region 10 has 18 committees. Limited by imagination, but need to explore this. Deepak says don’t focus on funding, and to think about the project.

Mostafa mentions no funding issue, but have human resource limitations – volunteer limitations. Deepak says there are calls for proposals.

6:15 PM meeting ends.

Members and guests travel to have dinner with the R10 director and director-elect.

Deepak kindly supports the dinner and asks that our Section support one attendee to attend the Women In Engineering Leadership Summit in Melbourne in early Aug.

Dinner ends 9 pm.