**IEEE Region 1 Connecticut Section BoG Report 2016**

The Connecticut Section has, for many years, engaged High School students through sponsorship of IEEE-specific prizes at events such as the Connecticut Science and Engineering Fair, the Trinity Robotics Competition, Vex Robotics competitions, and FIRST Robotics competitions. These prizes and the associated judging at the events have continued through 2016.

**Teen Robotics Workshops:** Because Robotics engages the younger future members well, the Joint RAS / IAS / CSS chapter held a teen robotics workshop at the West Hartford Public Library in early January in conjunction with Women in Engineering. This was well attended by teens and their trainers. Pre-event sessions were used to train the trainers with a view to keeping the sessions running later in the year. Biao Zhang and Haoyu Wang, RAS chair and vice-chair ran this workshop.

In addition to this, the Connecticut Section in 2016 aims to improve the visibility of the local organization to Connecticut-based members through better communication via newsletters & website, more recognition of member anniversaries, more training options via PACE events, and better engagement at targeted groups such as Women in Engineering and Young Professionals.

**Newsletters & website:** Re-introduction of electronic newsletters has already been met with better member engagement in events we have run. A Student Member, Hosny Abdelrahman, graciously volunteered to run the new IEEE-hosted WordPress website, and has organized it for the various chapters.

**Member Recognition:** Early in 2016, Oscar Tonello (MD chair) ran a 10 year recognition social, to which we invited members celebrating their 10 year anniversaries as members. This was not as well attended as we had hoped, but those members who did attend gave good insights into their membership and what they hoped to get from it.

**PACE Events:** In April, Gary Felberbaum (PACE chair) and Oscar Tonello ran a PACE training workshop which was well received by the members who attended. At the end of the workshop, we held a session seeking feedback on what other sorts of training could be held next, which helped us frame the next event to be held in November.

**Women in Engineering (WIE):** The Connecticut Section’s WIE affinity group has been inactive for some time, but has been re-invigorated through cross-sponsorship of events with the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Student Activities through the leadership of Charlotte Blair and David Broderick. Several events have been hosted, with very good turnout and good visibility for especially college students.

**Young Professionals (YP):** As with WIE, the group has been inactive in Connecticut, but a newly active member, Saumya Sharma, has reformed it and started to hold events for the YP group of members.

**Technical Chapters:** The section has several active chapters: PES chapter, RAS / IAS/ CSS joint chapter, the UFFC / MTT/ AP joint chapter, the CS / SSIT/ C joint chapter, and the Communications & Signal Processing joint chapter. These chapters have held a variety of technical presentations throughout the year.