

Meeting minutes NJCoast Excom January 20, 2022

Attendees: Irfan Lateef, Chair of the Section; Filomena Citarella, Treasurer of the Section; John Deltuvia, Secretary of the Section; Prasad Atluri, Chair, COM19; Frank Feather, Chair, PE31; TK Srinivas, Chair, IM09/C16; Krishnamurthy Ragunandan, Chair, AP/VT/EMC; Kit August, Chair, SIGHT ; Manu Malek, Chair, LMAG; Frank Laslo, Elections Coordinator; Ajit Reddy, Vice Chair, AES10/MTT17/PHO36; Tom Willis, Vice Chair, SIGHT; Kahina Lasifer, Treasurer, SIGHT; Bala Prasanna, Director-Elect, Region I; Section Members Russ Frazer; and Kwame, who lives in the PJCS area and is a member of the AP/VT/EMC Joint Section Joint Chapter.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by Irfan. He said that, while John would go through the agenda, the main thing was to find out what sorts of talks and activities are planned for the year. He also wanted a sense of members' feeling of protection against COVID even with the boosters so that in-person events could resume. He noted that he was glad that the PCJS scheduled the in-person end of year gathering. He also wants to discuss the shortage of volunteers and officers.

John noted at the beginning there was not a quorum. (Quorum was achieved later in the meeting.) He suggested that Irfan appoint some voting members as he is allowed to under the MGA rules.

Raghu reported that 2021 was an extremely good year for AP/VT/EMC. They had 11 talks last year and hope to do the same number this year, but at least six talks. Several of the speakers that lectured remotely in 2021 have expressed an interest in lecturing in person once that is possible. They may also do a milestone with the History Society. He also suggests an IEEE day if possible.

John then read the written reports he had received from ComSoc and Life Members (see Appendix.)

TK reported 5 talks last year, 1 or 2 co-sponsored with ComSoc. 2 talks are planned for 1st quarter. Depending on how the COVID situation evolves, he hopes to have a conference. He also pointed out the need for an Industry Relations Coordinator. He is living for the most part in Cambridge, but still has a home in the area. He also mentioned that Kit has been a great help as Vice Chair. He also mentioned a desire for a brainstorming session outside of ExCom.

John suggested that Chapter Chairs contact new people from each society if not marked do not contact; however, most were opposed to telephoning people who may have opted out from email without realizing it. Irfan stated that this may be a later brainstorming issue. Filomena basically agreed with TK. Kit suggested going through lists of people who go to talks and reaching out to them to volunteer. TK noted that the loss of Bell Labs and Ft. Monmouth has made it harder to recruit.

Irfan then asked Bala to speak to R1 issues. Bala expressed his hope that the Section would plan and execute something exciting. There is a new Region Treasurer and Bala has been training him. Bala has also been training Filomena so she can train Chapter Treasurers to get reports into the NextGen banking system. He also advised having a campaign for 20-25 senior members, as well as honorary members of Eta Kappa Nu. He noted declining revenues and suggested a conference to prop up the money. John asked that Bala send more details on Eta Kappa Nu for the minutes. (This information is in the Appendix.)

Filomena asked if Bala was still the Treasurer for IEEE-USA and he answered he was not.

John noted that Frank Feather had joined the meeting, and that if Frank Laszlo was willing, and that if Irfan would like to do so, that Irfan could appoint the Elections Coordinator as a voting member, and then we would have a quorum. Irfan said he was agreeable to that; Frank mentioned the continuing saga of an operating manual for our Section. He has been looking at other Sections' manuals, and many have all Committee Chairs as voting members. John replied that we need to take this a step at a time; he tried to push for all at once last year and it didn't go anywhere. Frank agreed, and John declared quorum. Irfan asked about the affinities, and John explained that the affinity chairs are already automatically voting members per MGA rules.

Irfan called for Prasad's report and both John and Prasad said that John had already read it. Prasad amplified the report by saying he planned to cooperate with other ComSoc chapters. He plans to send a note to all Chapter members looking for volunteers. Filomena asked if Prasad has a treasurer and Prasad responded that he has all four officer positions filled, but some may be nearing the maximum term of service so he needs more people to step up.

Filomena offered to do a Zoom meeting with any chapter treasurer who is having problems with NextGen. Bala offered as well.

Irfan asked if Manu had any plans for the year and he said he has nothing concrete. He also wants to send an email to all Life Members.

Kit asked if we have anyone working on elevation to fellow this year. She also said SIGHT got a grant from humanitarian activities on health and medical device literacy, and they are doing things with local schools. They have 6 months to finish the project under the terms of the grant.

Irfan thanked Kit and asked Frank Feather for comments. Frank said he realized he didn't fill out the L31s and has to go do them. Filomena said she handled his NextGen already for him. One problem Frank has been having is that he no longer works in Power Engineering. He will try to do joint lectures with North Jersey Section's Power Engineering chapter.

John asked if Frank F. could contact Mihaela Dinu, head of E25, and see if the chapter still exists, as she's in his chapter and did not attend any meetings last year. Frank said he would try to contact her.

John mentioned that Frank Laszlo and himself are trying to develop local procedures and asked Bala if MGA allows for the Vice Chair of a Chapter to be a voting member in lieu of the Chair. Bala said he believed that would be allowable.

Ajit reported for AES10/TEM14. They only had one talk last year. This year they plan to do better than last year. Kahina is planning to volunteer in that chapter as Treasurer.

Filomena asked about who are officers for each chapter, and John responded that the website is automatically populated by Officer Reporting.

John said he looked up Fellow on the IEEE website, and while 2022 is done, we're coming into the 2023 nominating season so this is the time to get a head start on it. The board meets in the 3rd quarter, so we need to have nominations in by the 2nd quarter. Irfan also said that it's a regular election year cycle, so we also need to start thinking about that. Frank Laszlo will be working on it.

The next meeting was set for February 10th and Irfan closed the meeting.

APPENDIX – WRITTEN REPORTS AND EMAIL FROM BALA

I appreciate it very much if you can use the following report from ComSoc chapter for our section monthly meeting on January 20, 2022:

- Co-sponsored a technical talk arranged by New York section ComSoc chapter on the topic of “Algorithm and Hardware Co-Design for Energy-Efficient Deep Learning” by Prof. Yuan Bo from Rutgers University on November 30, 2021.
- Will need to start planning on technical talks for this year.

S. R. K. Prasad Atluri

The IEEE NJ Coast Section LMAG had an online meeting on Dec. 9, 2021 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

This was an open-microphone session. There were 11 attendees. Several Life Members talked about different topics, e.g., B. Prasanna about IEEE, M. Daneshmand about memories, R. Raghunandan about wireless technology.

Manu Malek

IEEE NJ Coast Section LMAG Chair

Email from Bala about Eta Kappa Nu

IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu (IEEE-HKN), the honor society of IEEE, promotes excellence in the profession and in education with ideals of *Scholarship, Character and Attitude*.

It was founded on 28 October 1904 for students of electrical engineering. Today, IEEE-HKN promotes professional accomplishment, service, and development for students and professionals in electrical engineering, computer engineering, and other IEEE fields of interest.

To be inducted a professional HKN honor society member, one would need a nominator & two endorsers. (A nominator can also be an endorser under some situations.) There is a one time fee of \$150 when the acceptance into the society is approved.

Jason Hui our R1 senior volunteer is also an HKN Governor, and can help us when we have candidates. Nancy Ostin is the staff Director at Piscataway who leads the society from staff perspective. As a member myself, I can help as an endorser or steer interested folks as needed.

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