



IEEE NEWS FOR February 2009

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Rochester IEEE home page at: <http://www.r1.ieee.org/~roch>

Rochester Section Meeting - Tuesday, February 3, 2009

The next Rochester Section business meeting is on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at Noon, at the Shanghai Restaurant, 2920 West Henrietta Road, just south of the intersection with Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road. All IEEE members are welcome to attend this meeting, meet your officers and have lunch for just \$3.00.

IEEE-USA Washington Career Fly-In March 22-24

IEEE-USA will be holding its 5th annual Washington Career Fly-In on March 23 and 24. All IEEE members in the United States are invited to join us on Capitol Hill to discuss high-skill immigration with your members of Congress.

For nearly a decade, IEEE-USA has been the strongest voice in Washington pushing for reforms to our skill-based immigration system. Over the past two years the debate about high-skill immigration reform shifted dramatically in our favor. But now we face a new Congress with an unusually large number of new members. These new members have probably never heard of an H-1B visa, never given any thought to high-skill immigration and likely don't know what IEEE is. This is your opportunity to tell them.

Studies have shown that the single best way to influence a member of Congress is to meet with them in person. The Career Fly-In gives IEEE members an easy way to ensure that your concerns and opinions are heard by your elected leaders.

Fly-In participants will meet on the afternoon of March 23rd for a complete briefing on skill-based immigration policy and to learn how to meet with members of Congress (hint: it is easy). On March 24th, participants will spend the day on Capitol Hill meeting with their legislators. IEEE-USA will arrange all meetings. All you have to do is hold them.

All IEEE members in the United States are welcome and encouraged to attend. Students, retired members and even IEEE members who are not American citizens are needed.

In 2009, IEEE-USA will be trying to convince Congress to adopt our "Green cards not Guest workers" program by expanding access to green cards for immigrants who earn a masters or PhD from an American university. Our goal is to shift the focus of American immigration policy away from short-term work visas towards permanent green cards, especially for international students.

More information on IEEE-USA immigration proposals can be found here:
<http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/issues/immigration/>

To learn more about the IEEE-USA Career Fly-In and to register for the event, visit :
<http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/careerflyin>.

IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Chapter News

The First Annual Social and Strategic Summit of the Rochester EMB Society was held on Dec. 12. 160 people from the University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology, and the general public attended this function. Fifty posters representing local area research were presented and two speakers gave presentations from *Project Lead the Way* (Diana Jensen-Dooling) and MedTech (Heather Erickson). Congratulations to Eric Brewer for winning the Barnes and Noble Gift card. The society would also like to thank Dr. Robert Clark, Dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at the University of Rochester, for partially sponsoring this highly successful event.

The EMB Society is currently planning an evening with the Biotechnology community in late March. This event will take place at the Rochester Institute of Technology and will include posters representing local area research, a job fair, and presentations from the individuals from local companies. The event will be partially sponsored by the co-op office at RIT. Please contact us at Rochester_embs@ieee.org if you are interested in presenting a poster, or giving a presentation. Industry participation is highly encouraged.

IEEE Joint Chapters Meeting April 15

The IEEE Rochester Section Joint Chapters Meeting (JCM) will be held on Wednesday, April 15 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center on West Henrietta Rd. The JCM will consist of parallel Chapter-sponsored technical seminars followed by a dinner and keynote presentation. Please hold the date for this annual event. The JCM is the Rochester Section's premier networking opportunity. More details will be forthcoming as the individual society chapters plan their seminars and the program is confirmed.

Leading the planning for this event is the Rochester Section Vice-Chair, Dr. Alexander Loui. You can contact him at alexander.loui@kodak.com.