Dear Colleagues,

IEEE continues to strengthen its footing in a COVID-19 world through virtual events that bring new opportunities for interaction. The Rochester Section Young Professionals (YP) affinity group cosponsored a virtual IEEE Trivia night with the New York City YP group. Over 20 teams, each with up to 4 people, participated in the virtual trivia contest that put their IEEE, science, engineering, and nerdy knowledge to the test.

The IEEE Sections Congress, the triennial flagship event hosted by IEEE that brings together the leadership of IEEE from every member country so that they can share ideas, concerns & solutions, was canceled, but virtual events to replace it are in the works.

The 2020 Rochester Section Joint Chapter Meeting (JCM) will take place on Tuesday, October 27th as a virtual conference with free registration for members. This will enable members throughout the region to attend. More details about the conference will be announced next month.

Our next IEEE Rochester Section ExCom Meeting will be on September 2nd from noon to 1 pm via WebEx.

Stay healthy, and best regards,

Madeline Loui, a senior in Electrical & Computer Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology, was recognized for her scholastic achievement. She has a 4.0 GPA and is majoring in Computer Engineering. In high school, she had a summer internship at RIT, where she wrote software to analyze images of an ancient map.

At Georgia Tech, Madeline worked with NASA Goddard Space Flight Center on a satellite-based object recognition system and Northop Grumman on standardized data validation and security software. In the classroom, Madeline has served as a teaching assistant in a digital design lab. She is also a Chair of the Atlanta, Georgia chapter of Women in Electrical and Computer Engineering Industry, where she is the point of contact for faculty, industry sponsors, and social media outreach.
COVID-19 Monitoring Contribution

Cristiano Tapparello, research assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering, who also serves as the director of software engineering for the innovative UR Health Lab, spent some long hours back in March helping the lab develop the chatbot technology now familiar to many of us as Dr. Chatbot, initially devised to screen incoming calls to the Medical Center’s COVID-19 Hotline. Then the technology was adapted to also screen essential Medical Center employees during the lock down. Extensions to that iteration of Dr. Chatbot are being made to handle non-Medical Center employees, students, and citizens throughout our 13-county region.

(Adapted from Hajim Highlights, published by the University of Rochester, 22 June 2020)

COVID-19 Intubation Shield Developed at University of Rochester

Strong Memorial Hospital clinicians, asked our section member Greg Gdowski and University of Rochester professor Chris Muir to build an intubation shield (for some background, see this New England Journal of Medicine letter). This would protect clinicians from exposure to the virus during intubation procedures. After feedback from clinicians on about a half-dozen prototypes, with each iteration improving visibility, access hole placement, utility with all the intubation tools, stability, and accommodations for larger patients, a box was delivered to one of the Strong Memorial Hospital providers in early May, with several more scheduled for later completion and delivery.

Senior Member Elevation

Congratulations to our newest IEEE Senior Members: Stephen McAleavey (University of Rochester), Andreas Savakis (RIT), Yu Kong (RIT), Christine Frayda (Friday Path), and Eric Brown (Sanatela Medical and SanaBit Technologies).

Undergraduate Education Highlight

George Klimiashvili, a recent University of Rochester graduate, said, “One of the proudest moments of my college career and my life in general was getting published in the IEEE conference as a first author.” The reference to George’s paper is: G. Klimiashvili, C. Tapparello and W. Heinzelman, “LoRa vs. WiFi Ad Hoc: A Performance Analysis and Comparison,” 2020 International Conference on Computing, Networking and Communications (ICNC), Big Island, HI, USA, 2020.

Save the Date: October 27, 2020 IEEE Rochester Section Joint Chapters Meeting

The IEEE Rochester Section’s Joint Chapters Meeting is now scheduled for Tuesday, October 27th, 2020. Plan ahead to save $20—early registration closes September 30th.

IEEE Rochester Section Events

Please check the events to ensure they are as scheduled below. Visit events.vtools.ieee.org/m/vtools# for details about any of these events.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Vtools #</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXCOM Meeting</td>
<td>234896</td>
<td>August 4th, 11:50 – 13:00</td>
<td>Via Webex</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Joint Chapters Meeting</td>
<td>220441</td>
<td>October 27th, 15:00 – 21:00</td>
<td>Virtual Event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Body Language and Networking</td>
<td>225078</td>
<td>October 27th, 17:30 – 18:30</td>
<td>Virtual Event</td>
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