

PROVIDENCE SECTION 2017 END OF YEAR REGION 1 REPORT - 1 of 1

Two new Chapters have been approved by MGA under the Computer Science (CS) and Power & Energy (PE) Societies. This brings the total number of Providence Section Chapters to six, along with Signal Processing, Ocean Engineering, Engineering in Medicine and Biology and a Reliability Chapter which is joint with the Boston Section. The Chairs of the new Chapters are Charles Thangaraj of Roger Williams University (CS) and Adebowale (Debo) Onifade of Attleboro, MA (PE).

We have four active student branches at Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI, Brown University in Providence, RI, the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth, MA and the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, RI.

Our STEM Coordinator, Bill Horan continues to work closely with the award-winning Robotics Team at Rogers High school in Newport, RI. Other Robotics news includes hosting an IEEE table at the 2017 Robotics Block Party at Brown University where an IEEE Student Branch Micro Mouse Competition was also held. The Section also supports various events with the First Lego League.

The Section also hosts a number of popular events including the annual Yankee Steam-Up at the New England Wireless and Steam Museum in East Greenwich, RI and supports the many talks and events hosted by the Providence Section technical chapters.

The Providence Section has two Milestone Proposals under consideration. An IEEE Milestone to commemorate the development of the chirp sonar subbottom profiler has been approved by advocates and is awaiting finalized citations. The chirp sonar provided high resolution, artifact-free seismograms of the ocean bottom in real time, using pulse compression to provide signal gain and to provide unprecedented resolution of the seismic profile. The Milestone plaque will be mounted in the Ocean Engineering Department at the Narragansett Bay campus of the University of Rhode Island.

All approvals have been received for a Milestone to commemorate the French Transatlantic Telegraph Cable of 1898. The French Atlantic telegraphic cable project was a bold engineering endeavor in which a transatlantic submarine telegraphic cable was laid across the North Atlantic Ocean, connecting the United States and France. When completed in 1898 by La Compagnie Francaise des Cables Telegraphiques, it spanned 3174 nautical miles (5878 km), making it the longest and heaviest cable in service. A Milestone will also be dedicated in July 2017 in Brest, France. The dedication ceremony in Orleans, MA is being planned for 5-7 Sept 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Ann Clark
Providence Section Chair