

Minutes of the IEEE – Power Engineering Society

Power Engineering Education Committee – Main Meeting

June 14, 2005
San Francisco, CA

The PEEC Main Meeting convened at 10:00 AM in the Elizabethan C room of the St. Francis Westin Hotel in San Francisco at the 2005 PES General Meeting.

Members and guests present: List attached

Announcements: Pete Sauer listed the PEEC sponsored panels and urged members to attend. He also announced the following awardees:

PES 2005 Fellows: E. Makram, A. Stankovic, P. Pillay, C. Vournas, T. Van Cutsem
Walter Fee Outstanding Young Engineer: Efrain O’Neill
Outstanding Power Engineering Educator: Bob Thomas
National Academy of Engineering: Bruce Wollenberg

Pete introduced John McDonald, PES president-elect. After welcoming everyone to the GM, John expressed his commitment to actively participate in PEEC during his tenure as president. John then went on to describe opportunities with the “Power Systems Basics” short course. He outlined the GB’s intention that this course be available to all members worldwide for use as an educational or fundraising tool. He said that there is a template available that chapters can use to establish course fees and expected revenues. John indicated that both 6 hour and 3 hour versions are available.

Teddy Puttgen, PES president, followed John and reiterated his support for PEEC. Teddy outlined his plan to continue to work to garner industrial support for the student activities program. Through his involvement in the focus groups, many industry executives are beginning to realize that they need to have a consistent presence in PES and at universities. Additionally, Teddy proposed to have PEEC develop a repository to help match industry with students for possible internship opportunities.

A memorial resolution was introduced and read by Pete Sauer for Professor George Contaxis of NTUA. The resolution was passed with comments about Professor Contaxis's professional career in power engineering. The resolution reads:

Memorial Resolution for George Contaxis:

The IEEE Power Engineering Society - Power Engineering Education Committee recognizes the lifetime of contributions to power engineering practice and education in system planning, optimal operation, control center technologies, and energy forecasting by Professor George Contaxis of the National Technical University of Athens. We mourn his passing, and we will miss his contributions to IEEE activities and power engineering education.

The committee stood for a moment of silence to recognize Prof. Contaxis. A suitable letter will be forwarded to Mrs. Contaxis by the chair.

Kevin Tomsovic addressed the membership about new occurrences at NSF. His comments are summarized below and his presentation slides will be posted on the PEEC web site.

Kevin stated that the funding success rates continue to decline at NSF. In part, this is due to the significant increase in the number of proposals submitted (4000 proposals submitted in 2000 up to 6800 submitted in 2005) while the funding levels have remained essentially flat. He noted that the level of special solicitation from NSF has grown from 35% to almost 60% of the total NSF funding and power has typically not been visible in these solicitations. In the next few years, NSF will be decreasing the number of these special solicitations and will narrow the scope of those that are issued. Within the power area, Kevin indicated that they will be limiting the number of proposals submitted to one PI (or Co-PI) per six month cycle period. This limit is for unsolicited proposals only.

Kevin also discussed the reorganization of the Engineering Directorate at NSF. The engineering divisions will be reduced to three main programs – the ECS division will remain essentially the same but will be expanded and renamed to Electrical, Communications, and Cyber systems.

Mariesa Crow went through the PEEC org chart and corrected/added correct years and officers for each subcommittee. The corrected org chart is attached to the minutes. G. T. Heydt also outlined the new process for selecting a slate of candidates for the PEEC secretary position. A nominating committee consisting of him, B. Lesieutre, and B. Rosehart are collecting nominations. They will review the nominees and produce a slate of three qualified candidates based on membership and service/activity in PEEC and PEEC subcommittees. PEEC members will be able to vote on the slate through NAPS. Heydt will collect the votes and the secretary will be announced at NAPS.

Committee Reports:

Awards: Anil Pahwa announced three awards. The prize paper award went to Steve Carillo and Chika Nwankpa for their paper. Anil also presented certificates of appreciation to outgoing chairs R. Ramakumar (Awards) and T. Skvarenina (University Education).

Life Long Learning: Elham Makram announced that there are seven tutorials offered at the GM. Five of these tutorials are from the substations committee, one on power quality, and one of reliability.

Career Promotion: Alex Flueck outlined the three primary activities with which his committee is involved. They have completely disbursed the career videos (CDs) and it is currently available on-line from the University of Washington web site. They have also taken on workforce development as another initiative. Lastly, they continue to work on updating the *Pathfinder* web site and Alex solicited for volunteers to help with this effort.

Research: Mariesa Crow reported that the committee met on Sunday and identified several panel sessions for GM06. These include: International Collaborative Research Efforts (possible organizer G. Gross), Research in Phasor Measurements (possible organizer J. Chow), Canadian Research (possible organizer G. Karady) and industrial research (for future). Mariesa indicated that in future meetings, the agenda will include a session on successes and failures in obtaining diverse funding avenues.

Student Meeting Activities: Joydeep Mitra reported that they were able to accommodate 114 students for the GM. There were approximately 80 posters in the student poster contest. Joydeep

thanked all of the faculty who participated in judging the posters. He also apologized for the late notification for the students, but indicated that there were considerable financial uncertainties prior to the meeting and there were not able to make commitments any earlier. He announced that they plan to have a student program at T&D and NAPS. He and his committee are putting together a “best practices” handbook that can be shared with the new committee chair and local committees.

Under old business, N.D.R. Sarma revisited his proposal to develop the IEEE Journal for student projects as a web journal. Several faculty voiced their concerns about the ability to maintain IEEE quality and to obtain significant reviewers. In conclusion, Dr. Sarma was urged to take his proposal to Mani Venkata to proceed through official IEEE publication channels.

Under new business, Pete Sauer asked for volunteers to spearhead the development of a new working group under the PEEC main committee on Professional Development. This new working group would assume responsibility for the Power Systems Basics course (scheduling and certification) as well as organize any non-technical tutorials (such as ethics, presentation skills, etc.) Persons interested in this working group should contact Pete.

Respectfully submitted,

Mariesa L. Crow

In Attendance:

Kankar Bhattacharya
Sukumar Brahma
Karen Butler-Purry
Claudio Canizares
Badrul Chowdhury
Mariesa Crow
Ali Feliachi
Alex Flueck
Adly A. Girgis
G. T. Heydt
Brian Johnson
Walt Jones
Bernie Lesieutre
Chen-Ching Liu
Elham Makram
John McDonald
Mirrasoul J. Mousavi
Joydeep Mitra
Nirmal Nair
Hashem Nehrir
Dagmar Niebur
Tom Overbye
Anil Pahwa
Pragasen Pillay
Hans Puttgen
Saifur Rahman
R. Ramakumar
Satish Ranade
Bill Rosehart
Hossein Salehfar
N. D. R. Sarma
Pete Sauer
Noel Schulz
Jeff Selman
Shelli Starrett
Sid Suryanarayanan
Kai Strunz
Kevin Tomsovic
Siri Varadan
G. K. Venayagamoorthy
S. S. Venkata
Vijay Vittal
Peter Wiesner

