



Philadelphia Section IEEE Consultants Network

<http://www.phila-ieee-consultants.org>
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CONET Newsletter February, 2007

Meeting Announcement for Tuesday, March 6, 2007

Date: Tuesday, March 6, 2007
Place: Sheraton Hotel, 36th & Chestnut Streets
Dinner: 6:30 PM (Network / Social time starts 5:30 PM)
Presentation: 7:15 to 9:00 PM
Topic: ***Engineers as Constituents: A Political Forum and Working Group***
Parking: Sheraton indoor lot parking is FREE, if you have your parking stub validated at registration. Enter Sheraton Parking from 36th Street.

Engineers as Constituents: A Political Forum and Working Group

Engineering in America: a world that we have come to know and love over the years, is changing. Change will provide new opportunities, responsibilities, and challenges for today's engineers. Change also comes bundled with political issues, and politics is one area distinctly beyond the technical 'comfort zone' engineers normally like to work in.

Some of today's noteworthy political issues include education reform, H1b and guest worker bills, immigration policies, outsourcing of technical jobs to other countries, government research and development grants and programs, government allocation of spending, tax policies for businesses, small business development and entrepreneurship initiatives, and so on. Are you interested, or concerned? CONET has a suggestion for you...attend this working group session!

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Russell Harrison, who is the IEEE-USA Legislative Representative to Congress. Russell, a very engaging and knowledgeable speaker, will outline the current and anticipated developments in Washington DC, and will touch on issues which the IEEE-USA has identified as being of critical interest to engineers here in the US.

Russell notes one such area of interest: "Congress will be working on dozens of bills that could, if passed, have a direct impact on technology engineers. Major initiatives will be launched on innovation that could produce billions of dollars to help improve federal R&D and strengthen our education system."

Regardless of your beliefs, you owe it to yourself to become politically aware, and make your concerns and choices about these issues known to your elected representatives. Even better yet, you may choose to get personally involved in the political process, and strive to actually change Congressional priorities. As Russell explains: "The issues being debated in Congress are too important to IEEE members, their communities and the country to allow Congress to act on them without input from engineers."

Mark your calendars and Reserve ASAP if you can! You may bring any promotional literature or business cards you want to display or distribute; we have a back table set up for this purpose. CONET is, after all...all about NETWORKING.

Price for dinner and the meeting is \$35.00. For those who are attending the discussion only, the price is **\$15.00**. CONET and IEEE Student members can attend the presentation only at no charge. Please bring your *COMPLETED* checks made payable to **CONET**, and your parking stub to the registration people who will sign you in at the door and stamp your parking ticket. Please note that if you arrive without a reservation, you will not be admitted until all those who have made reservations are seated.

To reserve a place, please email Bill Jupin at CONET@bilectron.com **ONLY**, no later than **4 PM FRIDAY, MAR 2**. Include with your reservation, an evening phone number, indicate whether you will be attending dinner, or just the meeting, and list any special vegetarian dinner requirements.

Your presence and support ensures our continuing success as a Philadelphia area Consultants Network. (Winner 2005 IEEE Philadelphia Chapter of the Year Award)

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

CONET News

Rewarding Opportunity Available: Immediate need for CONET Webmaster

Excellent opportunity to advance IT skills while taking a high-profile position on the CONET board of directors. Great networking and resume-building potential.

Duties/Requirements: the site runs itself. The webmaster is responsible for brainstorming and implementing new features, working with marketing to implement publicity strategies, and providing technical support to members as needed. Approximate commitment is a few hours per month.

Technologies include Active Server Pages (ASP), VBScript, MySQL, FTP, SSH, Dreamweaver. Some training will be provided; current webmaster will be available for an extended transition period.

If you are interested, send your contact information to locasale@ieee.org with copies to mvhenry@yahoo.com, and s.j.leister@ieee.org.

Call for Nominations for CONET Officers and Directors

In May, CONET members will elect our CONET Officers for the fiscal year from June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2008.

To keep CONET vibrant with new ideas, we strongly encourage nominations of new people for all offices: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Chair, and Webmaster.

The current officers will train the new officers.

This is an excellent opportunity to increase your visibility, networking, and overall enjoyment of CONET membership.

COMING EVENTS

February 27 - IEEE New Jersey Coast section. Speaker: Yi Cai, PhD. Topic: *Performance Limits of FEC & Modulation Formats in Optical Fiber Communications*. More Information: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/njcoast/>

March 6 – Regular **IEEE CONET** meeting in Philadelphia (announcement above)

March 6 - IEEE New Jersey Coast section. Speaker: Neil Hoffman, Agilent Technologies. Topic: *High Speed Serial Design – New Tools & Measurement Techniques*. More Information: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/njcoast/>

March 8 – ICCA Delaware Valley Chapter. Speaker: Karyn Greenstreet, President of *Passion for Business, LLC*. Topic: *60-Minute Marketing Plan*. More information: <http://www.iccaderval.org/icca/html/meetings.htm>

March 14 - Chemical Consultants Network. Speaker: C. J. Timmins, CEO of PMA, LLC. Topic: *Personal Branding: A Proven Concept for Self-Marketing*. More information: <http://www.chemconsultants.org/nextmeet.html>

March 29 - IEEE Consultants Network of Northern New Jersey. Speaker: Ed McCauley, Bottom Line Technologies, Inc. Topic: *Clients First: Identifying and Focusing On Solving Their Pain*. More information: <http://www.technologyontap.org/cgi-bin/meetings.cgi>

April 12 – ICCA Delaware Valley Chapter. Speaker: Joel Adams. Topic: *Dealing With Big Companies from Interviewing To Getting Paid*. More information: <http://www.iccaderval.org/icca/html/meetings.htm>

April 14 – IEEE Philadelphia Section. Annual Awards Dinner. The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 South Broad Street, Philadelphia. More information: (610) 642-2866

May 1 – Regular **IEEE CONET** meeting in Philadelphia

Your thoughts and comments relative to CONET activities or consulting can be voiced to other members and officers through the CONET forum:

<http://www.engineeringforum.org/forum/forumdisplay.php?s=&forumid=16>

For additional information on CONET visit our website: <http://www.phila-ieee-consultants.org>

For Philadelphia IEEE Section activities the section Almanack is now available on line at <http://www.ieeephiladelphia.org>

Jim Walsh
CONET Secretary

CONET Officers

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