



Philadelphia Section IEEE Consultants Network

<http://www.phila-ieee-consultants.org>

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**CONET Newsletter
August, 2004**

Meeting Announcement for Tuesday October 5, 2004

What the IEEE is doing about the loss of Engineering Jobs & Technology

Date: Tuesday, October 5, 2004

Place: Sheraton Hotel, 36th & Chestnut Streets.

Dinner: 6:30 PM (Social time from 6:00 PM)

Meeting: 7:15 to 9:00 PM

Theme: What the IEEE is doing about the loss of Engineering Jobs & Technology

Parking: IEEE will pay the parking fee for the Sheraton indoor lot, if you have your ticket validated at the meeting. Enter Sheraton Parking from 36th Street. Chestnut Street is one-way eastbound. 36th Street is a two-way street.

What the IEEE is doing about the loss of Engineering Jobs & Technology

Russell Harrison is the Grassroots Legislative Director of the IEEE. On October 05, 2004, Russell will describe what the IEEE action groups are doing to address the loss of technical jobs and the associated technologies to other countries. This is a timely issue for all technical disciplines. Everyone is welcome to attend. You do not have to be a CONET member, IEEE member or consultant.

Price for dinner is \$30.00, which also includes the meeting. CONET members and IEEE Student members may attend just the meeting at no charge. All others pay \$10.00 to attend only the meeting. Dinner reservations must be made by September 30. Reserve by e-mail to: locasale@ieee.org, or call Tom LoCasale at 215 - 345-6424. Follow-up by mailing a check, payable to "CONET", to: Vision 2 Consulting, 29 Stringer Drive, Doylestown, PA. 18901.

BUCKLEY FOR IEEE BOARD of DIRECTORS



Merrill W. Buckley, Jr. Candidate for DIVISION IX Director-elect

As a candidate for office I welcome this opportunity to present my views. My participation in IEEE activities over the years has repeatedly shown me that we must make the Institute and its services relevant to our members' career needs. To that end I support the following:

1. TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

Without first-rate publications, prestigious technical conferences, and interesting local technical activities, the Institute loses its focus and, in turn, its right to represent the profession. I will vigorously encourage the best papers be published and that we disseminate more practical application oriented information.

Educational courses and products for career enhancement continue to rate high in membership surveys. I believe that, with our volunteer structure IEEE should be a leader in low cost short courses.

2. CAREER RECOGNITION/IMAGE

As highly trained and technically competent electrical/electronics/computer engineers are one of the countries most valuable assets, We developed many of the products and created the services that give this country its high standard of living and so many new jobs. We have brought about revolutionary changes in communications, computers, power generation, and in many other areas. These contributions-basic to the economic growth and military security of the nation-should not go unnoticed by the public. We deserve secure positions as honored professionals with financial rewards in line with our contributions.

3. INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP

This is a time for unity in IEEE. We need a Board of Directors that is effective in unifying and leading not just reacting. I believe my broad experience in the IEEE and the profession will permit me to serve all the members in a fair and balanced way. As IEEE President, Executive Vice President, IEEE/USA President, Vice President of Regional Activities, Regional Director, Divisional Director, society Adcom Member, and Conference Organizer, I understand the challenge and have demonstrated unifying leadership.

4. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

In a world of uncertainty and rapid change, many of our members feel helpless in a swirl of mergers, acquisitions, buy-outs, downsizing, deregulation, plant closings, work relocations, etc. They believe the IEEE is their best hope to

help protect their professional needs. I will not let them down. The following is my position on a number of issues:

Employment

Our profession has a history of wide fluctuations in the demand for engineers. We must be vigilant in preventing it! advised actions related to this. For example, the United States has an excellent record of meeting the need for more engineers and scientists from within its vast_re&Purces. There is no need for pedal immigration categories or foreign out-sourcing for these types of professionals The answer lies in avoiding policies that discourage people ITom entering engineering, the retaining of displaced engineers and opening up more career possibilities for the financially disadvantaged, minorities and others.

Job Stability

My 36 years in Defense/Aerospace has shown me what employment insecurity is and what job stability means. We need a caring IEEE that actively helps our members keep their jobs, and the unemployed find good new positions. We must prevent engineering from following manufacturing overseas.

Portable Pensions

This is a serious work-related problem. We change jobs on an average every three years. Many of us are covered by "Defined Benefit" pensions which strongly favor those who stay with one organization. There is limited pension portability. I believe "Seamless Portable Pensions" is an idea whose time has come! I will fight for it. Five-year pension vesting is also unfair and outmoded. It should be one year.

Age Discrimination

Compared to most other professions our careers are cut too short and they are getting shorter. I am convinced we can improve the situation. We must work with enlightened management (flexible retirement, etc.) to extend our careers and enable the public to reap the full benefits of our knowledge and experience.

Salary Compression

A profession, in which an entry-level salary is considerably more than half that of a 30-year practitioner, has problems. Other professions do not experience this. We must reverse the trend through education and programs that favor the experienced practitioner.

***I SEEK YOUR VOTE TO FURTHER REPRESENT YOU IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTITUTE
Exercise Your Right to Vote!***

COMING EVENTS

September 8 - Chemical Consultants Network. *The Successful Journey from Chemical Consultant to Chemical Entrepreneur*. For details, go to <http://www.chemconsultants.org/nextmeet.html>

October 5 - Regular **IEEE CONET** meeting In Philadelphia (announcement above)

October 13 - Chemical Consultants Network. *Finding Your Company's Needle in the Haystack – Internet Marketing*. For details, go to <http://www.chemconsultants.org/nextmeet.html>

October 28 - IEEE Consultants Network of Northern New Jersey. *Thermal Loading in Electronic Devices and PCs*. For details, go to www.TechnologyOnTap.org

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 the web address <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/philadelphia>

Jim Walsh
CONET Secretary

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