

technical activities

NEWSBRIEFS

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. • 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, New Jersey 08855-1331 USA

TAB Secretary: Irving Engelson
Newsbriefs Editor: Laura S. Jobmann

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TAB ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 3, 1992

The second meeting of the 1992 TAB Administration Council (TABAC) was held on October 3, 1992 at The Conrad Hilton Hotel, Cancun, Mexico. The following actions were taken:

TAB Entitlement. In consonance with the action taken by TAB during its August, 1992 meeting to change the method used to calculate TAB's entitlement by replacing the 10.3% of member dues with a per member allocation, TABAC endorsed proposed revisions to IEEE Bylaw 310.2(3)(e), reflecting this change, for recommendation of approval by the IEEE Board of Directors.

Intersocietal Committees. Since under the new TAB structure intersocietal publications are monitored by the TAB Periodicals Council, TABAC opposed the proposed assignment of newly formed Intersocietal Publications Committees to Divisions. The TAB Secretary was directed to prepare a Motion to TAB requesting that the concept of Intersocietal Committee assignments to Divisions be dissolved and that such Committees be assigned to the TAB Periodicals Council.

Technical Meetings. As requested by the TAB Technical Meetings Council, TABAC agreed with a recommended policy change requiring that IEEE members pay no more than the sponsoring organization's members at meetings in which IEEE is a Technical Co-Sponsor or Cooperating entity. However, before proceeding further with IEEE policy revisions, the TAB Technical Meetings Council was requested to look further into its proposal regarding the acquisition terms for purchasing conference proceedings from meetings in which IEEE is a Technical Co-Sponsor.

Assistance to Scientists and Engineers in the former Soviet Union. Further to TAB's action encouraging societies to take steps to create specific mechanisms for assisting scientists and engineers in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, TABAC passed a resolution recommending to the IEEE Executive Committee that IEEE work with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to help them formulate a plan to support engineers and scientists in the republics of the former Soviet Union. Further, that the IEEE Executive Committee consider having IEEE take a lead role in the plan.

1993 Strategic and Operating Plan. TABAC endorsed, and recommended to TAB, a 1993 TAB Strategic and Operating Plan consisting of seven (7) objectives and fifteen (15) goals.

Proposed Addition to IEEE Policy Statement 15.3 - Preparation of Entity Position Statements. In an effort to avoid having Entity Position Statements misconstrued as IEEE positions or positions of other IEEE entities, TABAC endorsed a proposed addition to IEEE Policy Statement 15.3 governing the preparation of entity position statements for recommendation of approval by the IEEE Board of Directors. This addition will require clear identification of the issuing entity throughout the position statement.

Proposed Revisions to IEEE Policy Statement 15.8 - Testimony Before Government Bodies. To provide a similar review process for written testimony, which can eventually become a Technology Policy Statement, as that which exists for entity position statements, TABAC endorsed the concept of modifying IEEE Policy Statement 15.8 governing testimony before government bodies. The TAB representatives on the joint TAB/USAB Ad Hoc Committee addressing this issue were asked to bring to the next TAB meeting a new proposal that preserves the approval process outlined in current IEEE Policy Statement 15.8.B, while adding the restrictions requested by the TAB representatives.

Document Delivery Initiative. TABAC endorsed a document delivery initiative "Ask IEEE", as presented by the Vice President-Publication Activities, that will enable researchers and IEEE members from around the world to obtain scientific and technical articles rapidly via telephone, fax, e-mail and on-line request.

Important Dates

Next Technical Activities Board Meeting. The Technical Activities Board will hold its next meeting in Phoenix, Arizona on December 4, 1992.

TAB Administration Council Retreat. A TAB Administration Council retreat will be held in the Piscataway, New Jersey area January 16-17, 1993.