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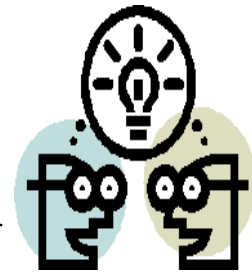


JUNE 2006 GOLD RUSH NEWSLETTER

Message from GOLD Committee Chair Darrel Chong

Dear All,

Wouldn't it be surprising to find a person who can tell you the exact time of a day without relying on any time-telling mechanism? What a talent! I call such a person a time-teller. However, though much less adored, the clockmakers have a larger and more lasting impact on the society than the time-tellers. A time-teller tells time as long as he or she lives, but a clockmaker tells time through the clock he or she builds. The clock is not constrained by space (exists at multiple locations) or time (lasts longer than the builder).



Our society is continuously searching for clockmakers: people who conceive ideas and readily invest time and energy to build organizations that last beyond them. Here, I suggest that it is insufficient to assume leadership positions and simply lead in present times. One important characteristic of strong leadership is to see beyond present times, and lay a stable foundation that prepares organizations for future times. The book *Built to Last* by Jim Collins and Jerry Porras says that Hewlett Packard (HP), Sony, and General Electric (GE) performed better than their competitors in the last fifty years because their CEOs are clockmakers who spurred continuous progress, and implemented procedures that prepared the organizations for the future.

GOLD volunteers, I challenge you to think about measures to build a lasting GOLD regional operation, or GOLD affinity group - one that lasts beyond your term of office. I applaud your leadership in motivating and providing directions (time telling) to your committee. However, I also encourage you to be clockmakers through developing mission/vision statements (core ideology) and operational manuals, documenting best practices, and nurturing potential volunteers to assume leadership positions. Thinking about to implement these goals will only make you more experience in doing likewise, and becoming more valuable, at your workplace.

The IEEE Regional Activities Board (RAB) GOLD Committee held its annual meeting in March this year in San Francisco. The committee took on the habits of clockmakers. We developed vision and mission statements and proposed a new committee structure to support our aspirations. I would like to add that developing these statements, alone, does not make us clockmakers, but it is the first step. If your GOLD group does not yet have a vision or mission statement, I encourage you to develop them. As long as your statements support the GOLD RAB Committee vision and mission, you are well on the right track!

I wish you every success, and may your term in office be very fruitful and satisfying. Please feel free to contact your GOLD regional coordinator or myself if you have any questions. We will be glad to support you.

GOLD RAB Committee Vision:

To increase value and worth of IEEE services and programs to young professionals and recent graduates.

GOLD RAB Committee Mission:

Develop programs and foster relationships to provide tangible value to members; Promote the GOLD program to students; Recruit, develop and nurture volunteers.

Darrel Chong, GOLD Chair, 2006

Earn IEEE Continuing Education Units through Free Trial of Expert Now

Expert Now IEEE, which features the best of IEEE's educational content delivered in one-hour long interactive online learning courses, is offering a free trial open to anyone with an IEEE web account. The three free courses offered are:

- "Real-Time Computer Systems"
- "Transition to Management"
- "Introduction to Wireless Ad-hoc Networks"

Expert Now IEEE helps individuals stay current in their fields, learn from recognized experts without having to travel and maintain their license or certifications by earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

The trial is available through September 2006. Later this year, IEEE members will be able to purchase individual courses in the Expert Now IEEE collection when they are made available for sale via IEEE Xplore. To access the free trial, [visit the website](#). For additional information on Expert Now IEEE, contact Marilyn Catis at +1 732 562 5323; or mailto: mg.catis@ieee.org.

New IEEE Member Grade - Graduate Student Member

Are you planning your upcoming Section and Chapter programs, activities or elections? You will be happy to hear that a new IEEE member grade, Graduate Student Member (GSM), will provide you with a larger pool of potential volunteers.

The IEEE Board of Directors approved the bylaw change that divided the IEEE student member grade into two categories: graduate student member and student member. The new grade allows GSMs (graduate student member) to vote in IEEE elections and to hold office in IEEE Sections, Chapters and Affinity Groups. The SAMIEEE program will be updated to identify these members during third quarter 2006.

In the meantime, to assist Section Chairs and others who want to appoint a graduate student to a volunteer position, we can identify individual GSMs for you. Please send an email to officer-data@ieee.org to confirm whether the individual qualifies as a GSM. The basic qualifications are:

- Baccalaureate or equivalent degree from a recognized institution in an IEEE-designated field of interest.
- Must carry at least 50 percent of a full-time academic program as a registered graduate student in an IEEE-designated field.

An individual can hold the student member and graduate student member grade for a total of eight years. Upon graduation or reaching the eight-year limit, whichever comes first, the graduate student will be automatically elevated to Member grade.

Objectives of the grade include getting GSMs more actively involved in IEEE activities and programs, providing geographical and technical entities with new volunteers and to help reinforce benefits of membership to help retain these members after graduation. Dues and benefits remain unchanged for both grades at this time.

Karen Miu Miller wins Outstanding Young Engineer Award

IEEE Member Karen Miu Miller has received the 2005 Eta Kappa Nu (HKN) Outstanding Young Electrical and Computer Engineer Award. An associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Miu Miller was recognized for her "outstanding contributions in electric power distribution systems and her involvement in student and professional activities." For more information, [please click here](#).

GOLD Online Seminar a Success

IEEE GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) held a free Internet conference seminar on "**Plan for Financial Success: Keys to Live By**" on 20 May 2006, 10:00am EDT. The speaker was Larry Grogan, the President of Grogan Advisory Services.

Our seminar focused on how financial planning can be used to fulfill life goals. We evaluated investing, the special needs of retirement, college education and family, as well as many other life situations. This seminar equipped GOLD members to cope with challenges, and understand how a solid financial plan will direct them to success. The overall feedback by the seminar attendees was very positive as more than 63% said that they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the seminar contents and 100% said that the service added value to their IEEE membership. Many of the respondents also said they would apply what they had learnt.

The IEEE Internet conference service was held via Microsoft Office Live Meeting and lasted approximately one hour. Attendees listened to the audio portion of the seminar presentation using a telephone or over the Internet via their PC speakers. The media worked well for most of the attendees as 86% felt the online seminar was as effective as a face-to-face conference.

Our speaker, Larry Grogan heads Grogan Advisory Services, which is a financial services firm that offers complete financial planning, asset management, insurance, analytical portfolio analysis, and consultation. Their research comes from multiple sources in order to present a scope of intelligent and unbiased recommendations. For further questions and responses from the speaker, [please click here](#).

Upcoming GOLD Events

IEEE GOLD 10th Anniversary Celebration!

Watch for a fresh GOLD 10th Anniversary Celebration Website in July, showing how GOLD has grown from the ground up over the past 10 years. We will welcome your messages on our bulletin board. Browse through descriptions of different Regional GOLD Programs and choose your favorite region for a chance to win a prize.

Later in October, we will have an Online Scavenger Hunt. Prizes include MP3 players and other hot items. What is better than playing a game, learning about IEEE, and celebrating IEEE GOLD's 10th anniversary all at the same time? Don't miss it! If you have questions, please email gold@ieee.org

IEEE EMBS GOLD Reception in New York City

A GOLD reception will be held at the 28th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBS) on Wednesday, 30 August 2006, in New York City, USA. The GOLD reception is sponsored by GOLD Region 1, GOLD New York Section, and EMBS - and will allow GOLDies (those attending the Conference and/or living within Region 1, including New York) to interact with each other in an informal and fun setting. Contact lisa.lazareck@eng.ox.ac.uk for further details.

Region Reports & Tips for GOLD Leaders

IEEE Singapore, Boston GOLD Sections share ideas, *Contributed by Soon Wan, Region 1 GOLD Coordinator*

How can the IEEE encourage a continuing linkage between student, recent graduate, and professional members? On April 12th, 2006, the National University of Singapore IEEE student branch bridged that gap by organizing a joint meeting with the IEEE Singapore Section, Singapore GOLD, and the two IEEE student branches in Singapore: National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technology University (NTU).



The meeting was well attended despite being held during the NUS's examination week. Most attendees were IEEE members, but a few non-members also attended to find out what was IEEE all about. In addition, the past Singapore GOLD and student branches executive committee members attended the meeting, and they turned the gathering into a reunion and networking session.

The main objective of the meeting was to exchange idea and experience among the Student, GOLD, and Section members. With the participation of the Region 1 and Boston GOLD chairs, Soon and May Wan, the meeting also provided an opportunity to learn about GOLD activities in Region 1 GOLD, Boston GOLD and Singapore GOLD. In addition, the meeting provided support and encouragement to the GOLD and student branch leaders in their volunteering for IEEE.

After a fabulous Chinese cuisine buffet dinner, Zhou Yi, the past chair of NUS IEEE, gave a warm welcome and commenced the meeting. The first speaker was the IEEE Singapore Section Chair, Dr. Tan Cher Ming. He gave an overall view of IEEE

Singapore Section past activities, current programs, upcoming events, and future plans. In addition, he mentioned that they were in the process of forming three more student branches in Singapore. He encouraged both NUS and NTU IEEE to mentor the new student branches once they are form



Darrel Chong gave an overall view of IEEE organization structure and introduced Soon Wan and May Wan. Soon began his presentation by introducing IEEE GOLD and Region 1, which comprises nine states in the northeastern United States. Region 1 has twenty-two Sections, nine GOLD Affinity Groups, and about 2100 GOLD members. Following, Soon gave a brief history of Region 1 GOLD, and presented the upcoming activities and events. Soon also talked about the benefits of being GOLD members, and strongly encouraged all the graduating students to join IEEE GOLD, and to take up a leading role within IEEE GOLD.



Boston GOLD activities were presented by May Wan. She talked about past social events such as Paintball Game, GOLD Camping, Beach Volleyball Outing, Thirsty Thursday Networking Night (TN2), GOLD at Red Sox Games, GOLD Bowling and Ski Trip. These social events attracted up to 60 attendees. As for professional development, Boston GOLD has organized many technical seminars such as 3rd Generation Firewall, Video Over IP and Real Time Design. Boston GOLD also organized numerous educational events, including First Time Home Buying Seminar, Identifying a Good Business Idea, Advance Decisions for Advance Degrees, Assessing and Planning My Engineering Career, Engineering Patents, and Engineering Lessons Outside the Textbook.

The key to Boston GOLD's high level of activity was their successful recruiting of GOLD volunteers. In 2006, Boston GOLD consists of eleven executive committee members, who each must organize an event of their choice, which is financially supported by the IEEE Boston Section.

Next, Singapore GOLD chair Tan Qing presented Singapore GOLD activities, such as Golf Clinic, Cocktail night and networking events. He concluded by telling the audience that it was their turn to be the leaders in the IEEE, and to foster an interest in the engineering profession.

During the question and answer session, members brought up several issues for discussion, including finding funding to organize GOLD events, and how to effectively recruit volunteers. This meeting has tightened the relationship between IEEE Singapore GOLD, Student Branches, and Section. The exchanging and sharing of ideas during the meeting has benefited all who attended.

Region 8 overcomes geographic challenges by establishing GOLD team, *Contributed by Rolf Remshardt, Region 8 GOLD Coordinator*

Region 8 – Europe, Africa, and the Middle East – is IEEE's geographically largest region, and so the R8 GOLD Coordinator is not able to visit many of our sections to help start GOLD activities, train volunteers, or form GOLD Affinity Groups. Therefore, I decided to establish a GOLD Team, whose members reside in different areas of Region 8 and act on behalf of the R8 GOLD Coordinator in their local areas. They should not only work in their local section but also contact neighbor countries and sections to support the chair, educate section members on the GOLD idea, and train potential Gold volunteers and leaders.

The GOLD Team members should be the most experienced IEEE GOLD leaders in R8. The past IEEE GOLD Chair, Gerald Anleitner, and I have therefore invited the team members to our first team meeting in Munich in order to:

- educate and train them with the latest IEEE and GOLD programs
- discuss best practices how to contact locals and neighbors with respect to GOLD activities and to form new GOLD Affinity Groups
- provide them with IEEE and R8 presentation and information tools (CD) for local use and further distribution in the sections
- have them report on their achievements from the past year and plans for 2007

In Munich all team members reported on their past activities. In particular, members from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Croatia, the United Kingdom, and South Africa showed very impressive presentations on their past events. Gerald and I gave the latest summaries on IEEE in general and GOLD in particular. All our slides were summarized on a CD and distributed to the team.

We split the team into two focus groups in order to discuss actual GOLD issues and problems, enhancing cooperation and communication with SB's, improved GOLD magazines, special activities for team members, the GOLD anniversary and many others.

Some of the ideas contributed by the discussion were:

- Distribute GOLD affinity group administration requirements (registering, forms, reporting, etc).
- Provide more than two annual reports to IEEE on technical and social events.
- Provide reports & articles on GOLD activities and events to my "R8 GOLD News" and to the official "R8 Newsletter".
- Improved GOLD Rush Newsletter, official magazine like "Potentials" for students.

- Understanding the different benefits and needs of GOLD members just out of college versus members 5-10 years into their careers.
- Provide benefits by professional education, career planning, leadership skill training, project management, job information, etc.
- Recognizing the similarities between GOLD and Student Branches, organize more joint events. GOLD can give students technical benefits and industry know-how; SBs are the source for future Goldies and engineers for industry.
- Re-/activate GOLD AGs, ensure continuity, shut down if dormant for 2 years.
- Use SAMIEEE database access to contact student branch members and present GOLD information to let them know that there is an IEEE life post-graduation, and it is called "GOLD".
- "Big Family" - let others know what is going on in your section, report on each of your activities. Share your best practices and success stories with your GOLD Team colleagues and your R8 Coordinator.

Newsletter Subscription Information

The GOLD Rush is a quarterly electronic newsletter published by the IEEE Regional Activities Board GOLD Committee highlighting activities of the Committee and IEEE GOLD members.

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(goldl@ieee.org)

URL: <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/gold2/june2006.html>

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