Chair's Report – June IEEE NSW Committee Meeting

1. Asian Control Conference 2004

Michael Evans has been advised of the outcome – we will enter a MoU in due course. We will await his request for the $10k seed money, but should reserve this in our budget in anticipation of expending it this year.

2. International Symposium on Spread Spectrum Techniques and Applications 2004

I advised Graeme Woodward and the organizers of our decision and the conditions. They have returned with a suitably modified budget (increasing the registration fees to give a break even at 250 and a surplus of 15% at 300) and have engaged a PCO (with whom they will sign an agreement on the services to be provided).

They have arrived at a hitch with the IEEE Communications Society – apparently COMSOC won't fund this outside the US. Accordingly they have approached other Australian Sections (including SA, where their treasurer is based). Michael Evans seems amenable to cooperating on this conference as well, to the extent of $10k, so we could have a win here as we trust his hands on oversight! The organizers would like to approach Victorian Section as well as they feel another $5k to $10k would make them more comfortable, however, I said that I would like this confirmed by the NSW Committee before they proceed as it reduces our investment to 1/3.

Please resolve if Vic should join in as well.

3. LEOS and EDS Chapter

Jagadish was advised that we would be prepared to receive a petition from Society members to form the Chapter, and I provided Bruce Poon's contact details so that Prof. Ben Eggleton (Sydney Uni) can run with it. I also provided the web site giving details on Chapter formation.

4. Joint IT Chapter With SA, Vic and ACT

I advised Michael Evans that NSW would be part of this chapter on the agreement that SA be the administrating agent. IEEE HQ have been informed.

5. Request for Technical Co-sponsorship and Relocation (International Symposium on Consumer Electronics 03) – Stefan Mozar

We have been asked by the organizers (including Stefan Mozar) if we would object to this conference being relocated to Sydney later this year, due to the SARS problem in Singapore. I advised that we had no right of veto on other IEEE conferences being held in our jurisdiction, but pointed out the associative effects of the IEEE label. In particular I

advised that issues such as insurance (not covered under NSW incorporation) and GST would need to be addressed in such a way as to have no impact on NSW Section.

David Tien suggested Technical Co-sponsorship from NSW Section, however, I am not enthusiastic about this idea as it may be implied from a legal or jurisdiction point of view that NSW Section is responsible for some of the tricky relocation issues identified above.

Stefan Mozar and David Tien will probably discuss this at the meeting, and we should make some resolution. If they wish to go it alone, then there is nothing we can do to stop them. If we wish to help them, I suggest it be limited to "no objections provided GST and insurance/liability is covered by the organsiers". I don't think I'm being unsympathetic – we just don't want another tax liability (albeit temporary) like with IDC2001.

6. Technical Co-sponsorship of Pacific Region Conference on Electrical Engineering Education

I was approached by Dr Abbas Kouzani from Newcastle Uni regarding the above, to be held in Geelong. I suggested that he would be best placed contacting the Victorian Section and gave him Peter Will's email address.

7. Student Counsellors in Universities

After getting an IEAust run around, I have contacted Alan Sangster directly to discuss the matter. I should have meeting in a week or two.

8. CD ROM

Thanks to Ian Boyd, we finally had a teleconference to discuss how to proceed. It was resolved that with the limited funding (approx. $4k) we would seek to attract a student or other volunteer to be paid an honorarium with the following brief:

1. to research on the web or other sources suitable (reliable) public domain material that could be assembled (by way of links) to provide information on the following:
    a. Electrical Engineering/Electronic Engineering/Computer Science/IT definitions, careers, jobs, courses, testimonials etc.
    b. University courses in NSW
    c. IEEE information
2. to structure the information in a web-page based portfolio that could readily be navigated.
3. to prepare sample CDs for distribution at the end of the year.

This announcement will go in the next issue of CIRCUIT.

AJP, 2 June 2003