## IEEE REGION 10 CONNECT



### Volume 25 | Issue 5 | Dec 2024



### ENTERING 2025, IEEE R10 WOULD BRING FRESH PERSPECTIVES AND MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS TO THE FOREFRONT.

### HEADLINES>>>

### **IEEE R10 Director's Message**

As my term as IEEE Region 10 Director comes to an end on 31st December 2024, I find myself filled with a deep sense of gratitude, pride, and humility. <u>Page 2</u>

### Building a Strong Foundation for the Region Realignment: A Vision for 2025–26

The IEEE Region 10 (R10) strategic plan for the 2025–26 term aims to establish a robust foundation for future collaboration and innovation. Page 4

### IEEE 2024 R10 Humanitarian Technology Conference (HTC 2024)

HTC 2024 took place at Royale Chulan Kuala Lumpur from 1-3 October 2024. <u>Page 5</u>

### IEEE R10 TENSYMP 2024: Advancing Technology for Humanity

TENSYMP 2024 was successfully hosted by Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT), Delhi, from September 27 to 29. <u>Page 7</u>

### TENCON 2024 - AI and Deep Learning for a Sustainable Future

IEEE TENCON 2024, brought together researchers, industry professionals, and policymakers to explore the theme "Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning Technologies for a Sustainable Future." Page 8

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A BIG THANK YOU TO THE 2024 IEEE REGION 10 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL 2024!!

### SPOTLIGHT>>>

IEEE Blended Learning Program (BLP) Throwback 2024

### IEEE BLP is now under IEEE SA Governance:

After a decade of evolution of IEEE BLP, this program will now take a new shape and prosper under the governance and guidance of IEEE Standards Association.

### IEEE BLP caters to 92K users from 50+ Countries Globally:

IEEE BLP caters to a global audience. This year, the user base has spiked to 92,000 from more than 50 countries. Predominantly from India, United States, UK, Canada, Germany, Vietnam, Egypt, China, and many more.



### **IEEE R10 DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE**

Reflecting on Two Years of Service as IEEE Region 10 Director: Successes, Challenges, and What's Next?

### STATEMENT

I will dedicate my time, professional experience and practical knowledge to:

- **Support innovative projects** to address local issues in alignment with IEEE Mission, Vision and Strategic Plan
- Actively **represent the Voices and Concerns** from R10 in IEEE Boards and Committees
- Develop Strategies to improve the Values, Benefits, Experience for R10 members
- Encourage **R10 volunteers to participate in decision making**, and **public recognition** of their contributions
- Establish and support **Collaborative Schemes** between Students, YP, WIE, High-grade members and members through networking and joint projects
- Promote sustainable "Humanitarian Technology" projects

### Continued from Page 1.

These two years have been a fulfilling and transformative chapter in my life one filled with incredible experiences, countless lessons, and the privilege of serving alongside a dedicated and inspiring community.

Throughout my tenure, I devoted significant time to traveling, participating in meetings, delivering speeches, responding to endless emails, reviewing reimbursement claims, and visiting numerous Organizational Units (OUs) across Region 10 and other parts of IEEE. These responsibilities were not merely tasks they were opportunities to connect with our members, celebrate their achievements, and witness the impact of IEEE in action.

I am deeply honored to have served with so many passionate volunteers, learned from experienced IEEE leaders, and collaborated with exceptional IEEE professional staff. Their unwavering commitment to IEEE's mission has been a constant source of inspiration. Truly, I couldn't ask for more.

#### Evaluating Our Progress

### When I look back, I ask myself: Have I fulfilled my promises?

To answer that, let the results speak for themselves. Comparing the start of 2023 to the close of 2024, the numbers tell a story of growth, engagement, and progress:

• Membership Growth: Region 10 membership grew by over 21%, from 161,000 to 195,000, while Society memberships increased by an impressive 29%, from 82,700 to 107,000.

• Expanding Our Reach: Technical Chapters increased by 8.2% to nearly 900, while Student Branches grew by 5.4% to over 1,800. Most notably, Student Branch Chapters saw a remarkable increase of over 50%, reaching 2,700. These numbers demonstrate the vibrancy and high engagement levels of our Region.

#### **Initiatives That Made a Difference**

Beyond the numbers, Region 10 launched several impactful initiatives to address emerging priorities:

- Ethics and Risk Awareness
- Philanthropy Projects
- Volunteer Upskilling and Enhancement Programs
- Climate Change and Sustainability Initiatives
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation Efforts
- Industry Engagement and Roundtables

These new programs complemented ongoing flagship activities such as *R10Talk*, the *R10 Robotic Competition*, led by R10 VC, **Dr Zia Ahmed**, and projects led by R10 committees in areas like Education, Student Activities, Professional Activities, Women in Engineering (WIE), Young Professionals (YP), Life Members, and Humanitarian Activities...etc.

We also marked IEEE's 140th anniversary with the R10-140 Initiative, by **Vijay Paul**, promoting "Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds". With 49 teams participating, they collectively completed over **104 million steps** in various forms of exercise, equivalent to nearly **70,000 kilometres**—almost twice around the globe!

### Strengthening Our Infrastructure

Region 10 has made strides in expanding its organizational footprint:

- We welcomed **two new Sections**—Bhubaneswar and Nepal—and the **Maldives Subsection** joined the IEEE community. In particular, Maldives is the latest addition to the other 190 countries. The excellent work is championed by R10 Section Chapter Coordination Committee Chair, **Dr Amit Kumar**.
- The first multi-nation council in IEEE, the SouthEast Asia Council, was formed under the leadership of IEEE Malaysia Section Vice Chair, Dr Bernard Lim, with the focus to encourage cross-section collaboration among ASEAN countries.

Together, these developments highlight IEEE's ongoing growth and its commitment to serving members across the vast geography of Region 10.

### IEEE R10 DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE (CTD.)

#### **Challenges and Lessons**

While we celebrate our successes, we must also acknowledge the challenges we faced. Navigating the complexities of governance, financial transparency, local compliance, and election integrity remains a pressing need. Addressing these challenges requires continuous efforts to refine our processes and ensure that IEEE operates efficiently, ethically, and effectively across diverse landscapes.

#### Acknowledging Our Team

No leader achieves success alone. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to:

- The 2023–24 IEEE R10 Nomination and Advisory Committee, chaired by past R10 Director Deepak Mathur and joined by esteemed leaders such as Past IEEE President Prof. Toshio Fukuda, Professors Janina Mazierska, Akinori Nishihara, Kukjin Chun, and Takako Hashimoto.
- Vice Chairs of R10, including Prof. Takao Onoye, Dr. Zia Ahmed, and Prof. Rajendrasinh Jadeja, for their leadership and impactful initiatives.
- The dedicated members of the R10 Executive Committee and AdHoc Committees, who faithfully served over the past two years. Your contributions have been invaluable.
- Led by IEEE MGA Managing Director, Cecelia Jankowski, professional staff at IEEE MGA office have been tremendous with their advice and assistance to volunteers.

Special thanks go to:

- R10 Secretary, Dr. Michael Ong, for his meticulous support in managing regional meetings and records.
- R10 Treasurer, Prof. Nia Kurnianingsih, whose tireless dedication ensured the smooth management of over 2,500 financial transactions from the region's budget and finance.
- The unsung heroes at the IEEE Asia Pacific Office, including Ewell Tan and Hwa Chiang Leo, for their professionalism and unwavering support.
- IEEE VP MGA, Prof. Deepak Mathur, whose wisdom and guidance have been instrumental to our region's success.

### Looking Forward

As my term ends, I am confident that under the capable leadership of incoming IEEE R10 Directors, Prof. Takako Hashimoto (2025–26) and Prof. S.M. Sameer (2027–28), Region 10 will continue to thrive. I foresee membership surpassing 240,000, taking IEEE's total membership beyond half a million, and the number of OUs will increase further, reflecting the growing interest and commitment of members.

However, the road ahead is not without challenges. It is essential to review and strengthen the governance of local units, ensure financial transparency, and maintain adherence to both IEEE and local regulatory requirements. These efforts will safeguard IEEE's integrity, ensure compliance, and sustain its long-term impact.

#### A Personal Note

At the end of the day, one may ask, "What drives you, Lance?"

My first reaction is, "for my wife and children, for their love, support and trust in me...", and a simple heartfelt aspiration: to hear that still, small voice

"Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things...."

Thank you for this incredible journey. I look forward to continuing my support for IEEE in other capacities, and witnessing the Region's bright future unfold.

Here's to R10 a successful 2025 and beyond!

#### Acknowledgement

#### **R10 ExCom and AdHoc Members**

Seishi Takamura, Toshitaka Tsuda, Preeti Bajaj, Cheon Won Choi, Amit Kumar, Jennifer Chua Dela Cruz, Warunika Hippola, Agnes Irwanti, Aishwarya Bandla, Jing Dong, Jong Chang Yi, SM Sameer, Vijay Paul, Emi Yano, Sanjay Kar Chowdhury, Chi-Un Lei, Daniel Eghbal, Akila Wijethunge, Saaveethya Sivakumar, Harry McDonald, Khanita Duangchaemkarn, Rajendra Asthana, Sudeendra Koushik, Bernard Lim, Suresh Nair, Mousmi Chaurasia, Paulina Chan, and Shaikh Fattah.

#### **IEEE MGA and Finance Staff**

Christie Giambalvo, Maria Schneider, Vera Sharoff, Michael Kreisberg, Stacey Waters, John Day, Teresa Sacks, Lauren Jesch, Lori Keller, Elyn Perez... and many more..



With gratitude, Lance Fung IEEE Region 10 Director (2023-2024)

### BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE REGION REALIGNMENT: A VISION FOR 2025–26

### Takako Hashimoto, IEEE R10 Director-Elect 2023-24

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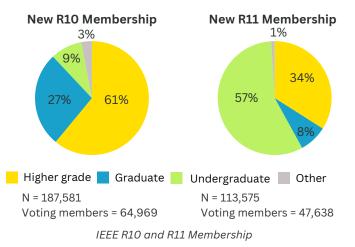
This transformative initiative addresses the challenges and opportunities arising from the creation of the new IEEE Region 10 (R10) and Region 11 (R11), with a shared mission of building a stronger, unified future for IEEE members across these regions.

### Key Highlights

#### 1. Addressing Regional Challenges

A core focus is to design tailored strategies that address the unique needs and opportunities within the new R10 and R11 regions. These strategies will empower Sections, chapters, and members to implement impactful and inclusive initiatives. Special attention will be given to developing programs embracing cultural diversity, industrial landscapes, and varying member needs across the Asia-Pacific region.

### As of Dec 2023;



### 2. Promoting Cross-Regional Collaboration

Recognizing the value of collective effort, the plan emphasizes fostering joint projects and collaborative activities across regions. By encouraging inter-regional partnerships, the leadership seeks to enhance resourcesharing, knowledge exchange, and community building. The ultimate goal is to create a cohesive network where members work together to address global challenges while advancing technology for humanity.

#### 3. Enhancing Transparency and Governance

Transparent and equitable governance is central to this plan. Key aspects include promoting diverse participation, maintaining clear communication, and ensuring fair resource allocation in project planning and execution. This approach seeks to build trust and accountability across all regions, ensuring that resources are optimized for the benefit of all members.

#### **Focus Areas and Strategic Goals**

The strategic plan outlines specific action items and priorities in key focus areas to ensure IEEE's sustained growth and relevance:

- Students and Young Professionals: Expanding engagement programs and leadership opportunities to empower the next generation of innovators.
- Women in Engineering: Strengthening support networks and initiatives to advance gender equity in STEM fields.
- Life Members: Encouraging the involvement of experienced professionals to mentor and inspire the IEEE community.
- Industry Relations: Building stronger partnerships with industry to align IEEE activities with technological advancements and professional needs.

These goals aim to foster greater member engagement, leadership development, and regional growth, ensuring IEEE continues to make a meaningful impact in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

	Region 10	46%
	Region 8	22%
	Region 6	7%
	Region 1	4%
	Region 3	4%
	Region 5	4%
	Region 9	4%
	Region 2	3%
•	Region 4	3%
	Region 7	3%

YP Membership by Region

#### A Shared Vision of Innovation and Inclusivity

This strategic plan represents a collective commitment to strengthening IEEE's influence and presence across the newly defined R10 and R11 regions. The success of this initiative depends on active participation and collaboration from all members and Sections. By working together, the IEEE community can achieve a brighter, more inclusive future guided by a shared vision of innovation, diversity, and progress.

#### **Looking Ahead**

This marks the beginning of a new era for IEEE in the Asia-Pacific region. As plans evolve into actionable initiatives, regular updates and progress reports will highlight the advancements shaping the future of IEEE in Regions 10 and 11. Together, we will rise to challenges, embrace opportunities, and build a stronger, united IEEE that benefits its members and society at large.

### IEEE 2024 R10 HUMANITARIAN TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE (HTC 2024)

### Haslina Md Sarkan, Local Arrangement Chair, IEEE R10 HTC 2024

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This year theme for HTC was, "Advancing Sustainable Technologies for Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Impact".

The event commenced on the morning of 1st October with welcoming remarks by Prof. Dr. Norliza Mohd Noor, the General Chair of R10 HTC 2024, followed by a welcome address from Dr. Nordin Ramli, the IEEE Malaysia Section Chair. Prof. Lance Fung, the R10 Director, delivered the opening address and officially launched the IEEE Day Celebration.

This was followed by a keynote speech from Mr. Jayakrishnan MC, Co-Chair of the IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board (HTB), who shared insights on the impact of humanitarian technologies. These projects are applicable in both urban and rural settings, not just underdeveloped regions, with a focus on sustainability and continuous refinement to meet the evolving needs of communities.

The morning session ended with the Humanitarian Technology Activities (HTA) Forum, titled "Bridging the Digital Divide: Empowering Communities with Inclusive Technology." The forum featured a lively discussion on key humanitarian technology initiatives, with panelists Lance Fung, IEEE R10 Director, Jayakrishnan MC IEEE HTB Co-chair, Emi Yano, IEEE R10 HTA Committee Chair, and Nordin Ramli, moderated by Khairul Zahreen Mohd Arof, UCSI University.

Ahead of the conference, two challenges were launched. The Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) Innovation Challenge received 60 submissions, with the top three winners awarded RM15,000 in prize money. SEDA generously sponsored RM20,000 for this challenge. The R10 HTC 2024 Innovation Challenge saw 68 submissions, evaluated by 60 experts from various universities. The top five submissions were invited to submit full papers, all of which were accepted and included in the conference proceedings.



Candid moment from SEDA innovation challenge award

The R10 HTC 2024 Conference Dinner, held on 1st October, celebrated the conference's achievements and recognized outstanding contributions. During the dinner, three Best Paper Awards were presented in the categories of Best Paper for Professionals, Students, and Industry. The top three winners of both the R10 HTC 2024 and SEDA Innovation Challenges were also recognized.



challenge award

On the second day, alongside parallel technical paper presentations, industry speakers shared their expertise with the participants. An R10 WIE Special Session on Women in Action for Disaster Preparedness was also held.



Humanitarian Technology Activities (HTA) Forum

On the third day, two tutorials and two workshops took place at the Campus of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), covering topics such as Reverse Vaccinology, Climate Actions for a Sustainable World, Knowledge to Action for Climate Literacy and Technology for Humanitarian Aid and Robotics with Python.

R10 HTC 2024 embraced a green initiative by not providing printed program booklets. An e-program book was made available online, and videos and photos from the event were shared in the R10 HTC 2024 photo gallery on the conference website.

### **IEEE REGION 10 HTA IMPACT CONGRESS 2024**

### Saurabh Soni, Pratik Jadhav, IEEE R10 HTA Committee

The IEEE R10 Humanitarian Technology Activities(HTA) Impact Congress 2024 held on 30 September 2024, brought IEEE members, SIGHT members, IEEE Humnratian Technology Conference (HTC) 2024 participants, and humanitarian technology enthusiasts together to discuss impactful technology initiatives for social good. The IEEE R10 HTA Impact Congress 2024 began with opening remarks from Emi Yano, followed by a welcome message from Dr. Norliza Mohd Noor, HTC 2024 General Chair and KL Subsection Chair.



Participants to the IEEE R10 HTA Impact Congress

#### Humanitarian Technology Programs

Jayakrishnan MC, IEEE Humanitarian Technology Board Events Committee Chair detailed efforts of IEEE on humanitarian activities, including the SIGHT widespread community, the TECH4GOOD initiative, and the MOVE program. Attendees gained insights into project evaluation criteria and funding support for technology projects focused on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). the session led to open discussions about proposal funding, project evaluation criteria, and the wide array of opportunities available through IEEE SIGHT and the Tech4Good initiative. Attendees were introduced to new perspectives on how IEEE supports impactful humanitarian projects.

#### IEEE PES and Humanitarian Impact

Dr. Hussain Mahdi, IEEE PES HAC Vice Chair highlighted the commitment of IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) to addressing local challenges through technology. He presented IEEE initiatives for professional development in humanitarian projects, focusing on long-term project sustainability and the PES Humanitarian Activities Committee (HAC) project development programs. His session was both inspiring and motivational. He shared his extensive experience in engaging community stakeholders and demonstrated how technical expertise can be effectively applied to humanitarian efforts. Dr. Mahdi introduced participants to the IEEE PES HAC flagship initiative, the Humanitarian Technology Project Design and Implementation Competition, which fosters innovation and collaboration in project development. What resonated most was his focus on sustainability, not just in terms of technology but in fostering resilient, long-term solutions that truly empower communities.

These sessions showcased the transformative power of technology in addressing critical humanitarian challenges beneficial for seasoned professionals and those who are new to humanitarian work, offering practical pathways to drive impactful, sustainable change.



Speakers of the event

**Networking & Group Discussions** 

Participants engaged in group discussions led by Saurabh Soni and Emi Yano, from IEEE R10 HTA Committee where they identified key issues such as membership accessibility, tech education gaps, climate action, and inequality. Each group proposed solutions, ranging from enhanced social media engagement to partnerships with NGOs for educational initiatives.



Networking aand group discussions

### **Closing Remarks**

Emi Yano concluded the Congress by emphasizing the role of R10 HTA in supporting impactful projects and fostering collaboration across the IEEE community. Furthermore, the event emphasized the power of collaboration and shared knowledge in advancing IEEE's humanitarian vision across the Asia-Pacific region.



### IEEE R10 TENSYMP 2024

### Prerna Gaur, General Co-Chair, TENSYMP 2024

### Continued from Page 1.

As an annual conference, TENSYMP serves as a platform for researchers, engineers, and professionals worldwide to exchange ideas and showcase innovations aimed at advancing technology for the benefit of humanity.

The theme for TENSYMP 2024 was "Technological advancements to help society overcome various socioeconomic and health challenges." The conference featured a diverse range of tracks, including Computer and Information Technology, Data Science, Cloud and Big Data Analytics, Electronics, VLSI Technology & Embedded Systems, Power, Energy and Power Electronics, Communications and Signal Processing, Biomedical Engineering and Healthcare Technologies, Intelligent Control and Instrumentation, and Women in Engineering (WIE), Industry, Humanitarian Technology Challenges (HTC), and Education.



Speakers of TENSYMP 2024

The event included technical paper presentations, workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities. A notable panel discussion titled "Tech-Driven Solutions for a Better Future" was hosted by the Special WIE & Education Track, emphasizing the role of technology in societal advancement.



Awardees at Valedictory Ceremony The conference featured technical tracks covering diverse fields, including Electronics and VLSI Technology,

Communication and Signal Processing, Biomedical Engineering, Power and Energy Systems, Intelligent Control, Data Science, and Women in Engineering. Participants presented original research, explored emerging trends, and discussed real-world applications of technology to address societal needs.



Guests at TTENSYMP 2024

TENSYMP 2024 successfully exemplified IEEE R10 mission of advancing technology for humanity. By fostering collaboration, promoting innovation, and addressing critical global challenges, the event reinforced its role as a premier platform for driving impactful technological progress.



Opening Ceremony of TENSYMP 2024

TENSYMP 2024 continued the legacy of addressing global technological challenges, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and showcasing cutting-edge research. The event brought together participants from academia, industry, government, and the public sector. It featured an array of activities, including technical paper presentations, workshops, panel discussions, awards, networking opportunities, and industry exhibitions, creating a dynamic space for knowledge exchange and professional growth.



### TENCON 2024 – AI AND DEEP LEARNING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

### Aishwarya Bandla, Publicity Chair, IEEE R10 TENCON 2024

#### Continued from Page 1.

Hosted for the 5th time in Singapore since its inception, IEEE TENCON 2024 was held at the iconic Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Singapore, 1–4 December 2024. The conference was a landmark event for the Asia-Pacific region, offering a platform for sharing advancements in electrical, electronics, and computer engineering alongside discussions on sustainable technological innovation.

### Opening Ceremony and Keynotes

The event opened with an inspiring address from IEEE Region 10 Director Prof Lance Fung and General Chairs Prof. Arokiaswami Alphones and Dr. Michael Ong. Keynote speakers included the IEEE President and CEO, Dr. Tom Coughlin, and global experts in AI and sustainability who emphasized the role of technology in addressing key societal challenges. The talks set the stage for the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration to achieve a sustainable future.

The keynotes were:

- "Prioritizing Societal and Ethical Concerns for Responsible Al 2024", Dr Tom Coughlin, IEEE President & CEO.
- "Data-Centric Al in the Age of LLMs", Dr Bryan Low, Director of Al Research, Al Singapore; Deputy Director, NUS Al Institute.
- "Collaborating Together for a Safer and Secure Future", Jonathan Pan, Chief, Disruptive Technologies Office; Director, xCybersecurity, Enterprise Group, Home Team Science and Technology Agency (HTX), Singapore.



Keynote by Dr Tom Coughlin, IEEE President & CEO

### Technical Program and Research Highlights

The conference received 678 submissions and the technical program featured 545 presentations across 66 oral and 3 interactive sessions with tracks such as:

- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- Renewable Energy and Power Systems
- Robotics and Automation
- Biomedical Engineering and Healthcare Technologies

470 distinguished researchers from 37 countries presented cutting-edge research and developments. Interactive poster sessions fostered engagement, with young professionals showcasing innovative projects to an enthusiastic audience.

Special Sessions, immersive workshops and competitions, Interactive forums and symposiums were also organized in conjunction with TENCON 2024 enriching the conference experience with in-depth explorations of emerging topics. Highlights included:

- Special Session Women in Engineering by IEEE Singapore WIE, Region 10 WIE & Region 10 HTA Committees
- IEEE HIVE @TENCON 2024 A Hands-on Professional Development Program by IEEE Singapore YP, Region 10 YP & MGA Catalyst Committees
- Singapore city walk and networking by IEEE Singapore YP & WIE Committees
- Section and Chapter Symposium and Conference Leadership Program by IEEE Region 10 Section Chapter Committee
- Exhibits by sponsors and partners

### Awards, Welcome Reception and Gala Night

The conference included a welcome reception that provided attendees with opportunities to connect and discuss collaborations in research and industry. Day 2 featured a Banquet Gala night with a traditional Dragon and Lion Dance followed by awards ceremony, where outstanding contributions were celebrated. Best Papers and Best Student Papers received accolades for their originality and impact, reinforcing the conference's focus on promoting excellence in research and innovation.

IEEE TENCON 2024 proved to be a cornerstone event, reflecting IEEE's 140-year commitment to leveraging technology for sustainable development. With its comprehensive program and active participation, it laid the groundwork for future collaborations across academia, industry, and policymaking. For more details, visit (https://tencon2024.org).



Traditional dragon and lion dance at Gala Night

### IEEE HIVE AT IEEE R10 TENCON 2024

### A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS Aishwarya Bandla, Chair, IEEE R10 Young Professionals

As part of IEEE R10 TENCON 2024, IEEE Young Professionals Singapore, IEEE R10 Young Professionals, and the IEEE MGA Catalyst Committee hosted IEEE HIVE, an immersive professional development program aimed at bridging the gap between technical knowledge and essential professional skills. Held on 1-2 December 2024 at the Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre in Singapore, the inaugural event brought together 40 students, young professionals, and technology leaders.

The event was centered around an 'AI for Energy' pitch competition, aligned with the TENCON 2024 theme of "Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning Technologies for a Sustainable Future." Participants worked in teams to propose AI-driven solutions for energy management and sustainability challenges. They engaged with Dataport assets, applying machine learning to predict energy consumption and generation, gaining hands-on experience in data-driven energy solutions.

In addition to technical skill-building, the program focused on key professional skills like business modeling, leadership, and effective communication. Delegates engaged in mentoring sessions on leadership and entrepreneurship,



Insightful sessions conducted the event



Prof. Takako Hashimato addressing the gathering

fostering collaboration and idea-sharing with peers and industry experts. Pre-event workshops covered vital topics such as Market Research and Positioning by Arpitha Rao and Business Model Canvas by Dr. Kumudhini Ravindra, providing valuable strategic insights.

A key highlight included a workshop on "Mastering Presentation and Pitching Skills" by Dr. Sudeendra Koushik and a keynote by Dr. Tom Coughlin, IEEE President & CEO 2024, on "IEEE as Your Professional Home", underscoring IEEE's role in supporting career transitions and leadership development. The event concluded with a grand finale pitch competition, where a panel of judges selected the top three teams from eight, awarding them for their innovative approaches.

The pilot program emphasized the importance of offering students and young professionals opportunities to develop both technical and professional skills in a supportive, engaging environment. It not only demonstrated IEEE's value proposition in career and leadership development but also fostered collaboration, innovation, and the growth of future leaders within the IEEE community.



Organizers of the event

### CHAMPIONING DIVERSITY AND ETHICS: INSIGHTS FROM IEEE REGION 10 LEADERS

### Warunika Hippola, Regional Student Representative, IEEE R10

As a part of the plenary session of IEEE R10 Student Summit, organized by IEEE R10 Student Activities Committee, an enlightening panel discussion titled "Integrating the IEEE Code of Ethics and OU Management Practices to Foster Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion" took place, drawing attention to a critical aspect of professional and community life.

The panel discussion was held online, on 21st September 2024. The session featured four distinguished panelists who have served as IEEE Region 10 leaders: Prof. Kukjin Chun, Prof. Akinori Nishihara, Mr. Deepak Mathur, and Prof. Takako Hashimoto. The session was moderated by Warunika Hippola, the Region 10 Student Representative.

The discussion commenced with a special recorded message from the current IEEE Region 10 Director, Prof. Lance Fung, emphasizing the importance of fostering an inclusive culture guided by ethical principles. This message set the stage for the thoughtful and inspiring exchange that followed.

#### Key Themes Explored

#### The Role of Ethics in Inclusion

The session began with a thought-provoking question to all panelists:

"What is the significance of having a 'Code of Ethics' in a professional organization like IEEE?"

The panelists unanimously highlighted the IEEE Code of Ethics as a cornerstone for guiding behavior and decisionmaking, ensuring fairness, and promoting respect across a global and diverse community. The panelists being IEEE Region 10 leaders, had their own experiences to share.

#### Personal Perspectives on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity

Each panelist shared their personal understanding of these values. Prof. Chun emphasized their importance

in shaping leadership at all levels, while Prof. Akinori Nishihara discussed the need for grassroots efforts to instill these values within the student community. Mr. Deepak Mathur and Prof. Takako Hashimoto added insights on overcoming barriers to inclusion, particularly in leadership roles, and the steps needed to address gender imbalances.

#### **Student-Centric Solutions**

The panel also tackled issues faced by the student community, such as addressing complaints of discrimination and gender inequality. Practical advice ranged from promoting open dialogue and adhering to ethical guidelines to actively mentoring underrepresented groups.

### Insights from Leadership

Drawing on their tenure as IEEE R10 Directors, the panelists shared invaluable lessons on ethical leadership:

- Prof. Kukjin Chun reflected on the challenges of applying ethical principles in decision-making during his directorship.
- Prof. Akinori Nishihara spoke on balancing regional cultural diversity with IEEE's global vision.
- Mr. Deepak Mathur detailed initiatives he introduced to enhance diversity and inclusion across Region 10.
- Prof. Takako Hashimoto offered forward-looking strategies to strengthen IEEE's commitment to equity and collaboration.

#### A Call to Action for Students

As the discussion concluded, each panelist shared a message for the student community. They emphasized that diversity, inclusion, and equity are not abstract ideals but actionable principles that students can champion in their daily interactions and leadership roles.

#### **Final Reflections**

This panel discussion underscored the critical role of ethical leadership in creating an inclusive environment within IEEE. The insights shared by the panelists serve as a powerful reminder of the collective responsibility to foster a culture where everyone feels valued and respected.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the panelists for their contributions and to the audience for their engagement. Let's carry forward these lessons to our IEEE communities and beyond, making diversity, inclusion, and equity a reality for all.



Participants of the panel discussion

### **IEEE REGION 10 PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Daniel Eghbal, Chair, IEEE R10 Professional Activities Committee

The Professional Activities Committee (PAC) is a vibrant group of dedicated volunteers from R10, including Australia, Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Thailand, and Sri Lanka. In 2024, PAC delivered a series of impactful projects that truly made a difference. Our efforts focused on three main areas: Section outreach, professional development courses, and panel discussions on emerging topics.

We worked closely with Sections to appoint Professional Activities (PA) coordinators and identify their priorities. This collaboration allowed us to provide targeted support where it was needed most.

Our panel discussions were a highlight, offering fantastic opportunities for members from industry and academia to share their insights and collaborate. For instance, the Sri Lanka Section hosted a lively panel discussion with distinguished speakers from Australia and Sri Lanka, exploring career pathways for engineers and the integration of renewable energy into modern power systems. The Malaysia Section's virtual panel on sustainability in academia was another standout, focusing on strategies for long-term success. Additionally, R10 PAC supported an engaging tutorial at the 2024 IEEE International Smart Cities Conference in Thailand, sparking vibrant discussions on affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy transitions.

In partnership with the IEEE Blended Learning Program, we offered discounted professional development courses to eligible members across R10. We were thrilled to see a record-breaking 100 members enroll in courses from the IoT Program, Innovation Management and Intellectual Properties (Basic), and Innovation Management and Intellectual Properties (Advanced).

PAC also played a key role in the professional activities tracks at TENSYMP, organized by the Delhi Section. We hosted three panel discussions and hands-on mock interviews, providing valuable experiences for participants. On a personal note, working with the Professional Activities Committee has been incredibly rewarding. Achieving our common goal of organizing impactful events has been a pleasure, and I have gained new skills and enjoyed collaborating with the R10 Executive Committee in 2023-24.

### INSIGHTS FROM WIE SPECIAL SESSION AT TENCON, HTC, & TENSYMP 2024

Agnes Irwanti, Zuhaina Zakaria, Foram Chandarana, Hla Nu Phyu, IEEE R10 Women in Engineering Committee

WIE has made a significant impact in shaping the Special Sessions at TENCON, HTC, and TENSYMP 2024.

### WIE Special Session at TENCON 2024

The WIE Special Session team at TENCON 2024 successfully organized a technical session on 1 December 2024. The session initiative was dedicated to organizing an event aimed at empowering the next generation of female scientists and engineers and proved to be an outstanding showcase of talent, innovation, and collaboration. The session invited the submission of research papers in the fields of science and engineering where the first author was female, whether a student or a professional. R10 WIE Committee Chair, Agnes Irwanti, in her opening remark, underlined the importance of continuing to support and celebrate the achievements of women in engineering. reflecting the diverse range of cutting-edge research and applications within the engineering field. The sessionincluded 6 student presenters and 5 professionals, all of whom demonstrated impressive work in their respective domains. One of the key elements of the session was the involvement of distinguished reviewers. Professor Takako Hashimoto, Professor Celia Shahnaz, Professor Riri Fitri Sari, Dr. Shilpa Manandar, and Dr. Hla Nu Phyu evaluated the presentations based on technical merit, clarity, and impact. In addition, Professor Takako Hashimoto, Emi Yano, and Dr. Agnes Irwanti evaluated the presentations live, providing immediate feedback and further enriching the experience for all participants.

Two prestigious awards were presented during the Gala Dinner on 3 December 2024. Siyi Xiang was honored with the Best Student Presenter Award, while Bhagya Samarakoon received the Best Professional Presenter Award.

A total of 11 papers were presented during the session,



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### INSIGHTS FROM WIE SPECIAL SESSION AT TENCON, HTC, & TENSYMP 2024 (CTD.)

Both awardees were presented with a Certificate of Achievement, a gift, and a complimentary membership of IEEE for one year by IEEE R10. The session provided a unique opportunity for female researchers, students, and leaders to connect, collaborate, and share their findings with a global audience. It also acted as an important platform for networking, fostering discussions around innovation, leadership, and the advancement of women in the STEM fields. The WIE session at TENCON 2024 not only highlighted the exceptional work being done in the field but also reinforced the community's commitment to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion within the engineering profession.



Figure: Best professional presenter award winner

### WIE Special Session at HTC 2024

On 2 October 2024, the IEEE R10 Women in Engineering (WIE) Special Session at the HTC 2024 brought together 85 participants for an inspiring forum titled "Empowering Women in Disaster Response and Recovery." The hybrid event, organized by IEEE R10 WIE with support from the IEEE Kuala Lumpur Subsection and IEEE WIE Malaysia, highlighted the crucial contributions of women in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

The session opened with a warm welcome from Dr Agnes Irwanti, IEEE R10 Women in Engineering Committee Chair. In her greeting, she emphasized the pivotal role women have played throughout history in building resilience during crises. Dr Agnes highlighted that women's unique perspectives and experiences are invaluable for shaping effective disaster management strategies. She also introduced the esteemed panelists:

- Prof. Takako Hashimoto, IEEE R10 Director-Elect, who shared insights on the role of women in leadership during disaster management.
- Dr. Khamarrul A Razak, Director of Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Centre, who discussed practical approaches to disaster preparedness.
- Dr. Raja Jamilah, Vice Chair of IEEE WIE Malaysia Section, who emphasized the importance of collaboration and empowerment in recovery efforts.



Opening remarks by Dr Agnes Irwanti and hybrid forum session

The panel discussion, moderated by Prof. Zuhaina Zakaria, featured dynamic exchanges on leadership, technological innovations, and collaborative solutions for empowering women in disaster management.

#### Leadership and Inclusivity in Disaster Management

Prof. Takako Hashimoto emphasized the importance of leadership and gender inclusivity in disaster management. She noted that women's unique perspectives and approaches can significantly strengthen disaster response efforts, making a strong case for more women to step into leadership roles within this field. The discussion revealed that inclusive leadership not only improves decision-making but also enhances community resilience in times of crisis.

### Technology and Innovation: A Pathway for Women

Dr. Khamarrul A Razak highlighted the role of education and training in preparing women to lead disaster preparedness and recovery initiatives, particularly in vulnerable regions. He also discussed how women are driving technological innovations in disaster management, utilizing tools like artificial intelligence and engineering solutions to improve outcomes. His insights underscored the importance of empowering women with the right resources and support to harness technology effectively in disaster scenarios.

### Empowering Women in Engineering for Resilient Communities

Dr. Raja Jamilah focused on the vital role of women engineers in disaster recovery. She shared how women-led initiatives within the IEEE Women in Engineering network are contributing to stronger and more resilient communities. Her call for mentorship and educational programs to encourage more women to enter engineering and disaster management fields resonated with the audience, emphasizing the need to provide women with opportunities for growth and leadership.

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### Collaboration for Lasting Change

The panelists concluded by emphasizing the importance of

### INSIGHTS FROM WIE SPECIAL SESSION AT TENCON, HTC, & TENSYMP 2024 (CTD.)

of cross-sector collaboration. Governments, NGOs, and private organizations must work together to create opportunities for women in disaster management. The forum encouraged stakeholders to support initiatives that foster women's leadership in this critical field and promote policies that enhance gender diversity in disaster response teams.



Panelists and moderator received Tokens of Appreciation

The session concluded with a call to action, urging all participants to continue supporting women in leadership roles within disaster response and recovery. The forum not only shed light on the critical role of women in disaster management but also provided actionable strategies to create a more inclusive and resilient future. As the conversation around gender inclusivity in disaster management continues, events like these serve as important platforms for driving positive change.

### **Celebrating IEEE Day**

In celebration of IEEE Day, which falls on 1st October, all participants gathered at the end of the forum for a group photo. This was a symbolic moment to honor the contributions of engineers worldwide and to reinforce the importance of empowering women in disaster response, as part of the broader mission of IEEE to advance technology for the benefit of humanity.



Celebrating IEEE Day

This session was a testament to the ongoing efforts of IEEE R10 WIE, IEEE Kuala Lumpur Subsection, and IEEE WIE Malaysia to empower women in engineering and disaster management, and to foster collaborative solutions for a safer and more resilient world.

### WIE Special Session at TENSYMP 2024

The WIE Track team at TENSYMP 2024 successfully organized a thought-provoking panel discussion titled "Tech-Driven Solutions for a Better Future." The session brought together experts and leaders from diverse domains to discuss the transformative role of technology in education and the empowerment of women in the tech space. The primary objective of the panel was to explore how technology is reshaping education systems globally, addressing the digital divide, and fostering leadership, particularly among women in technology and STEM fields. The session aimed to provide insights and actionable ideas to tackle challenges in education and leadership posed by the rapid pace of technological change.

The esteemed panelists are Mr. Deepak Mathur, Vice President, IEEE MGA; Prof. Preeti Bajaj, Chair, IEEE MGA Awards & Recognition Committee; Prof. Mridula Gupta, Academician in Digital Transformation; Prof. Prerna Gaur, Leader in Tech-Driven Education. The session was moderated by Foram Chandarana, R10 WIE Committee member. The panel discussion concluded with a final question that asked each panelist to envision the future of technology in education and leadership, particularly within the IEEE community. Each panelist shared valuable insights and actionable advice on how IEEE and its members can contribute to shaping a more inclusive and tech-driven future.

The event was well-received by the audience, fostering a lively discussion and a strong engagement from participants. The WIE Track team is grateful to the panelists, the moderator, and the attendees for making the session a success.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the esteemed panelists, moderator, the TENSYMP WIE special session, and IEEE for supporting this event. Special thanks to all the participants who contributed to the success of the discussion through their questions and active engagement.



Candid moment at TENSYMP 2024

**Top Individuals** 

### IEEE R10-140 INITIATIVE: HEALTHY BODIES, HEALTHY MINDS - FINAL LEADER BOARD

### Vijay Paul, Chair, IEEE R10 Information Management Committee

The <u>IEEE R10-140 Initiative: Healthy bodies, healthy minds</u> initiative has come to an end, and Region 10 Executive Committee we would like to thank all Sections and their members for their participation.

We have had 289 participants across 39 Sections from 19 countries, participate in the initiative.

As the campaign comes to a close, we would like to take the opportunity to highlight important statistics for the duration of the initiative - 1 June to 1 November 2024. The immense numbers speak for themselves about the huge success this campaign has been!

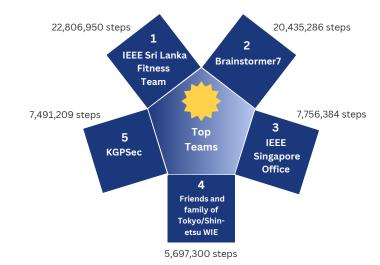
Total steps: 103,878,591 Total distance covered: 69,252 km Total teams: 49

### **Top Sections**

- 1. Sri Lanka Section
  - Total Distance: 22755950
  - Total Steps: 15170.63
- 2. Bangalore Section
  - Total Distance: 22256410
  - Total Steps: 14837.61
- 3. Kharagpur Section
  - Total Distance: 11132033
  - Total Steps: 421.36
- 4. Tokyo Section
  - Total Distance: 5896330
  - Total Steps: 3930.89
- 5.Islamabad Section
  - Total Distance: 3697350
  - Total Steps: 2464.90
- 6. Uttar Pradesh Section
  - Total Distance: 2958057
  - Total Steps: 1972.04
- 7. Indonesia Section
  - Total Distance: 2908216
  - Total Steps: 1938.81
- 8. Kolkata Section
  - Total Distance: 2820200
  - Total Steps: 1880.13

### 1. Madushan Ilangakoon (Sri Lanka Section) 9,615,350 steps

- 2. Jeevith S (Bangalore Section) 9,495,300 steps
- 3. Lakshan Madhushanka (Sri Lanka Section) *8,735,800 steps*
- 4. Aditya Kameswara Rao Nandula (Kharagpur Section) 5,509,100 steps
- 5. Shrawan Kumar Patel (Kharagpur Section) 5,434,733 steps
- 6. Sathwik V Nayak (Bangalore Section) 4,652,600 steps
- 7. Shenara Ilangakoon (Sri Lanka Section) 4,268,800 steps
- 8. M. Abdur Rehman Malik (Lahore Section) 3,644,800 steps
- 9. Kohei Ohno (Tokyo Section) 2,842,753 steps
- 10. Dhanush Kumar N (Bangalore Section) *2,797,000 steps*



Kudos to all members and teams who are moving towards their health and well-being goals.

### **IEEE LIFE MEMBER EVOLUTION CONFERENCE 2025**

Work and planning for the <u>Life Member Evolution Conference 2025</u> are progressing steadily. A noteworthy addition to the 2025 Conference is the introduction of a Technical Program. Also, the Life Member Evolution Conference 2025 is open to all IEEE members, not just Life Members.

It is time to submit your papers! More info: <u>https://lifemembersconference.ieee.org/authors/</u>.

Would like to be a reviewer? Click become a reviewer.

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Reach Jerry Hudgins, Conference Technical Program Chair through j.hudgins@ieee.org for any clarification needed.

### KOREA TRAINING EVENT BY IEEE VOLUNTEER UPSKILLING AND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

### Mousmi Ajay Chaurasia, Chair, IEEE R10 Volunteer Upskill and Enhancement Committee

IEEE R10 Volunteer Upskilling and Enhancement Committee conducted a two-day training event in Seoul Section, South Korea aimed at equipping volunteers with essential tools and knowledge to enhance their contributions to the IEEE. The event was part of the MGA Surplus Funding initiative to support volunteer training in North East Asia.

The first session took place on 18 November 2024 at Hongik University, focusing on IEEE resources such as VTools, OU Analytics, Dataport, and the IEEE Center for Leadership Excellence (CLE). These tools are pivotal for managing operations, analyzing membership trends, accessing datasets, and fostering leadership skills. The training emphasized practical demonstrations to ensure participants could apply the tools effectively in their roles. The session concluded with a networking dinner, enabling participants to build connections, share experiences, and discuss collaborative opportunities.

On 19 November 2024, the second training session was held at Korea University. This session reinforced the knowledge imparted the previous day and addressed specific challenges faced by volunteers in managing their roles. That evening, a social dinner was organized with the Seoul Section Executive Committee, during which discussions focused on strategies for membership growth, exploring regional volunteering opportunities, and ways to involve new volunteers in the Section's initiatives actively.

A total of 124 participants benefited from these sessions. Training programs like these are crucial for both new and experienced volunteers. For new volunteers, they provide an introduction to IEEE tools and processes, building their confidence and enabling them to contribute effectively from the outset. Volunteers stepping into new roles benefit from advanced training, which helps them understand their responsibilities, optimize their workflows, and align with IEEE's mission. Furthermore, such sessions promote professional development, enhance leadership skills, and foster a culture of collaboration and innovation.

The event in Seoul showcased the importance of structured training in ensuring the sustainability of volunteer networks. By equipping volunteers with the right tools and knowledge, IEEE not only enhances the effectiveness of its activities but also inspires a sense of ownership and commitment among its members. The interactive discussions with the Seoul Section ExeCom underscored the importance of nurturing volunteer engagement and highlighted strategies to adapt to evolving member needs. This training program significantly strengthened the volunteer community in Seoul Section, fostering enhanced collaboration and paving the way for long-term growth within IEEE Region 10.

IEEE R10 Volunteer Engagement and Coordination Committee extends gratitude to Prof. Kukjin Chun, Prof. Jang, and Prof. Jong from the Seoul Section for their invaluable support in making this training a success and for Mr. Deepak Mathur, Vice President of IEEE Member and Geographic Activities (MGA), and Prof. Lance Fung, Director of IEEE R10, for their unwavering support and for providing this opportunity to nurture volunteers and develop future IEEE leaders.



Participants at volunteer training Event at Korea University



Event on 19 November 2024 and social evening dinner with Seoul Section Ex-com

### 2024 IEEE R10 CONFERENCE QUALITY AND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

### Lakshitha Gunasekara, Treasurer, IEEE Victorian Section

The IEEE R10 Conference Quality and Management Workshop (ICQMW) is a comprehensive one-day training initiative designed to enhance conference organization capabilities within the IEEE community. The workshop aimed to provide both new and experienced organizers with essential knowledge and practical skills for planning and executing successful IEEE conferences. The IEEE Victorian Section held the Workshop on 13 November 2024. The oneday workshop connected IEEE members, conference organizers, and industry professionals to examine conference management practices. Speakers from the IEEE community and industry partners presented on conference planning, execution, and quality management.

### Key Objectives

- Provide comprehensive training on IEEE conference guidelines and best practices
- Share knowledge on conference planning and execution
- Facilitate networking among IEEE conference organizers
- Showcase Melbourne's potential as a conference destination

#### **Featured Speakers**

- Dr. Greg Adamson Chair, IEEE Victorian Section Conference Committee
- Ambarish S Natu -
- Dr. Fatemeh Babaeian IEEE Victorian Section Conference Committee
- Dr. Priya Rani IEEE Victorian Section Conference Committee
- Prof. Biplob Ray IEEE Victorian Section Conference Committee
- Fatima Aboudrar & Jamila Javanshir Melbourne Visitors Bureau
- Prof. S. M. Sameer IEEE R10 CQM Committee Chair



Participants in the CQM workshop

Dr. Greg Adamson, Chair of the IEEE Victorian Section Conference Committee, opened the workshop with a welcome address that outlined the objectives. Ambarish S Natu delivered a keynote presentation on the role of conferences in the IEEE mission. His session addressed how conferences support technological innovation and professional development within IEEE. The technical sessions began with Dr. Fatemeh Babaeian's overview of IEEE conference fundamentals, covering quality standards and organizational requirements. Dr. Priya Rani then presented on planning essentials, discussing resource allocation and timeline management. The Melbourne Visitors Bureau representatives completed the morning with information about venue selection and local logistics management.

Prof. Biplob Ray began the afternoon with a presentation on organizing conferences in Melbourne. His session included examples and case studies relevant to local event planning, addressing common challenges, and established practices in conference organization. Dr. Greg Adamson's session on engagement strategies covered stakeholder management and community involvement. The presentation focused on methods for building connections within the conference community and maintaining participant engagement through different event phases.

Prof. S. M. Sameer, Chair of the IEEE R10 Conference Quality and Management Committee delivered a virtual presentation to conclude the formal sessions, discussing IEEE conference quality initiatives and organizational direction. This presentation connected local conference planning efforts to IEEE broader objectives.

The workshop delivered content in three main areas. Conference planning and management covered IEEE guidelines, planning methods, and quality standards. Technical aspects included program development, plagiarism prevention, and publication management. Administrative elements addressed financial planning, sponsorship acquisition, and logistics management.

The final hour facilitated connections among participants. Attendees exchanged contact information and discussed potential collaborations. The session allowed informal conversations about shared challenges and solutions in



Knowledge sharing at the CQM workshop

### IEEE GUJARAT SECTION HOSTS "NETWORK X" EVENT AT MARWADI UNIVERSITY

### Rajendrasinh Jadeja, Vice Chair, IEEE R10 Membership Activities

The IEEE Gujarat Section, in collaboration with IEEE India Council and WIE Marwadi Education Foundation Group of Institutions Student Branch (MEFGI SB), successfully organized the "Network X" event on July 25, 2024, at Marwadi University. As part of the IEEE India Council Professional Activity, the event aimed to foster professional networking, inspire interdisciplinary collaboration, and provide a platform for knowledge exchange among IEEE members and experts from diverse fields.

The event was graced by distinguished chief guests, including Dr. Tom Coughlin (2024 IEEE President), Dr. Kathleen Kramer (2024 IEEE President-Elect), Prof. Deepak Mathur (2024 IEEE Vice President MGA), and Dr. Lance Fung (2024 IEEE Director R-10). Their presence provided attendees with a unique opportunity to engage with global leaders in engineering and technology.



The program began with an address by Dr. Kiran Amin, Chair of the IEEE Gujarat Section, who highlighted the Section's initiatives aimed at empowering IEEE members and the community. The sessions were designed to promote networking and knowledge sharing, featuring interactive Q&A segments where attendees posed insightful questions, sparking enriching discussions.



Coordinated by Prof. Foram Chandarana, MDC Chair of IEEE Gujarat Section, with the support of WIE MEFGI SB student volunteers, the event demonstrated the spirit of collaboration. Volunteers, including Nandini Lashkari, Rajvi Dave, Fenil Vadher, Angel Oza, and Jyot Joshi, played a key role in ensuring the event's smooth execution.



"Network X" not only strengthened professional connections but also provided insights into the latest advancements and trends in engineering and technology. The positive feedback from attendees underscored its success as a milestone event.



The IEEE Gujarat Section and Marwadi University continue to exemplify their commitment to fostering professional growth and collaboration, setting a high standard for future initiatives aimed at enriching the IEEE community. centered design principles.

### IOT-ENABLED HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN WORKSHOP Rajendrasinh Jadeja, Vice Chair, IEEE R10 Membership Activities

The IEEE Gujarat Section, in collaboration with the IEEE India Council, organized a two-day IoT-Enabled Human-Centered Design Workshop on 7-8 October 2024 at Marwadi University. Supported by IEEE Humanitarian Technology Activities (HTA) Committee under the guidance of Dr. R.B. Jadeja, Vice Chair of IEEE R10 Member Activities, the workshop brought together 30 IEEE student members to explore the transformative potential of IoT within human-



Attendees tackled real-world challenges through sessions structured into two phases. In Phase One, participants worked in groups to propose solutions to driver safety issues. Phase Two introduced the AEIOU framework (Activities, Environments, Interactions, Objects, and Users), guiding participants to identify stakeholders and interactions for university-based problem scenarios. A group activity required teams to present their solutions, fostering collaboration and creativity.



On Day Two, participants delved into IoT concepts under the guidance of Shashank Bhagda, engaging in hands-on experiments with Raspberry Pi. They explored hardware components, sensor interfacing, and cloud services like AWS and ThingSpeak. Practical exercises included data communication, MQTT protocol implementation, and the integration of actuators such as relays and motors. A highlight was the video presentations, showcasing innovative applications like Amazon's automated warehouses, which demonstrated IoT's potential to revolutionize industries.



The workshop concluded with problem-solving exercises and insights from Dr. Amit, who inspired participants to see every challenge as an opportunity for unique solutions.

Attendees left inspired, equipped with practical skills, and motivated to pursue IoT innovations that address societal challenges. This workshop exemplified the potential of IoT to drive humanitarian technology initiatives and positively impact communities.

### IEEE Region 10 Newsletter Committee 2024



**Chair** Dr. Akila Wijetunge

Managing Editors





Takefumi

Yamada



Anu Sabu

Saiani

Mayadunne

Dr. Tao Huang Dr. Prashant R. Nair Web & Design Leads



Kavinda Athapaththu

Divyansh Bansal

Web & Design Sub-committee

Akshay Shaji



a Akarsh Ashok



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### **IEEE BLENDED LEARNING PROGRAM (BLP) THROWBACK 2024**

### Sharif Hassan, Digital Marketing Specialist, IEEE India Office

IEEE Blended Learning Program is an indigenous, unique eLearning resources designed and developed by the IEEE volunteers and industry experts. Through the use of a blended-learning model which includes highly immersive elearning combined with hand-on experience through workshops and use case-based webinars, IEEE BLP offers skill-building courses in technology and allied courses to the needs of learning from academia and industry.



# MeitY







Ministry of Education Govt. of India



Govt. of Karnataka



Higher Education Dept. Govt. of West Bengal Technological University

Region



ILEEE TEMS



BLOCKCHAIN

### Impact in 2024

### 92,000 Users from 50+ Countries

- 17,700 students from socio-economically weaker communities have been trained on Software and IoT technologies.
- 402 women in engineering under WIE scholarship
- 156 faculty under FDP
- 3000+ school children under Cybersecurity School Hygiene Program
- 8180 students in 5G, Programmable System-on-Chip and HPC programs



### Key Events in 2024

### 25 Events in around various technology

- **Rural Communications**
- Telehealth
- Blockchain India
- Gen Al
- Data Science
- Wearable Technology
- Quantum Computing
- Cybersecurity Hands-on
- Cybersecurity Concepts of Operating Systems and Administration
- C Programming for IoT
- Building Wireless Community Network (BWCN) in Tamil
- Building Wireless Community Network (BWCN) in Bengali
- IEEE 1547 (Distributed Energy Resources Training)
- Programmable System-on-Chip (PSoC)
- High Performance Computing (HPC)



Learn - Apply - Build"





Skill Development

### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION SESSION IEEE R10 NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE 2023-24

The IEEE R10 Newsletter Committee hosted its Volunteer Appreciation Session on 24 November 2024 to honor and celebrate its volunteers' dedication and outstanding contributions for the term 2023-24. This virtual event, conducted via Zoom, brought together committee members, volunteers, and leaders from across the Asia-Pacific region who worked collaboratively to ensure the success of the R10 Newsletter (R10 Connect).

The session served as a platform to express heartfelt gratitude towards the dynamic team while fostering discussions on potential improvements to further enhance the newsletter's quality and impact.

The event began with inspiring opening remarks by Dr. Akila Wijethunge, Chair of the R10 Newsletter Committee, who highlighted the committee's key achievements and the volunteers' pivotal role in strengthening communication and connections across IEEE Region 10. This was followed by a recorded message from Prof. Lance Fung, IEEE R10 Director, who acknowledged the collective effort of the team and their commitment to excellence. Adding to the session, Dr. Zia Ahmed, IEEE R10 Vice Chair - Professional Activities, shared his thoughts and encouraged the committee to continue their impactful work.

Next, the committee members enriched the event further by sharing their reflections, personal experiences, challenges faced, and key learnings from the term.

The volunteers were commended for their creativity, and consistency, which improved the newsletter by engaging readers and delivering quality content. A visual showcase featuring the committee members added a personal touch, while certificates of appreciation were awarded to honor their exceptional efforts.



As the session concluded, participants were encouraged to remain engaged with the newsletter's mission, keep the momentum alive, and inspire the next generation of contributors.

The IEEE R10 Newsletter continues to play a vital role as a communication hub for R10, spotlighting impactful activities, events, and opportunities across the region.

Thank you, team, for your remarkable efforts, passion, and commitment throughout the year!

To explore the latest updates, stories, and articles, visit: http://newsletter.region10.org

### IEEE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS KARACHI SECTION 2024 MILESTONES

### Tooba Khan, IEEE Young Professionals Karachi Section

In 2024, Karachi Section Young Professionals made significant strides in empowering young engineers and innovators through a range of impactful events and initiatives. Key achievements included securing grants like STEP Up funding, the Local Activity Fund, and the UpSkill Fund to support various programs.

Noteworthy events included; "Connect 1.0: Networking for the Future", a seminar at Salim Habib University, featuring Dr. Ahmed Khan from Stanford University, and "Grooming Young Professionals for Industry 4.0" workshop at Hamdard University, focused on emerging technologies (IoT and PLCs). Initiatives such as PCB Workshop and Mentor Connect symposium provided hands-on experience and career guidance. The Industry Alumni Connect 2024 and IEEE R10 Young Professionals UpSkill Seminars further fostered networking and professional growth. These efforts highlight YP Karachi's commitment to bridging academia and industry while shaping the future of technology and innovation.



Participants to Connect 1.0: Networking for the Future

### **EMPOWERING MINDS:** KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF IEEE-NKSS STUDENT BRANCHES INITIATIVES 2024

### Chandi Pani, Newsletter Subsection Chair, IEEE Kolkata Section

IEEE North Karnataka Sub-Section (NKSS) Student Branch initiated four magnificent events in 2024: Codify.C, Ideathon: The Matrix, AeroTech X AI NEXUS, and Seminar on Poster Presentation.

#### Codify.C

The Codify.c Hackathon, conducted on 27 May 2024, students an opportunity to showcase provided programming skills, collaborate in teams, and solve problems in a competitive yet fun environment. Open to students from various departments and semesters, teams of 3-4 competed in two rounds: a quiz on C programming, technical topics, general knowledge, and aptitude, followed by a problem-solving challenge. Scores from both rounds determined winners, with tie-breakers in place. The event emphasized practical application, teamwork, and fostering community among students, while promoting technical excellence and innovation. Participants gained hands-on experience, enhanced coding skills, and enjoyed a supportive competitive atmosphere. Around 225 participated in the event.

### Ideathon- The Matrix

IEEE MTT-S KLE Institute of Technology (KLEIT) conducted Ideathon - The Matrix on 24 June 2024. This unique event seamlessly blended a rigorous quiz competition with a stimulating presentation challenge, offering a platform for young minds to showcase their creativity, problem-solving skills, and public speaking abilities. This was more than just a competition that provided a transformative experience that inspired participants to think critically, innovate, and communicate effectively.

### AeroTech X AI Nexus

The knowledge-sharing sessions on October 26, 2024, at Basaveshwar Engineering College,organized by AESS and CIS, featured two insightful events. Dr. Mahesh Lohit's morning session explored space science, showcasing tools like Celestiaand Stellarium. The afternoon 'StudentTalk,' led by Shreyas Rathod and Varun S. Naik, introduced various AI tools, including ChatGPT, DALL·E, and TensorFlow. With 96 participants, the event fostered curiosity about the cosmos and the potential of AI, making it a resounding success.

### Hybrid Seminar on Poster Presentation

On 5 November, 2024, the IEEE Student Branch of V.P. Dr. P.G. Hallakatti College of Engineering and Technology organized a hybrid seminar on poster presentation. The seminar covered key aspects of poster design, including layout, content organization, and the use of visual elements.

Students learned to structure posters with clear headings, concise text, and high-quality visuals while adhering to proper citation styles like IEEE format. The session also addressed authorship order and the inclusion of affiliations.

### SOCIAL INNOVATION THROUGH ENGINEERING: A HANDS-ON EPICS WORKSHOP

### Rajendrasinh Jadeja, Vice Chair, IEEE R10 Membership Activities

The IEEE Delhi Section successfully organized a workshop titled "Social Innovation through Engineering: A Hands-On EPICS Workshop" on 28 September 2024, during TENSYMP 2024 at Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT), New Delhi. Supported by the IEEE R10 Humanitarian Technology Activities (HTA) Committee and guided by Dr. R.B. Jadeja, Vice Chair of IEEE R10 Member Activities, the event brought together 60 IEEE student members and 10 guests to explore the impactful IEEE-EPICS (Engineering Projects in Community Service) program.

The workshop focused on leveraging human-centered design principles to address societal challenges. Participants gained hands-on experience in project conceptualization, including problem identification, stakeholder engagement, budget preparation, team formation, and role allocation. The session emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and community-centric solutions, providing students with a unique technical and professional learning opportunity.

The workshop commenced with Prof. Sneha Kabra highlighting IEEE mission and the role of IEEE R10 HTA in advancing humanitarian technology. She discussed the necessity of multidisciplinary approaches and community-oriented projects. Dr. Amit Ved elaborated on the focus areas of IEEE EPICS, its significance, and shared compelling case studies to inspire participants. An engaging group activity, led by Prof. Foram Chandarana, required participants to design community service projects and present their ideas through posters. Assessment rubrics were shared, and high-ranking teams received prizes, adding an element of excitement to the session.

Students expressed enthusiasm about participating in the IEEE EPICS program, while faculty members showed interest in implementing similar initiatives at their institutions. Additionally, an industry representative expressed willingness to collaborate with students to create STEM education kits under the EPICS framework.

The workshop concluded with a Q&A session, where speakers addressed queries about submitting EPICS project proposals. The event successfully fostered awareness of IEEE EPICS and encouraged active participation in humanitarian technology initiatives.

### **IEEE WIE INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT'24** WIE ISLAMABAD SECTION

### Komal Batool, Chair, IEEE WIE AG Islamabad Section

IEEE WIE Islamabad Section and Riphah International University successfully conducted the International Leadership Summit (ILS) on 10 -11 October 2024. Students across Pakistan, including representatives from esteemed institutions like NUST, GIKI, FAST, UET Taxila, COMSATS, Riphah Gulberg, Riphah RISE, Riphah I-14, Bahria University, HITEC, and more participated in the event.

The ILS holds particular significance for the growth of women in leadership and technical fields, aligning with fostering gender diversity and empowerment in STEM. ILS'24 provided a platform for young leaders, especially women, to learn, engage, and network with experts and mentors.

Ms. Komal Batool, IEEE WIE Chair for the Islamabad Section, and Dean FC Dr M. Zubair led and supported the event immensely. The success of the event reflects Riphah's dedication to gender equality and leadership development.

#### Day 1 Program

The first day of the ILS'24 commenced with a powerful blend of spiritual reflection. After the Quran recitation, Dr. Celia Shahnaz, Chair of IEEE WIE Global, delivered the welcome speech emphasizing IEEE WIE's mission to empower women in engineering. She shared personal experiences, discussed challenges and opportunities in STEM, and encouraged attendees to pursue their passions and make a positive impact.

Next, Dr. Zubair, Dean of Riphah University, delivered a keynote address focusing on "Innovations in Education." Following this, Mr. Nouman Khalid, Capital Development Authority (CDA), shared his insights on how technology is transforming education. Ms. Asma Sajid then shared her personal journey and how IEEE WIE empowered her. Finally, Dr. Salma Imtiaz provided her insights on "Women's Leadership in Academia."

Following the speeches, a panel discussion was conducted under the topic, "Bridging the Gender Gap in Technology: Empowering Women through Education and Industry Collaboration". The panelists were Dr Mehreen Afzal (Director GRC, Ministry of IT and Telecom), Dr Zunera Jalil (Professor, Air University), Dr Salma (Professor, Islamic University) and Dr Isma (International Speaker, Australia). Sobya Khalid conducted the final session of Day 1 on "Building a Successful Startup".



Day 2 Program

Day 2 focused on enhancing technical skills and promoting well-being, featuring diverse and impactful sessions that left attendees inspired and empowered.

The day began with two workshops;

"Building Secure Applications with Threat Modeling & Security Testing" featured Mr. Malik Shahjahan. Participants gained hands-on experience in threat modeling and security testing, learning essential techniques for building secure applications.

"Unlocking the Magic of Machine Learning: A Practical Journey" featured Ms. Hajra Murtaza. This workshop offered an engaging exploration of machine learning techniques, with practical applications and real-world problem-solving.

The afternoon featured a Women's Wellness Session titled "Together for Fight Breast Cancer" led by Dr. Amna Khan, a medical consultant, emphasizing breast cancer awareness and prevention. This was followed by a Technical Talk on "Cogs and Code: The Fusion of Robotics and Intelligent Systems" by Dr. Maryam Iqbal, Assistant Professor at Bahria University. An impactful session, "Breaking Barriers: Navigating the Gender Gap in Tech," was conducted by Gulnaz Mushtaq, a Microsoft Trainer. The day concluded with a memorable Closing Ceremony, addressed by Dr. Agnes Irwanti, IEEE WIE Region 10 Chair.





# IGNITING STEM PASSION THROUGH ROBOTICS OUTREACH

### Sheena Punai Philimon, Executive Committee (Educational & Student Activities), IEEE Sarawak Subsection

The IEEE Malaysia Sarawak Subsection has once again demonstrated its commitment to STEM education with the 3rd IEEE Sarawak Robotics Bootcamp and Competition 2024, held at Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus in April. Since its launch in 2018, this initiative has become a key event inspiring secondary school students in Sarawak, Malaysia's largest state on Borneo, to explore robotics and develop a passion for science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Participants engaging with activities at robotics bootcamp

The program began with robotics bootcamps for junior students (ages 13-15) and senior students (ages 16-18). These workshops provided foundational skills in robotics including programming and algorithm design. Following the bootcamps, students participated in a robotics competition, applying their knowledge to design algorithms for mobile robot navigation and solving real-world challenges.

Even after a brief pandemic hiatus, the competition saw increased participation, growing from 40-50 students in previous years to 70 in 2024, with 21 teams across Kuching.

Under the guidance of facilitators from the IEEE Sarawak Committee, students faced challenges such as maze navigation and algorithm design in the RoboRace (Junior) and PathFinder (Senior) competition. Additionally, members of the IEEE Swinburne Sarawak Student Branch contributed to event coordination.

Amid Malaysia's declining STEM interest, this initiative has been crucial in sparking enthusiasm for technology. The program not only provided students with a platform to showcase their creativity and problem-solving abilities but also highlighted the real-world relevance of STEM in shaping their future career paths. Feedback from teachers was overwhelmingly positive with many noting that past participants have pursued Engineering and Computer Science in their tertiary studies. Through its inclusive approach, the IEEE Sarawak Robotics Bootcamp and Competition continues to inspire the next generation of innovators and problem-solvers. This initiative has proven to be an invaluable resource in developing the talent and skills needed to meet the challenges of tomorrow's world.



Participants to the robotics bootcamp

# EPICS IN IEEE AND STEM CARNIVAL: INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS AT SK SG AUP

### Chingyee Yong, Counselor, IEEE UTS Student Branch

IEEE University of Technology Sydney (UTS) Student Branch hosted the EPICS in IEEE and STEM Carnival at SK Sg Aup on 26 November 2024, a community project that brought STEM to life. The carnival was a resounding success, with 228 students and 19 teachers participating in a day filled with hands-on learning and innovative demonstrations.

The SB has launched the first "Renewable Energy Corner" at the school which features two independent renewable energy teaching and learning modules: the E-BIKE and the Solar Panel system. These modules were designed, fabricated, and implemented by 33 students, led by Dr. Yong Ching Yee.

The event aimed to ignite curiosity for STEM among the students through engaging activities. Highlights included humanoid robots, 3D printing in action, and drone navigation experience.

Teachers and pupils alike were inspired by the possibilities that STEM education can unlock.

Stay tuned for more updates and opportunities to engage with STEM at UTS SB!  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{SFEM}}$ 



Event Highlights of UTS Student Branch

### IEEE NATIONAL LEADERS MEET'24

### Gopalan Nair, Editor, IEEE Kerala Section

The Kerala Section organized the national 'Leaders Meet 2024' on 25 September 2024 in Nefertiti Cruise. The meeting witnessed the presence of distinguished guests, IEEE MGA Vice President Mr. Deepak Mathur, R10 Director Dr. Lance Fung, and India Council Chair Dr. Debabrata Das with Section Chair Muhammed Kasim and other executive members. The Life Senior Members participated with their spouses. Mr. Deepak Mathur, Dr. Lance Fung, Dr. Debabrata Das, and Prof P O J Lebba, the Senior most of the Senior Members were honored in the function. A water metro trip was also arranged for available members on Sept 26th. It was the first of its kind in the history of the Kerala Section, which made it an unforgettable one.



Participants to the leaders meet

The strange voyage not only gave rides but also made one of the most memorable in the professional and personal lives of the participants. Such a voyage on the cruise was the first time and captivated all a strangest and most unforgettable experience. A meeting held in the hall enlightened with the speeches by Deepak Mathur, Dr. Lance Fung, Debabrata Das, Muhammed Kasim, and other senior veterans. The meeting was also followed by an entertainment program.

The second day made the 'Leaders Meet' even more memorable was the water metro trip conducted in a solarpowered boat, the journey was like entering a world of wonders. The gentle swaying of the boat set the rhythm for the voyage. Presentations and discussions enriched the day. The trip to attend 'Leaders Meet 2024' at Kochi, especially that voyage on the cruise.



IEEE Leaders presented at the event

### YEARLY ENGINEERING STUDENT SUMMIT 2024 -YESS

#### G.R. Biju, Associate Editor, IEEE Kerala Section

The Yearly Engineering Students Summit (YESS), the largest gathering of engineering students under the IEEE umbrella, was organized by the IEEE Kerala Section in association with IEEE LINK and the IEEE Student Branch of Muthoot Institute of Technology and Science (MITS). Held on 24 August 2024, at MITS in Kochi, the summit drew over 3,000 engineers, eager to explore new ideas, network with peers, and be inspired by industry leaders.

The summit was co-organized by 42 IEEE Organizational Units(OUs) and 3,089 participants from 93 colleges/universities across South India. It was supported by 453 dedicated volunteers, including professional volunteers from different OUs. The main feature was 117 speakers, 104 faculty members, and 25 special guests, including IEEE Life Senior Members who participated in the Summit.

Major events were: INARA-World's first generative AI fashion show by IEEE Computer Society, Humanitarian Technology organized by IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board in collaboration with IEEE Kerala SIGHT, showcasing impactful projects for societal challenges, industrysponsored mentoring sessions 50 seasoned professionals offered 20-minute personalized career guidance sessions, Competitions-Circuit Debugging, Maze Runner, Robo Soccer, and Datathon (collaboration with IEEE DataPort) for technical skill display, Puzzlers Challenge, organized by IEEE Puzzler, rewarding problem-solving skills with exclusive merchandise, workshops and sessions on Drone applications by Control System Society Kerala Chapter and project proposal writing workshops by IEEE LMAG Kerala for industry insights. The event was very catching and informative to all.



Candid moment at the event

### 7TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND WIE SPECIAL SESSION BY SENDAI WIE AG

Mika Kagaya, Vice Chair, IEEE WIE AG, IEEE Sendai Section

IEEE Sendai WIE AG organized its **7th-anniversary celebration**, titled "Building a Greedy Career - Let's Talk about My Case", on 20 April 2024 through a Zoom webinar platform.

Firstly, a special lecture entitled "Four Seasons of Research enjoy thoroughly" from Professor Chao-Nan Xu of Tohoku University was conducted. This lecture highlighted the speaker's research work, her career, and the challenges she faced in impressing the audience. After the speech, the audience was split into three groups and had a discussion on three topics, parenting, Juggling something, and building a career with 24 individuals attending the event.

IEEE Sendai **WIE Special Session** was held on 30 August 2024 in Tohoku-Section Joint Convention of Institutes of Electrical and Information Engineers, under the theme, "The



Capture from the anniversary celebration

Charm of Research that Female and Young Researchers Can Convey".

The event featured two key sessions. The first included four oral presentations from Japanese universities, tailored for participants with diverse specialties, fostering an enriching exchange of ideas. The second session featured a special talk by Dr. Sawako Nakajima from Akita University titled "Creating the Future with Minority Perspectives in Mind: The World of Welfare Information Engineering." Dr. Nakajima discussed her work in film production for the visually impaired and her initiative, "CHORD xx CODE," a human engineering salon with seven female members. The 23 attendees found the sessions insightful and inspiring, gaining knowledge about advanced research and minorityfocused innovations.



A moment from the WIE special session

### **RECAP OF FEW IEEE KOLKATA SECTION EVENTS**

### Chandi Pani, Newsletter Subsection chair, IEEE Kolkata Section

IEEE Kolkata Section organized the Sir J.C. Bose Milestone Commemorative Lecture on 2 August, 2024 in association with The Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata at A-Building Seminar Hall of The Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata Campus. The Theme of the lecture was '5G to 6G - Challenges and Way forward' and the speaker for the session was Dr. Aloknath De, former Chief Technology Officer, Samsung India.

IEEE LMAG India and IEEE LMAG Kolkata Section organized a technical talk on "The Challenges and Opportunities of UAV-Enabled Integrated Sensing and Communication in 6G" on 11 July 2024 in online mode. The 6G standard envisages an integration of communication and sensing capabilities to boost spectrum efficiency and network performance while exploring novel applications. In this aspect, Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) - Enabled networks has gained widespread attention.

IEEE LMAG India Council and IEEE LMAG Kolkata Section organized a technical talk on "Semiconductor Technology shaping the future on 28 November 2024 in online mode.

The relentless evolution of semiconductor technology has force behind transformative been the driving advancements in electronics, computing, and artificial intelligence. This talk, 'Semiconductor Technology Shaping the Future', explores the pivotal role of transistor scaling in enabling unprecedented levels of performance, energy efficiency, and device miniaturization. The Department of Computer Science and Engineering of Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati organized an Industry-Academia Engagement Workshop on Hardware Accelerators for Neural Network Applications on 5 October 2024. The workshop was organised in association with the IEEE Kolkata Section and supported by the Industry Relations Committee of IEEE R10.



Candid moments at the events

### IEEE REGION 10 ISLAMABAD SECTION CHAPTER MINI SYMPOSIUM

### Nosherwan Shoaib, Chair, IEEE Islamabad Section Students Activities Committee

IEEE R10 Islamabad Section Chapter Mini-Symposium was held on 8 August 2024 at the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan.

The purpose of the event was to share guidelines and best practices among the organizational units (OUs) of the Section. The event was composed of invited talks on section guidelines for chapters and societies, officer training on IEEE Vtools, IEEE OU Analytics, rebate and its requirements, membership development, best practices for chapters sustainability and collaboration with student branches & chapters. The talks were interactive.

The talks were followed by a networking session. Over 20 participants from various chapters have attended the event. This event offered a unique networking opportunity for attendees and is expected to inspire the chapters to engage in activities with renewed enthusiasm. It is expected that this symposium will foster a sense of community and collective purpose among diverse groups, allowing for the exchange of innovative ideas and strategies. Additionally, it provides a platform for networking, building relationships, and strengthening the overall cohesion and effectiveness of the IEEE Islamabad Section.

Last but not the least, by coordinating their efforts, the

chapters can enhance their impact and achieve common goals more efficiently, thereby serving humanity via technology. The organizing committee would like to thank the IEEE R10 Section Chapters Committee for financially sponsoring the event. Special thanks to Dr. Amit and Dr. Abhishek for their utmost support.



Captures from the IEEE R10 Islamabad mini-symposium

### IEEE R10 STUDENT SUMMIT 2024 - ISLAMABAD SECTION SECTIONAL ASSEMBLY

Nosherwan Shoaib, Chair, IEEE Islamabad Section Students Activities Committee

IEEE Islamabad Section supports diversity and inclusion and has different affinity groups including Women in Engineering and Young Professionals. Being a medium Section, the IEEE Islamabad Section joined the common plenary conducted by the IEEE R10 Student Activities Committee on 21 September 2024 with 80 participants from the Section attending the event. The Section also organized an in-person sectional assembly on 7 October 2024 covering topics on Ethics, diversity and inclusion, professional development, volunteer leadership training, IEEE benefits, and mentorship programs for inactive student branches. The event offered students a thorough understanding and exposure to IEEE operations and activities, equipping them to become future leaders. Summit's goals include increasing memberships, reactivating dormant student branches, and fostering community engagement.

More than 80 participants from more than 10 student branches and chapters attended the event. The talks were delivered by senior IEEE members and experienced volunteers. The IEEE Day 2024 was also celebrated. As an outcome of the event, it is anticipated that the inactive or dormant student branches will be revived, and an additional 2-3 new student branches or chapters will be established.



Participants at IEEE R10 Student Summit at IEEE Islamabad Section

### IEEE SRI LANKA INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA ROUNDTABLE: BRIDGING GAPS FOR COLLABORATIVE GROWTH

### Sewwandie Nanayakkara, Secretary, IEEE Sri Lanka Section

The IEEE Sri Lanka Industry-Academia Roundtable, supported by the IEEE R10 Industry Relations Committee (IRC) grant, served as a vibrant platform to strengthen ties between academia and industry in Sri Lanka. Held on 22 October 2024, at Hotel Ramada Colombo, this full-day event aimed to address sector-specific challenges while fostering collaboration and mutual growth.

With over 150 participants, the event brought together a diverse group of senior executives, technical experts, C-level managers, professors, government representatives, and senior members from more than 50 industry bodies. Notably, the gathering included numerous non-IEEE members, many of whom were influential leaders and decision-makers in their respective sectors.

The event featured two main sessions and four parallel tracks, each focusing on key industries: Software & IT, Power & Energy, Electronics/Electrical & Manufacturing, and Telecommunications. These discussions aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry by identifying and addressing shared challenges, resolving sector-specific issues, and aligning academic outputs with industry expectations. Particular emphasis was placed on fostering R&D partnerships, enhancing Industry-Academia collaborations, and supporting talent development. Among the common sessions, one addressed the challenges of Industry-Academia Collaborations, focusing on barriers such as intellectual property rights and confidentiality concerns.

The other session, titled Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration for National Development, explored how various sectors could support one another, such as leveraging AI/ML solutions in manufacturing and energy sectors through Software/IT advancements. The industry representatives expressed strong interest in IEEE membership, particularly for their younger colleagues, inspired by the networking opportunities and collaborative spirit demonstrated at the event. The roundtable not only showcased the potential of IEEE to facilitate impactful partnerships but also highlighted its role as a catalyst for bridging industryacademia divides in Sri Lanka.



Highlights of Industry-Academia Roundtable Event



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### IEEE THAILAND SECTION LEADS COLLABORATION TO POSITION THAILAND AS A GLOBAL CONFERENCE HUB

Khanita Duangchaemkarn, Membership Development Chair, IEEE Thailand Section,

The IEEE Thailand Section, under the leadership of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supavadee Aramvith, has partnered with 10 prominent organizations to support Thailand bid to host IEEE flagship international conferences. This effort has gained the backing of the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB), led by Ms. Jittanan Techasarin, Director of the Conventions Department.

Announced on 30 November 2024, at Swissotel Bangkok Ratchada, this initiative aims to establish Thailand as a premier destination for high-caliber academic events. TCEB support underscores its mission to promote international conferences that not only contribute to the national economy but also enhance Thailand global image as a hub for innovation and collaboration.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supavadee emphasized that hosting IEEE flagship conferences is a strategic investment in Thailand academic and economic future. "These rigorous events attract thousands of participants globally, requiring robust local and international networks. With TCEB backing, Thailand has secured three major IEEE conferences: the IEEE PES GTD Asia 2025 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, the IEEE TALE, and the IEEE ICME in 2026, expected to draw over 10,000 participants." Dr. Thepchai Sapnithi, President of AIAT, highlighted Thailand strategic location and connectivity as key advantages. "Flagship conferences showcase Thailand capabilities and foster international academic networks," he said.

The collaboration includes organizations like the Council of IT Deans of Thailand, AIAT, and the Thai Health Tech Association, among others. Together, they aim to advance Thailand role in engineering and technology, strengthening its position in high-tech industries while driving local economic growth.



This initiative reflects Thailand commitment to fostering innovation and academic excellence, solidifying its reputation as a leading host for global conferences.



Captures at IEEE Thailand Section and TCEB Leadership collaboration