technical activities

NEWSBRIES

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 6, 1991

The third meeting of the 1991 Technical Activities Board (TAB) was held on October 6, 1991 at the Conrad Hilton, Cancun, Mexico. The following actions were taken:

Procedure for Handling Division Directors' Appointments. Subject to approval of IEEE Bylaw and TAB Charter revisions, TAB approved a proposed procedure governing appointments made by Division Directors. The intent of the procedure is to help new Division Directors identify suitable candidates for appointment, have appointments made on an annual basis and keep appointments within the Directors' term of office.

Election of TAB Liaison Council Chairman. TAB elected Mr. B. Leonard Carlson as Chairman of the TAB Liaison Council for the term 1992-93.

Election of TAB Periodicals Council Chairman. TAB elected Dr. Lloyd (Pete) A. Morley as Chairman of the TAB Periodicals Council for the term 1992-93.

Election of Society President Representatives to the TAB Administration Council. The Society Presidents' Forum elected Dr. John G. Ackenhusen, Dr. Jan Brown, Dr. Sung Mo (Steve) Kang, Dr. Lewis M. Terman and Dr. James M. Tien as the Society Presidents Representatives to the TAB Administration Council for 1992. Dr. John A. Reagan and Mr. Robert A. Begun were elected first and second alternates respectively.

1992 Budget. TAB reviewed and endorsed for recommendation of approval by the Board of Directors the 1992 TAB Operating Budget with a deficit of \$281K.

Contribution to IEEE General Fund in 1993. In recognition of the financial problems being faced by IEEE, TAB agreed to contribute \$750K to the IEEE General Fund in 1993 provided that the general fund entitlement to TAB continues at the current rate of 10.3% of IEEE annual dues income. No contributions to the General Fund are anticipated in fiscal year 1994 and beyond.

Society/Council Contribution to Magazines Department. TAB approved a maximum Society/Council contribution from the All Periodicals Package (APP) to the Magazines Department of \$150K in 1992, \$150K in 1993, \$90K in 1994, \$40K in 1995 and zero in 1996 and beyond. These contributions are less than the originally approved maximum commitment of 4% of the annual APP income.

Continuation of TAB Ad Hoc Budget Review Committee. TAB approved the Society Presidents' Forum recommendation that the TAB Ad Hoc Budget Review Committee be continued in 1992 to consider and report to the Forum on its progress in minimizing TAB expenses, enhancing TAB income sources, achieving a reserve above \$2 million and balancing the TAB budget in 1993.

Guidelines and Procedures for the Nomination of Candidates for Election to Division Directors. TAB approved Guidelines and Procedures for the Nomination of Candidates for Election to Division Directors as developed by the TAB Ethics Committee to ensure that the process of selection of candidates for Division Directors remains fair, free of conflicts of interest and capable of yielding the most qualified volunteers.

IEEE Neural Networks Council's Field of Interest Change. TAB endorsed the IEEE Neural Networks Council's revised Field of Interest Statement which more accurately describes the Council's scope and recommended its approval by the IEEE Executive Committee.

IEEE Affiliate Fee. Since the IEEE Affiliate Fee is a sensitive component of a complex Society fee structure, TAB endorsed a recommendation to the IEEE Board of Directors that any changes in the affiliate fee should not be made without prior consultation with TAB.

Ad Hoc Committee to Address Issues Related to Society Affiliates. TAB requested that the

TAB Chairman appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to address issues related to Society Affiliates, including terminology, fees and promotion campaigns.

Establishment of Position of Division Delegate-Director-Elect. TAB endorsed a proposal to revise the IEEE Bylaws to give Divisions the option to elect a Delegate-Director-Elect and recommended approval by the IEEE Board of Directors.

Presidents' Guidebook. TAB approved the draft Presidents' Guidebook as a working document on a one year trial basis.

Board of Directors' Meetings. In view of the current IEEE budget crisis and the ever increasing demands on volunteer time, TAB approved a recommendation that the IEEE Board of Directors hold only three (3) meetings in 1992.

New Ventures Fund. TAB approved a New Ventures fund of \$50K in 1992 to explore, evaluate and/or initiate new ventures that will potentially create new income sources for TAB. Expenditures are to be based on TAB approval of a business plan.

Technology. Due to lack of clarity of purpose, TAB opposed endorsing a revision to the IEEE Position on Engineering Technology as presented by the Educational Activities Board. Further, TAB recommended to the Board of Directors that the 1981 IEEE Position Paper on Engineering Technology be withdrawn.

Society/Council Officer Training. To improve new Society/Council officer training and to minimize associated expenses, TAB approved that the annual new Society/Council Presidents' orientation be held jointly with the Finance/Conference Workshop in January, 1992 in the Piscataway, New Jersey area.

1992 TAB Strategic and Operating Plan. TAB approved a 1992 TAB Strategic and Operating Plan, consisting of seven (7) objectives and thirteen (13) goals.

TAB Steering Committee on Design and Manufacturing Engineering. TAB approved the establishment of a Steering Committee to develop and propose initiatives in the area of design and manufacturing engineering. The Committee is to consist of nine members: four (4) experts appointed by the Vice President - Technical Activities, four (4) members appointed collectively by the participating Societies, plus a Chairman who will be elected by the Committee members.

Withdrawal of Two IEEE Position Papers. As requested by USAB, endorsed the withdrawal of the IEEE Position Paper on Fusion Power and IEEE Position Paper on Privacy Protection Guidelines on Transborder Flows of Personal Data.

Withdrawal of IEEE Resolutions and Statements. As requested by USAB, endorsed the withdrawal of nine Resolutions and Statements with the recommendation to the IEEE Board of Directors that an updated version of the Resolution on Minorities and Women in Engineering be developed.

New Policy 15.9 - Resolutions. As requested by USAB, TAB endorsed a proposed IEEE Policy 15.9 - Resolutions, which would restrict the use of resolutions to matters of transitory interest and that any such Resolutions be automatically terminated after a specified period of time.

IMPORTANT DATES

TAB Administration Council Retreat. A TAB Administration Council Retreat will be held at the Barton Creek Resort, Austin, Texas from January 17-19, 1992.

Officer Orientation Meetings Set. The workshop for Society/Council finance and meetings officers will be held in the Piscataway, New Jersey area on Friday, January 24, 1992. This will be followed by a meeting on Governance for Society President's on Saturday, January 25, 1992. Details about these events will be mailed within the next few weeks.

Technical Activities NEWSBRIEFS is published aperiodically by the Technical Activities Board staff department and carries highlights from the meetings of the Technical Activities Board and, on occasion, other appropriate items of interest to the IEEE technical leadership. Meeting minutes will be distributed as usual. Copies are available from the TAB Secretariat at (908) 562-3921.