Guide for the Florida West Coast Section Senior Member Elevation Event

1. OVERVIEW
2. EVENT STEPS
3. BREAKOUT ROOMS
4. SUBMITTING A REFERENCE
5. FAQ
6. NETWORKING SPACE AND CONTACT INFORMATION
OVERVIEW

Introduction
The IEEE Senior Member rank is a recognition of impressive contributions in an Engineer’s career. Many eligible members face the difficulty of becoming Senior Members due to the challenge of endorsement requirements by three Senior Members of Fellows. The Florida West Coast Section Senior Member Elevation Process works to shorten the road for eligible IEEE Members which this event is part of.

Purpose of the Event
The event serves as a cornerstone in the Senior Member Elevation Program where potential Senior Member Candidates who value the connection have an easier path to advancement by providing them a Nominator and a thirty-minute interview with two reference providers through which discuss their accomplishments for the nomination.

Team
The process was developed in 2020 by the FWCS led by the chair of the committee, Hermann Amaya, the Vice-Chair and now Region 3 Senior Member Coordinator, Andrew Seely. Since then, the FWCS has successfully nominated over 260 new Senior Members, frequently accounting for up to 5% of the global nominations processed by the IEEE Admission and Advancement (A&A) Review Panel.

Event Summary
The Senior Member Elevation Event is conducted via Zoom where an average of thirty candidates are interviewed to be elevated to the rank of IEEE Senior Member at the next meeting of the A&A Review Panel. After performing an initial communication check, groups of one candidate and two reference providers will be assigned a specific breakout room in Zoom to conduct the thirty-minute interview according to the time they were assigned. After that, reference providers and candidates have a chance to network, ask questions, or leave the event.
EVENT STEPS

STEP 1
EVENT PREPARATION
All attendants must have their computers compatible with Zoom System Requirements, which are Windows 10, 6MB RAM Memory, and Current Zoom Version. All reference providers are recommended to have the candidate’s resume open be logged in the Senior Member page.

STEP 2
ATTENDING THE EVENT
Attending the event is by invitation only using the invitation link sent to you through email.

STEP 3
COMMUNICATION CHECK

STEP 4
BRIEF INTRODUCTION
Organizers will give brief introduction and give time for asking questions.

STEP 5
BREAKOUT ROOMS FOR THE INTERVIEWS
Groups of one candidate and two reference providers will be placed in breakout rooms according to the schedule of the interviews.

STEP 6
NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY
After finishing the interview meetings, attendants are encouraged to utilize the rest of the event for networking and joining our networking space through Collabratec.

STEP 7
SUBMITTING A REFERENCE
Reference Providers are encouraged to submit their references by the completion of this meeting. These references must be submitted at least ten days prior to the A&A Review Panel Meeting date for the current month.

END OF EVENT

*Reference providers and candidates are only required to attend their 30-minute interview meeting. However, attending the beginning of the event when the introduction and communications check happen is highly encouraged.
The Mechanisms of Breakout Rooms in Zoom

How to join the breakout room?
The organizers of the event will automatically assign each group of reference providers and candidates a breakout room. All you need to do is click on "Join Breakout Room" in the pop-up window and accept the assignation (see the picture below).

Timing
The interview lasts for 30 minutes. After that, the breakout room will close automatically.

Potential technical issues
- If you finish the interview and want to leave, click on "Leave Breakout Room" and not on "Leave Meeting".
- Make sure your microphone is not muted by clicking on "Unmute"
- If you are having internet issues, leave the meeting and rejoin, please.
Submitting a Reference

Info

How to view the reference application?
View the application through the IEEE Senior Member Application Form via the IEEE website.

Deadlines
The deadlines for submitting a reference are usually one week after the event, so reference providers are highly encouraged to have the application submitted right after the interview to avoid possible delays.

Recommendations for Writing a Reference:
You have known the candidate through the FWCS Senior Member Elevation Event.

Ideas for answering certain application questions

Explain how the candidate has significantly performed higher professional duties)
After conducting the interview the reviewing the resume, we recommend stating the highlights of the candidate's contributions.

How did you become familiar with the professional background of the candidate?:
We consider the interview is enough period to know the candidate professionally

What is your professional relationship with the candidate?
limit the length of the endorsement to no more than two paragraphs, and specifically note career highlights and the personal conversation held. For additional guidance on completing the reference, contact the Senior Member Elevation Committee chair, Hermann Amaya.
FAQs

Q1: Who to contact in case some error happens during the meeting?
Contact the student support team, Khalid Alosaylan khalidalosaylan@gmail.com or Andres Lopez aalopezromero@usf.edu

Q2: What If I believe the candidate is not Qualified yet?
contact the Senior Member Elevation Committee chair, and schedule a meeting to discuss concerns.

Q3: What if a participant would like to introduce a senior member for elevation?
Very welcome! Contact the Senior Member Elevation Committee chair or the committee team, and they will take care of that.

Q4: What do we need to focus on evaluating in the 30-min interview?
We are mainly looking for significant accomplishments that the candidate has achieved over a period of 5 years. Examples of that are:
People who have led projects, who have monitored a significant number of young people, who have in-door impacts, impacts on individuals and groups of people.

Q5: Does the candidate have to have a Ph.D. in order to be considered qualified for Senior Membership?
Even if the person does not have Ph.D., we think that BAS or Master’s degree accompanied with some significant accomplishments are worth considering. In addition, candidates that meet the ten-year experience requirement and have no Academic Degree may qualify.
R3 Senior Roundup Networking-FWCS

In addition to the main value behind participating in the Florida West Coast Section Senior Member Elevation Committee Event, it is a wonderful opportunity to meet with colleagues from different fields with varying levels of expertise! Thus, we highly encourage participants to join our networking space established in Collabratic by Mario Guerrero. The idea is to provide participants of the events a place to exchange their backgrounds initially and then hopefully foster sharing of experiences, background, education, careers, interests, personal and professional knowledge, problem resolutions, etc. with one-to-one to multi-participant discussions. To join, the networking space please refer to the Zoom invitation email or contact the event team.

Contact Information

Hermann Amaya  
Chair/Founder of the IEEE Florida West Coast Senior Member Elevation Committee  
hermann.amaya.us@ieee.org

Andrew Seely  
Region 3 Senior Member Coordinator  
andrew.seely@ieee.org

Khalid Alosaylan  
IEEE Student Support  
kaalosaylan@usf.edu

Raja Sultan  
IEEE Student Support  
rajaialal@usf.edu