



<https://r3.ieee.org>

# IEEE Region 3



Volume 40 – No. 3 Fall 2025

Dear fellow Region 3 Colleagues,

*Eric Grigorian*

**Director, Region 3**



My, how time passes so quickly. It seemed just like last week when we had started for the summer! At least cooler and drier air is upon us, and the chance to appreciate the great fall foliage. I hope everyone had the great opportunity to enjoy the summer vacation with family and friends.

Now that most of the schools within our region are back in session and the college football season has finally started. Now is the time for Sections in our region to get engaged with their affiliated student branches and get these branches engaged in section activities, help host membership development, and look for potential new members that might be interested in leadership roles for the Section or affiliated Technical Societies. Looking across the region and the leadership in Technical Societies, it seems that we have not done a good job in recruiting new leadership as many societies have leadership that have been serving much longer than guidance provided in IEEE Member Geographic Area (MGA) Operations Manual. I urge each section to review the leadership within the section and its affiliated technical society and hold elections to resolve this inconsistency. IEEE Region 3 encourages members to take on leadership roles within their local sections, technical societies, affinity groups, and student branches. Whether through organizing events, leading technical discussions, or participating in governance activities, new leaders play a crucial role in shaping the future of our Region. The commitment to leadership development strengthens the organization's ability to adapt to emerging technological advancements, bring in new ideas, promote further engagement, and assist with IEEE's mission of advancing technology for the benefit of humanity.

Starting on August 15<sup>th</sup> and through October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, you also have the opportunity to decide on who will be serving as the next IEEE President, IEEE Technical Activities Vice President, and your Region 3 Director as part of the 2025 IEEE Election Campaign. If you haven't done so, I urge you to take a moment to review and vote for candidate of your choice. Please visit <https://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/election> and submit your vote.

With the start of the fall season, your region's conference committee has actively been engaged with planning for the upcoming SoutheastCon 2026 in mid-March 2026 in Huntsville, inaugural CaribCon 2026 in May 2026 in Montego Bay. Additionally, we have been actively working with IEEE Conferences, Events & Experiences group (CEE) on 2025 IEEE Jamaica Talent and Technology Event which will be held in mid-November 2025 in Kingston, Jamaica. All of these events are intended to expand our region's reach across all member grades and potential new members.

As indicated before, I have been very happy to see growth in various regional activities

which have included the establishment of new Student Branches, new Student Branch Chapters, Young Professional affinity groups, and of course, Life Member Affinity Groups. As part of the approval process, I have also started to encourage newly formed groups to work with their affiliated Section and utilize Section's NextGen Banking. I encourage you to start the petition process if you'd like to see a new group in your Section.

Starting in 2026, IEEE will be using a new budgeting process. One of the changes associated with this new process includes Strategic Project Funding, previously known as Surplus Projects. Each Region will be allocated up to \$20,000 per year for 2-year projects inline with IEEE strategies. As a Region, we are actively soliciting for projects that will qualify. If you have any project ideas, please reach out to LaRhonda Julien ([larhonda.julien@gatransmission.com](mailto:larhonda.julien@gatransmission.com)) and Sonya Dillard ([sonya.dillard@ieee.org](mailto:sonya.dillard@ieee.org)) for consideration. All inputs are due by October 15, 2025.

As my 2-year term as your Region 3 Director will be ending by end of this year, I have been immensely enjoyed to work with your Region 3 Executive Committee and I am working closely with Sonya Dillard as she will become your 2026-2027 Region Director. If you are interested in supporting in any capacity at the Region level, please contact Jill Gostin ([jgostin@ieee.org](mailto:jgostin@ieee.org)), Theresa Brunasso ([theresa.brunasso@ieee.org](mailto:theresa.brunasso@ieee.org)) or myself for consideration.

I would like to thank all of you for your support and participation in IEEE.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Grigorian, P.E., PMP  
2024-2025 IEEE R3 Director  
2025 IEEE Audit Committee Chair

### Region 3 Address

R3 Web Site: <https://r3.ieee.org/>

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*IEEE-Day is Coming Soon*  
Theresa Brunasso [[theresa.brunasso@ieee.org](mailto:theresa.brunasso@ieee.org)]  
IEEE R3 Past Director

IEEE Day is October 7th this year and it's time to start planning. IEEE Day is an annual event that celebrates the first time in history when engineers worldwide gathered to share their technical ideas in 1884. One of the IEEE Day's objectives is to show the ways IEEE members in local communities, join together to collaborate on ideas that leverage technology for a better tomorrow.



All Sections are encouraged to appoint an IEEE Day Ambassador to help schedule events from 29 September – 12 October 2025. Events can be technical, professional, or social. Events can be in person, virtual or hybrid. All IEEE Day Events should be listed in vTools, and submitted to the IEEE Day Website. Be sure to identify your event with #ieeeday and it will show on the map. To help you get started, check out the IEEE-Day Tool Kit.

As in previous years, there will be both photo and video contests. Have some fun and compete in these contests. Have your phone and camera ready when you attend one of the events. You can submit your entries and raise your Section, Chapter, Affinity Group and/or Student Branch profile.

If you have any questions, please contact me, and as always, thanks for all you do for IEEE!

Theresa Brunasso  
Region 3 Past Director  
[theresa.brunasso@ieee.org](mailto:theresa.brunasso@ieee.org)

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## *Professional Activities Committee*

**David Fillion** [[dfillion@ieee.org](mailto:dfillion@ieee.org)]  
Past Chair, Professional Activities Committee

IEEE is a technical organization. One of the main reasons people join is for the technical work. An important part of most people's careers is the non-technical or professional side. The non-technical part of people's careers are careers, resumes, chairing or managing groups, and a professional network.

In Region 3, we have a Professional Activities Committee (PAC) for these activities. Until several years ago, it was PACE. PAC provides funds for non-technical professional activities. These include career work, writing resumes, interviewing, job searches, and business/professional networking. Region 3 also includes support for K-12 STEM activities.

The year is coming to a close soon, and many Sections, Affinity groups, and Student branches customarily host awards banquets and dinners to motivate their members. PAC could fund up to a maximum of USD 1000 to support these events. [Funding Request Form](#).

Sections can have their professional activities funded at 50% of cost from the Region with a maximum of USD 1,000. Similarly, a section can choose to help support a FIRST Robotics team up to \$1,000 in matching funds in a year.

For the 2025 year, R3 PAC has about \$18,000 available to support PAC activities. For more information, contact Sharlene Brown ([sharlenenicolabrown@gmail.com](mailto:sharlenenicolabrown@gmail.com)).

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## *AgeTech Standards Development*

**David Fillion** [[dfillion@ieee.org](mailto:dfillion@ieee.org)]  
AgeTech - Education Group - Vice-Chair

IEEE has started an Industry Connections group working on the AgeTech Standards Development. AgeTech is defined broadly as designing technology products being aware of the needs of an aging population. Developing standards and conventions for this population is the ultimate goal of this program.

The effects of ageing may start in some people in their 50's while others see little ageing affects until their 70's or 80's. Today, people, as they age, are choosing to live independently in their own home. Demographically, the ageing population is becoming a larger group worldwide.

The IEEE AgeTech initiative presently has five study groups:

1. Wearable Technology
2. Smart Home Solutions
3. Caregiving Robotics
4. Wearable Robotics
5. Education

While AgeTech sounds like its primary participants are older, opportunities exists for younger people to work in this growing field with many opportunities and challenges.

For more information, email: [kirpal.s.khalsa@ieee.org](mailto:kirpal.s.khalsa@ieee.org).

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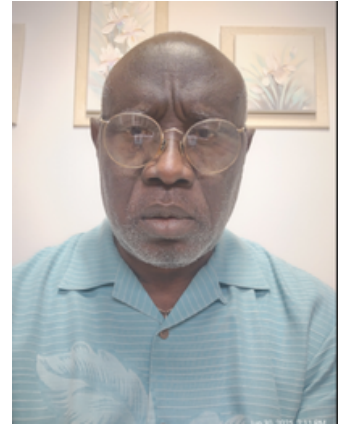
## 2025 LMC Award Winners in Region 3

Jacob Kulangara [[kulangara@ieee.org](mailto:kulangara@ieee.org)]  
Region 3 Life Member Coordinator

On June 2, 2025, IEEE Life Members Committee (LMC) announced the 2025 Life Members Individual Service and 2025 Life Member Affinity Group (LMAG) Achievement regional awards in Region 3 for Life Senior Member Macaulay Osaisai of Canaveral (FL) Section for distinguished services and for Atlanta (GA) LMAG for numerous activities of excellence in Atlanta area in 2024.

### 2025 LM Individual Service Award Winner - Macaulay Osaisai (Area 3)

2025 Life Members Individual Service regional award for Macaulay Osaisai is given in honor of his exceptional leadership in advancing STEM education, supporting professional development, and fostering industry collaboration through his dedication in IEEE Canaveral Life Members Affinity Group and for interphase with IEEE Sections in the area.



Macaulay's contribution set a benchmark for how life members can continue to lead, contribute, and elevate IEEE's goals. Some of MacAulay's leadership and contributions include:

1. Pivotal role in spearheading impactful initiatives that enhanced professional development and industry collaboration.
2. Promotion of IEEE outreach for STEM education and co-sponsorship of the Small-Sat Educational Conference at Kennedy Space Center providing technical engagement.
3. Investment in member development through access to professional resources, technical workshops, and mentorship programs.
4. Significant contributions to the IEEE programs for senior member elevation, professional recognition of engineers and their career development.
5. Formation support for local IEEE Aerospace & Electronics Systems Society and Communications Society chapters for members to specialize and advance in technology.
6. Co-sponsor of FCC Amateur Radio License classes, introducing communication technologies and problem-solving skills to aspiring engineers.
7. Annual banquet to create a forum to honor member contributions and cultivate continuous life members engagement and to emphasize volunteer service recognition.
8. Increasing participation, expanding technical influence, and modelling the LMAG as a dynamic, mission-driven group.

Macaulay Osaisai is honored as the winner of the 2025 Life Members Individual Service regional award. The award certificate is planned to be presented to Macaulay Osaisai at a site recognition event decided by Area-3 Chair and Region 3 Director.



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## *Announcement of 2025 LMC Award Winners in Region 3 (cont.)*

### **2025 LMAG Achievement Award Winner - Atlanta (GA) (Area 2)**

Atlanta LMAG is declared the winner of the 2025 LMAG Achievement regional award for excellence in activities of Life Members Affinity Group, and hosting and co-hosting various significant events in Atlanta area in Region 3.

Some of the Atlanta LMAG activities in 2024 may be highlighted to include.

1. Conduct of more than 25 LMAG events in support of the Atlanta section and for participation in many vital initiatives of interest to life members.
2. Topics presented such as Medicare, Medicaid, Financial Planning in volatile times, Wills and Trusts and Cyber Hygiene including networking events of interests to IEEE community.
3. Organizing the LMAG events to attract large participation of affinity groups of Students, YP, HKN, WIE and other chapters.
4. Conduct of activities for supporting senior member elevations, networking sessions, resume reviews, family science nights and Atlanta Science Fair.
5. Mentorship for the Midtown High School Robotics students in the First Robotics Competitions and career sessions at Kennesaw State University for graduating students.
6. Conduct of very successful series of Experimental Robotic Platform (XRP) event as a follow up event to “Innovate for Impact” project.

Atlanta LMAG is the winner of the 2025 Life Members Affinity Group Achievement regional award. The LMAG regional award from LMC involves an award prize money and certificate of recognition for the award winner.

LMC is processing the transfer of \$500 award prize money from IEEE Foundation to Atlanta LMAG CB account as regional award winner.

The Atlanta LMAG Achievement award certificate is planned to be presented to Atlanta LMAG Chair Jonathan Yam at a site recognition event decided by Area-2 Chair and Region 3 Director.



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## Region 3 Student Branch at Florida Polytechnic

Colby Bradford [[colby.bradford@ieee.org](mailto:colby.bradford@ieee.org)]

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At IEEE Florida Poly we are gearing up for an exciting year! This year our focus is student engagement through nontechnical events (we're still having technical events though, of course!). Being a partnership of a few different IEEE societies (P.E.S, R.A.S., C.S., HKN), we've got a big range of themed events we plan to do.

Our IEEE Florida Poly Computer Society really hit the ground running this year by partnering with Florida Poly's Campus Activity Board and hosting Escape the Tech Takeover, an AI-themed escape room, in the first week of the Fall semester. They used Arduino to power a custom 3d-printed interface for escapees to interact with during their session. Computer Society is planning speaker events with IEEE's own best and brightest including Ron Ambrosio, Andy Seely, and Antra Malhotra, as well as some external guest speakers. Their Rust and GitHub workshops are also coming up to help students understand industry-standard GitHub and the practical Rust language.



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## Region 3 Student Branch at Florida Polytechnic (cont.)

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IEEE Florida Poly Power and Energy Society is setting up some great events to both build skills and have fun! This year they will be hosting multiple circuit competitions in preparation for Region 3's Southeast Con, helping potential competitors know what to expect when March rolls around. They also are planning a Power Grid themed board game night to have something fun and unique, and soldering workshops to build industry relevant skills for students!

IEEE Florida Poly Robotics and Automation Society are working hard to prepare for Southeast Con. They are getting started planning and building the robots and field that will be competing in the Southeast Con 2026 Hardware Competition. To specialize their robot, they are also collaborating with IEEE FL Poly PES to cohost a Circuit PCB Design workshop to make a custom PCB to control the mini-UAV in the competition this year!

Last, but definitely not least, is IEEE Florida Poly Eta Kappa Nu (HKN) making big professional development strides. IEEE HKN is partnering with Florida Poly's Career Services to host a resume workshop soon to prepare students for the Fall Career Fair at Florida Poly, as well as planning talks about some forgotten (but important) aspects of work life, workplace benefits. They'll also be boosting those volunteer hours with their FDOT Adopt-A-Highway Highway cleanups starting up soon! HKN is also planning for a speaker event in November featuring an industry professional to talk about career track and beneficial skills for students to independently study.

IEEE Florida Poly is having our 10-year anniversary, and will be planning a celebration later in the year! On top of that we will also be planning an event for IEEE Day in October and continuing the newly founded annual Engineering and Science and Student Research Symposium (ESSRS) in the Spring!



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## *MOVE USA: Volunteers Needed*

Are you interested in making an impact on communities that are dealing with disasters? Do you want to help build the future workforce by supporting STEM outreach activities? If so, become a MOVE volunteer! There are many ways you can serve. Please visit <https://move.ieeeusa.org/help/volunteer-resources/>. We are always looking for new volunteers and potential future leaders! I am the MOVE-USA Communications Chair, and I have an immediate need for people on my team – helping with social media, newsletters (in addition to our own, we submit articles to several other newsletters), and our website. Please use the above link if you are interested in helping!

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## *MOVE USA: Tech Talks*

MOVE-USA also organizes monthly Tech Talks, typically on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 8:00 pm ET. Upcoming talks:

**23 September:** [REGISTER](#) for the MOVE USA Tech Talk on **Tuesday, 23 September** at 8:00pm EDT – Cisco Crisis Response

Joe Harrison will be our speaker and will provide an overview of Cisco Crisis Response (CCR). CCR has led disaster incident response at Cisco for over 20 years. CCR has a no-cost program to assist with equipment, expertise, and engineers for customers and organizations that need communications assistance, for business continuity and to enable recovery operations after a natural disaster. CCR will share products, solutions, case studies, and best practices in the context of disaster & humanitarian response.



Joe Harrison is a humanitarian communications and operations professional specializing in crisis response. For over 15 years he has responded in various capacities to natural disasters and civil conflict around the world. Joe will provide an overview of Cisco Crisis Response – how CCR provides emergency communications support to partners and the communities they serve, and why it's more important now than ever.

**28 October:** [REGISTER](#) for the MOVE USA Tech Talk on **Tuesday, 28 October** at 11:00am EDT – MOVE India Truck Overview

### [IEEE MOVE India Launches Global MOVE Vehicle in India, Bringing STEM Education and Technological Support to Disaster Response](#)

Join us for a MOVE India Truck Overview. IEEE MOVE Outreach India program, launched its first Mobile Outreach Vehicle (MOVE) to be deployed outside the United States. This marks a significant step in the global expansion of its humanitarian technology program. The MOVE India Vehicle was unveiled today at the IEEE India Office, World Trade Center, Bengaluru. The vehicle is designed to bring educational resources to communities in India and, in the future, provide communication and technology support to relief workers during emergencies in Karnataka.

**Sadhana Attavar** is an Electronics and Communication Engineer with 38 years of experience in Science Communication. She served as the Director of the **Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum** in Bengaluru (Bangalore), which is the southern headquarters of the National Council of Science Museums, under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. She made history as the first woman to hold this position since the museum's inception in 1965.



Sadhana also served on the Board of Directors of **Creative Museum Designers** in Kolkata, a company affiliated with the National Council of Science Museums. Her expertise lies in establishing Science Museums and curating exhibitions focused on Science and Technology. She led the development of state-of-the-art **Science Centres** in **Pilikula** (Mangalore) and **Rajahmundry** and played a crucial role in the creation of India's first food museum in **Thanjavur** and various Innovation Hubs across South India.

Her notable curatorial work includes the **Space Technology Gallery**, **BEL Hall of Electronics**, and the "**Seeds of Culture**" exhibition. Sadhana was instrumental in setting up the **VSAT satellite communication network**, which enabled educational programs for rural communities in India.

A senior member of IEEE, Sadhana has held several leadership roles, including **Chair of Women in Engineering (WIE)**, **Educational Activities Chair**, and **Treasurer of IEEE Bangalore Section**. She currently serves as the **Chair of the MOVE India** program at the IEEE India Council and is a member of the **MOVE Global Committee**. Additionally, she is a member of the **IEEE Humanitarian Technology Board** and the **History Committee**. Sadhana is also the **Chair of the WIE International Leadership Summit (ILS) Subcommittee**.

In 2023, she was honored with the **Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award** by the **IEEE Women in Engineering Committee**.

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## IEEE Mississippi Section

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### *Fellow Recognition Event*

**Rajeev Agrawal** [[rajeev.k.agrawal@gmail.com](mailto:rajeev.k.agrawal@gmail.com)]  
Region-3 Area-5 Chair

On July 17, 2025 the IEEE Mississippi Section held a meeting to recognize its 5 IEEE Fellow members. The event was co-hosted by the IEEE Mississippi Section Life Members Affinity Group (LMAG). The meeting was held at a local restaurant in Starkville, Mississippi where the IEEE Fellows were treated to dinner with the members. After dinner, the meeting was started with a brief overview of the section by the chair, Thomas Field. The LMAG chair, George Sidders, then gave a brief presentation on the history and process to become a life member. This was followed by a brief presentation on the history and process of becoming an IEEE Fellow. The IEEE fellows were then each introduced by the chair for their technical accomplishments.

Each IEEE Fellow gave a presentation on their accomplishments which have led to improvements in society through their technical innovations. They were each awarded a plaque after their presentation to honor their achievements. The event was well attended by the section and LMAG members. The 5 IEEE Fellows recognized were:

Dr. Roger King – IEEE Life Fellow

For contributions in power systems data analytics to improve grid reliability. 2014

Dr. James Fowler – IEEE Fellow

For contributions to lossy source coding and dimensionality reduction of multidimensional data. 2017

Dr. Jenny Qian Du – IEEE Fellow

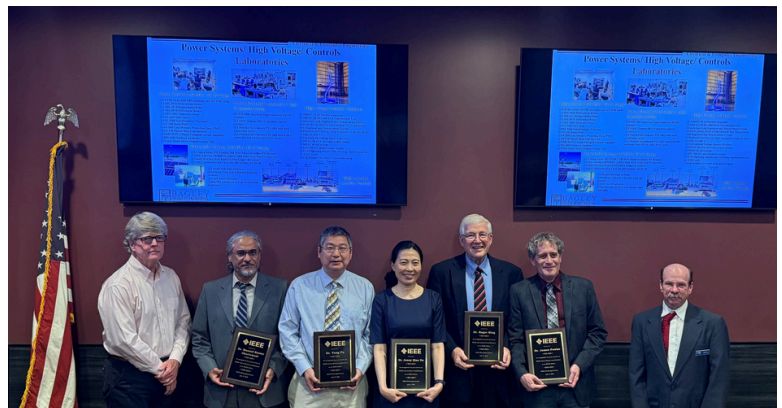
for her contributions to hyperspectral data processing, a remote sensing technology with potential to advance earth observation. 2018

Dr. Masoud Karimi – IEEE Fellow

For contributions to synchronization, modeling and control of power electronic converters in dc/ac applications. 2025

Dr. Yong Fu – IEEE Fellow

For contributions to computational optimization and parallel computing for power system operation. 2025



The picture below shows from left to right Dr. Pat Donahoe from IEEE Region 3 (IEEE Mississippi Member), Dr. Masoud Karimi, Dr. Yong Fu, Dr. Jenny Qian Du, Dr. Roger King, Dr. James Fowler, and Mr. Thomas Field. All of those in the picture, with the exception of the section chair, are professors at MSU. Dr. Fowler from MSU is currently on leave for an assignment with NSF.

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## IEEE Richmond Section

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### *A Year of Teamwork, Growth, and Impact (Jan–Aug 2025)*

**Gokul Pandey** [gokul.pandey@ieee.org]  
Chair, IEEE Richmond Section

Since January 2025, under the leadership of Gokul Pandey as Section Chair (<https://spectrum.ieee.org/robotic-process-automation-gokul-pandey>), the IEEE Richmond Section has demonstrated remarkable momentum in membership growth, professional engagement, and community impact. This success reflects the collective strength of our leadership transition, volunteer commitment, and strong alignment with IEEE's mission of advancing technology for humanity, and his vision has already been translated into impactful initiatives, events, and collaborations across the section

Details about Gokul Pandey has been published in IEEE Spectrum as well - <https://spectrum.ieee.org/robotic-process-automation-gokul-pandey>.

### **Leadership Continuity and Teamwork**

The Richmond Section owes its stability and continuity to the collaborative leadership of **Allen Jones (Past Chair)** and **Gokul Pandey (Present Chair)**. Allen's dedicated leadership established a strong foundation, ensuring a seamless transition. Even after his term, he remains proactive and eager to contribute, offering valuable guidance and support. Building on this momentum, Gokul has brought renewed energy, focusing on member impact, cross-section collaboration, and professional development opportunities.

Our accomplishments are not the work of one individual but of a **dedicated ExCom team**—and many volunteers—whose collaboration has been instrumental in driving the Section's growth and engagement.

### **Key Accomplishments (Jan–Aug 2025)**

- **Life Members Affinity Group (LMAG)**

One of the early accomplishments this year was the establishment of the Life Members Affinity Group (LMAG) petition and was approved to form in Richmond Section, and Gokul Pandey has been elected as a Chair for the same, creating a platform for experienced professionals to share insights, mentor younger members, and actively contribute to IEEE initiatives. This has strengthened the section's intergenerational engagement and knowledge-sharing culture.

- **Virtual Multi-Section Sessions:** Collaborative events with Boston, Washington, Northern Virginia, Baltimore, and Atlanta Sections, expanding knowledge-sharing and networking across regions by inviting speakers from distinguished organizations.
- **Richmond Section Gathering (June 2025):** An in-person event with 100+ attendees, fostering networking, celebrating achievements, and welcoming new members.
- **Student & Career Development:** Partnerships with VCU and local institutions provided resume reviews, career guidance, and mentoring for 28+ students, supported by 12 volunteers.



## IEEE Richmond Section (cont.)

**AI for Thriving Communities:** A signature initiative integrating AI into K–12 education in collaboration with VCU, AI Ready RVA, and Richmond Institute of Technology and Science.

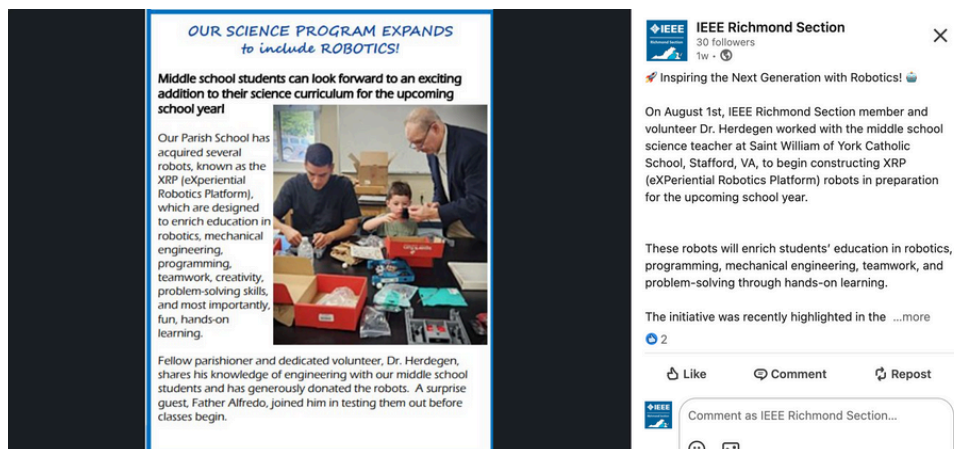
- **Digital Outreach:** Launch of the IEEE Richmond Section LinkedIn page is a NEW initiative, enhancing visibility, communication, and engagement with both members and the wider professional community.

### Membership Growth

Driven by these initiatives, the Richmond Section has welcomed/renewed 101+ new members since January 2025. This growth reflects not only the value of our programs but also the inclusive, collaborative culture built by our leadership and volunteers.

### Looking Ahead

With strong teamwork at its core, IEEE Richmond Section is poised to continue advancing innovation, mentorship, and community engagement. The leadership journey of Allen and Gokul, supported by an active ExCom team, underscores the importance of continuity, collaboration, and service. Together, we remain committed to building meaningful member experiences and strengthening the role of IEEE in our community.



## IEEE Richmond Section (cont.)



### Ignite Your STEM Ambitions with RITS Summer Camp!

**July 21st - July 25th**  
VCU's College of Engineering

**What is RITS?**  
RITS is a summer institute designed to increase teenagers in the world of innovation and technology.

**What We Teach**  
Our week-long program introduces students to artificial intelligence and robotics. Join us this summer at VCU's College of Engineering for an unforgettable journey into the future of technology.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)**  
Discover the fundamentals of AI and learn how this technology is transforming industries. Build real-world AI solutions that set you apart.


**Programming & Coding**  
Explore essential coding languages and sharpen problem-solving skills. See firsthand how software drives innovation.

**Electronics & Robotics**  
Peek under the hood of modern machines. Assemble and program robots, gaining insight into electronics, mechanics, and design.

**3D Printing**  
Bring ideas to life by designing, prototyping, and printing 3D models. Learn how to turn concepts into tangible products.

**Register Now!**  
Scan the QR code to register online at [RITS.vcu.edu](https://RITS.vcu.edu)

[@rits.va](https://RITS.vcu.edu)



### IEEE Richmond Section

30 followers  
1mo • Edited •

IEEE Richmond is proud to support the next generation of STEM innovators!


This summer, we're thrilled to collaborate with the [Richmond Institute of Technology and Science \(RITS\)](#) to help ignite curiosity and creativity in young minds through their Summer STEM Camp 2025.

**Date:** July 21-25  
**Location:** [Virginia Commonwealth University - College of Engineering](#)

**Focus Areas:**

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) ...more

You and 10 others 1 comment · 1 repost



### IEEE Richmond Section

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It was a truly monumental and incredibly fun evening at the IEEE Richmond Section Family Picnic & Social Gathering on Friday, June 6th, at Twin Hickory Park! We were absolutely thrilled to kick things off with such a vibrant and engaged group of members and their families.

The highlight for many, especially our future innovators, was undoubtedly the engaging robotic kit STEM activity that had the kids absolutely captivated! It was a joy to witness the budding curiosity and hands-on excitement in action.

Beyond the fantastic fun, the event also provided invaluable opportunities for our members. We had excellent discussions on exciting volunteer opportunities within the section, offered great insights into networking with fellow professionals, and shared important details on member elevation. It was truly a night of learning, connecting, and community building for all ages, setting a wonderful precedent for our section.

A massive thank you to everyone who attended and made this inaugural event a great success. Your participation and enthusiasm truly fuel the spirit of the IEEE Richmond Section! Many thanks to the Richmond section committee - [Gokul Pandey](#), [Allen Jones](#), [Jayanna Hallur](#), Suhas Jangoan for organizing the event! Check out the videos!

This is just the beginning! Stay tuned for many more exciting events, workshops, and gatherings from the IEEE Richmond Section. We're already planning our next opportunities to connect, learn, and grow together!

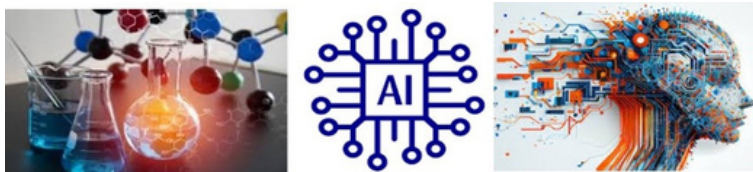
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### *What Does AI have to do with Chemistry ..... and the Nobel Prize?*

Raul Ortega [[rortega@nuvosource.com](mailto:rortega@nuvosource.com)]



The topic: What does AI have to do with chemistry? Short Version: The 2024 Nobel Prize in Chemistry went to two AI chemistry research groups. What does AI have to do with chemistry and why them? Also: The use of AI to work on hard problems related to the biochemistry of proteins. By PHD Catherine Moulder.



Dr. Moulder has been recognized for her work in theoretical drug design, applying advanced computational models to understand how small molecules interact with biological targets—an area that does intersect with AI through molecular modeling and simulation. So, while she's not an AI professor in the traditional sense, her work does involve computational techniques that are adjacent to AI, especially in the context of scientific computing and modeling. If you're looking for someone in AI proper—machine learning, robotics, or neural networks—She can help you find experts in that space too. An all around support person!



The presentation provided a very interesting perspective on AI and the future of Chemistry!

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## IEEE Melbourne Section

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### ***‘Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association (CVMA)’ Rapid Prototype Services (RPS) - Satellite Beach, Florida US Veteran STEM Intro***

**Raul Ortega** [[rortega@nuvosource.com](mailto:rortega@nuvosource.com)]

Members of the CVMA 20-1 Chapter in Melbourne, Florida were treated to ‘Coffee & Pastries’ by the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans and the IEEE Melbourne Section during their monthly meeting in July 2025. The CVMA, a national combat veteran’s organization, is designed to support combat veterans needing help in re-joining the American Mainstream Society, a long and arduous process.



The CVMA Chapter meets monthly to review progress in the many goals set yearly to reach veterans requiring support in all areas of their lives. Working closely with the CVMA on these yearly goals, is the IEEE Melbourne Section making presentations on the STEM process and the benefits veterans can acquire to help them develop or improve on their technical skills. The goal is to set up training sessions dedicated to hands on training and skills that will be helpful in qualifying for better paying employment or advancement in their education goals. Smaller group meetings are also set up to pass on interview and resume skills as well as job search support.



The CVMA monthly meetings draw approximately 50 to 75 members on the second or third Saturday of the month and are hosted by other veteran organizations like the VFW and the American Legion, in addition to the ELKS and MOOSE organizations.



# **COMBAT VETERANS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION®**





## IEEE Career Fair

October 30, 2025

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## Region 3 Awards and Recognition

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### *Call for Nominations: 2026 Region 3 Awards (Deadline: 1 December 2025)*

**Devon Gayle** [[d.gayle@ieee.org](mailto:d.gayle@ieee.org)]  
Region 3 Awards and Recognition Chair

Help us recognize the outstanding efforts of our volunteers by nominating them for one of the IEEE Region 3 Awards. Each award has a unique mission and criteria and offers the opportunity to honor distinguished colleagues, inspiring teachers, corporate leaders and aspiring students in Cybersecurity.

If you know someone who has made substantial regional IEEE volunteer contributions through innovative projects, exemplary leadership, service, or by fulfilling the goals as related to transnational activities, consider nominating them for one of the following awards:

- Joseph M. Biedenbach Outstanding Engineering Educator Award
- Outstanding Engineer Award
- Outstanding Service Award
- Outstanding Young Professional Award
- Outstanding Education Activity Chair Award
- Professional Leadership Award
- Employer Professional Development Award
- James H. Graham Cybersecurity Scholarship \*Since 2025!\*
- Daniel W. Jackson Award
- Exemplary Section Award
- Exemplary Student Branch Award
- Student Professional Activities Service Award

Please visit the Region 3 Award and Recognition Committee page for [more information on past awardees, award information, and guidelines](#). While self-nominations are permitted, peer-recognized submissions are preferred as they provide an additional metric for evaluation.

The deadline to submit nominations is 1 December 2025.

- A complete nomination form with two letters of endorsement by two IEEE members are required to be eligible.

#### Nominate a colleague now

If the link above goes to the IEEE Awards home page, go to 'My Nominations' under the 'Login' tab. You may need your IEEE account login to access.

Email questions to [R3-awards@ieee.org](mailto:R3-awards@ieee.org).

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## *IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee*

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*Joe Pennisi*

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*Theresa Brunasso*

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Area 3 Florida  
*Raul Ortega*

Area 4 Kentucky & Tennessee  
*Paul Kuban*

Area 5 Mississippi, Alabama, & Jamaica  
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## *IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee (cont.)*

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SoutheastCon 2023, Orlando <i>Joe Juisai</i>	SoutheastCon 2024, Atlanta <i>Alessio Medda</i>	SoutheastCon 2025, Charlotte <i>Charles Lord</i>
SoutheastCon 2026, Huntsville <i>Will Goins</i>		

### **Section Support**

Section Support Chair <i>Kristin Bing</i>	Member Recruitment & Retention Coordinator <i>Patrick Kung</i>	Life Member Coordinator <i>Jacob Kulangara</i>
Young Professional Coordinator <i>Sunny Bellary</i>	Women in Engineering Coordinator <i>Ebonee Walker</i>	Senior Member Elevation Coordinator <i>Anthony Perales</i> <i>David Fillion</i>
Section Operations Specialist <i>Charles Lord</i> <i>Mark Torres</i>	Project Coordinator <i>LaRhonda Julien</i>	Technical Activities Coordinator <i>Arup Ghosh</i>
Educational Activities Coordinator <i>Damith Wickermamayke</i>		

### **Nominations and Appointments**

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Young Professional Coordinator <i>Sunny Bellary</i>		



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## *IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee (cont.)*

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Awareness Coordinator  
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SAC Advisor  
*Chase Battaglio*

### **Other**

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Regional Vitality Coordinator  
*Sonya Dillard*

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*Hermann Amaya*

Education Activities Rep to EAB  
*Damith Wickramamayake*

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*Chan Wong*  
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**Tue 7 - Fri 10 October 2025  
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**2025 Frontiers in Education Conference**

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**24<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Machine Learning and Applications**



**IEEE**

**December 3-5, 2025**

**Boca Raton Marriot at Boca Center, Florida, USA**

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## IEEE SoutheastCon 2026

Bringing together Industry, Academia, and Government to share the latest information critical to the professions of Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, and Computer Science through technical sessions, tutorials, and exhibits. It is the most influential conference in Region 3 for promoting awareness of the technical contributions made by our profession to the advancement of engineering and science to the community.

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