



# IEEE Region 3



<https://r3.ieee.org/>

Volume 36 – No. 2

Spring / Summer 2022

## A New year

As the end of Spring approaches, I hope you are healthy and enjoying the warmer weather. I’m happy to report that the Mobile team, led by Warren Nicholson held an very successful SoutheastCon 2022. It was a delight to see so many of you face-to-face again, and we couldn’t be happier about the number of students who joined us for the various competitions. I thank the SoutheastCon 2022 team for their hard work, and I know that the SoutheastCon 2023 team is hard at work preparing for our meeting in Orlando. I hope to see you there.



*Theresa Brunasso,  
Director, Region 3*

IEEE travel has resumed, and I’m heading to Bellevue Washington for the Board Series meetings at the end of June. It will be our first face-to-face board meetings in over two years, and we are happy to meet in person again. On June 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 PM EDT, there will be an IEEE President-Elect Candidates Forum, moderated by President Ray Liu. He will engage with the four candidates, Thomas Coughlin, Kazuhiro Kosuge, Kathleen Kramer, and Maike Luiken, with questions proposed by members on issues important to IEEE. I encourage you to [register](#) and watch the Forum.

I’ve been happy to see that many Sections have been approved to start new chapters, student branches, and affinity groups. I encourage you to start the [petition](#) process if you’d like to see a new group in your Section.

Stay healthy, and as always, thanks for all you do for IEEE.

Respectfully submitted,  
Theresa Brunasso  
IEEE R3 Director0

### Inside this issue

Past Director Update ...	2
Region 3 Awards and Recognition Update	2
Western NC Section	9
Engineers Week Banquet (FWCS)	9
Florida West Coast Section—Robofest	10
Charlotte NC—Young Professionals	11
Coastal South Carolina Section	12
Collaborating Across Land Sea	13
MOVE	15
Face to Face Again in Region 3 / Area 3	16
IEEE WiE in East Tennessee	17
<u>IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee</u>	18
IEEE MGA	19

## *Past Director Update ... N&A Report*

**Jill Gostin** [[jgostin@ieee.org](mailto:jgostin@ieee.org)]  
IEEE R3 Past Director, Nominations & Appointments Chair

It was so great to be able to attend the in-person IEEE Region 3 SoutheastCon 2022 in Mobile, AL, after two years of virtual/hybrid versions of the conference in 2020 and 2021. Thank you to all the volunteers for their time and effort in putting on a great conference! It was especially nice to see old friends again, and to make new friends. I was pleased to be able to give presentations on IEEE and MGA, on how to become involved in different areas across IEEE, and on the Region 3 Nominations and Appointments process.

In addition to my role as the Past Director, I am serving as the Chair of the Region 3 Nominations and Appointments (N&A) Committee. The N&A Committee is beginning the process of reviewing potential candidates for the Director-Elect 2024-2025 election slate. Yes, this process starts early! I do want to thank all of those that submitted their names for this role; their willingness to be considered for such an important role speaks volumes on their commitment to IEEE and especially to our Region members.

## *Region 3 Awards and Recognitions Update*

**Nelson Lourenco**, [nelson.lourenco@ieee.org](mailto:nelson.lourenco@ieee.org)  
Chair, IEEE R3 Awards and Recognition

Region 3 held its annual Awards Ceremony on April 2, in conjunction with SoutheastCon's Software and Hardware Competitions. It was a great night and we are looking forward to hosting our next awards ceremony at SoutheastCon 2023 in Orlando, FL. Please see the following pages for the 2022 Region 3 award winners, MOVE volunteers, and Region 3 winners of IEEE institute-level awards.

Upcoming IEEE Award Deadlines:

- IEEE Recognitions and Medals: deadlines are 15 June 2022 <http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/index.html>.
- Standards Association Board Awards: deadlines are 31 July 2022 [https://](https://standards.ieee.org/about/awards/)

[standards.ieee.org/about/awards/](https://standards.ieee.org/about/awards/)

- IEEE USA Awards: deadlines are 15 September 2022 <https://ieeeusa.org/volunteers/awards-recognition/>
- MGA Awards: deadlines are 15 October 2022 <https://mga.ieee.org/awards/mga-awards-and-recognition-program>
- 2023 Region 3 Awards: deadline 1 December 2022 (OpenWater URL coming in July 2022)

## PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

*Joseph M. Biedenbach Outstanding Engineering Educator Award*

### Hala ElAarag

"For outstanding student mentorship and contributions to education in the field of cybersecurity"

Dr. Hala ElAarag is a professor of



computer science at Stetson University, Deland, Florida. She is a senior member of ACM and IEEE and former president of the Consortium of Computing Sciences in Colleges. Her research interests include computer networks, machine learning, virtual reality, modeling and simulation and

performance evaluation. Dr. ElAarag has over 60 publications in prestigious international journals and conference proceedings, in addition to eleven edited books. She was awarded Stetson University's McEniry Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2021, the IEEE Florida Council's Outstanding Engineering Educator Award in 2020, IEEE Orlando Chapter Outstanding Engineering Educator Award in 2019, and the Faculty Mentoring Award from the Mathematics and Computer Science Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research in 2015. She was co-general chair of Communication and Networking Simulation Symposium 2009 and 2015-2019, served as Vice

President/President Elect of the Consortium of Computing Sciences in Colleges 2014-2016 and President 2016-2018, in addition to her other roles across multiple professional societies.

*Outstanding Engineer Award*

**Vince D. Calhoun**

“For pathfinding contributions in the fields of brain imaging and MRI data analysis”

Dr. Vince Calhoun is founding director of the tri-institutional Center for Translational Research in Neuroimaging and Data Science (TReNDS) where he holds appointments at Georgia State, Georgia Tech and Emory. He is the author of more than 900 full journal articles. His work includes the development of flexible methods to analyze neuroimaging data including blind source separation, deep learning, multimodal fusion and genomics, neuroinformatics tools. Dr. Calhoun is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, The American Association for the Advancement of Science, The American Institute of Biomedical and Medical Engineers, The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, The Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM) and the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine. He currently serves on the IEEE BISP Technical Committee and is also a member of IEEE Data Science Initiative Steering Committee as well as the IEEE Brain Technical Committee.



*Professional Leadership Award*

**Joseph (Jay) Diepenbrock**

“For outstanding professional leadership demonstrated through humanitarian and outreach programs such as MOVE”

Jay Diepenbrock holds a Sc. B. (EE) from Brown University and an MSEE from Syracuse University. After serving as an engineer at IBM, where he worked in a number of development areas including analog, RFIC, and backplane design, Jay joined Lorom America as Senior Vice President of High Speed Engineering where he led their Signal Integrity team. He now works as a signal integrity consultant with SIRF Consultants, LLC.



Mr. Diepenbrock has contributed to a number of industry standards, is a Senior Member of the IEEE, was an IEEE EMC Society Distinguished Lecturer in 2013-2014, and holds 12 patents. In his spare time, he enjoys amateur radio, playing jazz music, making furniture, photography, and volunteer and church work, with particular interest in disaster relief. He was the Technical Editor of the IEEE 370 high frequency test standard, and is a member of the IEEE MOVE vehicle disaster response team and a Red Cross volunteer.

*(Continued on page 4)*

### Outstanding Service Award

#### **Sharlene Brown**

“For exemplary service to IEEE Region 3, engaging members and leading the Senior Member Program to new heights”

Sharlene Brown is a Senior Member of the IEEE Jamaica Section who currently works at the Maritime Authority of Jamaica as the Assistant Accountant, Budget and Management Accounts. Sharlene is a proud



graduate of the IEEE Volunteer Leadership Training (VOLT) 2019 where her Team Project (Team Blue who looked at Centralizing Senior Member Elevation documentation within IEEE) was the number one Team for the 2019 program. Sharlene is the founder and Immediate Past Chair of the IEEE WIE Jamaica Section. She has served as Chair, Membership Development in Jamaica Section 2019 - 2020. Within IEEE Region 3, she has served as the Logistics Chair for the President Forum 2019, Senior Member Elevation Coordinator 2020 – 2021 where her leadership elevated 428 members to senior member and positioned Region 3 as the number one Region of the 10 Regions in IEEE in archiving senior member elevation goals set by IEEE. Sharlene is currently the Member Recruitment & Retention Coordinator for Region 3. Sharlene is the 2022 Region 3 Representative to the IEEE Admissions & Advancement Committee and MGA Member Recruitment & Retentions Recovery Committee.

Sharlene was recently appointed to the IEEE Teller Committee for 2022. She has led the Global Senior Member Elevation Drive for WIE Committee 2019 - Present. In her WIE Senior member drive for 2020, she has assisted over 300 men and women across IEEE with their senior member application. In 2021 she has nominated and elevated 161 Young Professionals within Region 3 and WIE global.

### Outstanding Young Professional Award

#### **Eric Cramer**

“For outstanding service and sustained dedication to furthering the goals of Region 3 Young Professionals”

Eric is a systems engineer at Northrop Grumman and an active member of the IEEE Melbourne Section. He serves as both the Melbourne Section’s Student Educational Activities Chair and Young Professional Chair, where he has led or supported multiple outreach activities including local high school science fairs and resume review and mock interview events for Florida Tech students. He currently serves as Region 3’s Young Professional Coordinator and is active in the IEEE’s Electromagnetic Compatibility Society.



### Upcoming IEEE Award Events and Deadlines:

- **Member and Geographic Activities (MGA) Awards:** 15 October 2022  
<https://mga.ieee.org/awards>
- **IEEE Awards:** Recognitions and Medals deadline 15 June 2022  
<http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/index.html>

Employer Professional Development Award**Dynetics Inc.**

“For its commitment to creating a workforce of lifelong learners and advancing STEM knowledge”

Dynetics, Inc. provides responsive, cost-effective engineering, scientific, and IT solutions to the national security, cybersecurity, space, and critical infrastructure security sectors, offering highly specialized technical services and a range of software and hardware products, including components, subsystems, and complex end-to-end systems.

Region 3 Senior Membership Development Certificates

This year we gave a challenge to our Sections and Members to help increase member engagement. I challenged them to self-nominate more individuals for Senior Member grade, since statistics show that Senior Membership increases longevity and promotes life membership within the IEEE. The Top 3 Individuals who nominated the most members for upgrades are listed below.

First Place:

**Allen Jones (Richmond Section)**

Second Place:

**Austin Albright (East Tennessee Section)**

Third Place:

**John Grant (Florida West Coast Section)**

Exemplary Section Award  
Florida West Coast Section

CHAIR: Michael Mayor

AWARDS & BYLAWS: Richard Beati

VICE CHAIR: Andrew Seely

MEMBERSHIP: Hermann Amaya

SECRETARY: Dr. Chung Seop Jeong

TEACHER IN-SERVICE: Sean Denny

TREASURER: Serge Beauzile

CONFERENCES: Dr. Jim Anderson

PAST CHAIR: Paul Belussi

WEB MASTER: TJ Ross

SIGNAL EDITOR: Michael Mayor

STUDENT BRANCH MENTOR:

Jacob Chacko

**CHAPTERS:**

CS/AESS: Michael Mayor

EMBS: Sylvia Thomas

MTT/AP/ED: Jing Wang

PES/IAS: Robert Demelo

RAS: Sean Denny

SP/COMM: Dr. Michael Ramalho

WIE: Diana Aristizabal

LIFE MEMBER Affinity Group:

Richard Beatie

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: TJ Ross

CONSULTANTS NETWORK:

Hermann Amaya

**USF STUDENT BRANCH ADVISORS:**

Dr. Andrew Hoff

Dr. Chung Seop Jeong

Dr. Srinivas Katkoori

Dr. Jing Wang

**STUDENT BRANCH / CHAPTERS:**

USF Student Branch, Chair:

Noah Hamilton

USF CS Chapter:

Vishalini Laguduva Ramnath

USF MTT Chapter: Enrique Gonzalez

USF PES / IAS: Joe Ghisu

This IEEE Region 3 Newsletter is sent to the members of Region 3. The information herein may be used in section and chapter newsletters. The opinions expressed, as well as the technical accuracy of authors, advertisers, or speakers published in this newsletter are those of the individual authors, advertisers, and speakers. Therefore, no endorsement by the IEEE, its officers, or its members is made or implied.

Editor – William LaBelle  
E-MAIL: [w.labelle@ieee.org](mailto:w.labelle@ieee.org)  
Copyright 2022

## Region 3 Director's Choice Award

### Hasala Dharmawardena

"For exceptional service to Region 3 through expanding the engagement opportunities offered to Young Professionals"

Hasala Dharmawardena is an Electric Power Engineer with a combined eleven years



of experience working in the design, construction, and commissioning of power systems and in the Research and development of transmission and distribution system technology. Hasala specializes in

modeling, simulation, and optimization of power systems. Hasala is an avid energy policy advocate and has contributed to numerous utility rate cases across the globe. He is also a passionate volunteer for IEEE. He currently serves as the Young Professional Representative at the IEEE-USA Board of Directors, Vice-Chair of IEEE Young Professionals, and the Chair of the Power and Energy Society Student Chapters Committee.

### OTHER IEEE AWARDS

#### IEEE William E. Newell Power Electronics Award

### Fang Zheng Peng (FIEEE)

"for the development of cascaded multilevel inverters and high-power converter topologies, and for their advancement in grid-scale applications"

#### IEEE Medal for Environmental and Safety Technologies

### Masato Sagawa and John J. Croat

"For contributions to the development of rare earth-iron-boron permanent magnets for use in high-efficiency motors, generators, and other devices"

#### IEEE-HKN Asad M. Madni Outstanding Technical Achievement and Excellence Award

### Krishnendu Chakrabarty (FIEEE)

"for impactful research contributions in micro-fluidic biochips, technology transfer, and student mentoring"

#### IEEE-HKN Outstanding Young Professional Award

### Vineetha Menon

"for exemplary contributions that uphold the core values of IEEE-HKN: through scholarship in multidisciplinary Big Data applications research, with impactful leadership, mentoring, and empowerment of women and minorities in STEM"

#### IEEE Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award

Alexander Parady University of Central Florida, Orlando Section

### R3 IEEE FELLOWS

Arijit Raychowdhury	Maryam Saeedifard
Bonnie Ferri	Ying Xu
Dongmei Wang	Jeffrey Hesler
F. Levent Degertekin	Gregg Trahey
Ghassan Alregib	Paul Dayton
Li Xiong	Samarjit Chakraborty
Stephan Biller	Subhashish Bhattacharya
Lingling Fan	Ruigang Yang
Gregory Welch	Jun Wang

### STUDENT AWARDS

- T-Shirt Competition
- Website Competition
- Hardware Competition
- Networking Competition
- Ethics Competition
- Software Competition
- Presentation Competition
- Hackathon Competition



## IEEE R3 MOVE RECOGNITION

### *MOVE Contributors*

Abhilash Trehan	David Covert	Jonathan Cartwright	Obinwanne Chukwu
Adrian Reid	David Iams	Josephine Gayle	Patrick Heffernan
AJ Burke	David Macchiarolo	Joshua Smith	Paul Cunningham
Alan M. Brown	David Sewell	Justin Baba	Paul Goodson
Albert Lin	David C. Wright	Karen Panetta	Phillip Olson
Alon Newton	David Ziskind	Karene Forrester	Ralph Russell
Alvin Schultz	Dennis Driscoll	Karyn Connor	Randy Liang
Amit Das	Dennis Peck	Kate Duncan	Ray Williams
Andy Feldman	Dennis Snell	Kathy Hayashi	Rich Allen
Anitra Wilson	Douglas Tabor	Kathy Land	Rich Pratt
Anthony Campbell	Dustin Li	Kwasi Gibson	Richard Austin
Anupama Dhamala	Eileen Davis	Lancelot McCalla	Richard Ford
Avinash Kachhy	Elec Gottfried	Lee Mari	Roblyn Chisholm
Bill Craig	Elizabeth Adams	Lee Welch	Rodney Radford
Bill Guzek	Eric Sheier	Logan Herrera	Scott Doniger
Bill Lovegrove	Eugene Pentecost	Loretta Arellano	Sharon Cowan
Bob Melville	Frank Giannattasio	Luis A. Tatis Morales	Shawn Stephens
Bob Frohman	Gora Datta	Lyn Rose Gooden	Sonia Doctor Small
Brian Greene	Grayson Randall	Marc Apter	Stephen Kirby
Brian Page	Gregg Vaughn	Mark Kethlaor	Steve Driessen
Butch Shadwell	Hassaan Idrees	Mark Smith	Steve Kemp
Cecil Redway	Hope Munroe	Mark Snyder	Steven Weldon
Cedric Walker	Ira Arman	Mark Torres	Ted Hissey
Celestine Dalrymple-Collins	Jack Frazier	Marlene Russell	Theo Gordon
Chad Edwards	Jack Goldberg	Marty Schulman	Thomas Bellarmine
Charles Moorwood	James Conrad	Mary Ellen Randall	Thomas Clemons
Chris Brantley	James Gardner	Melinda Brown	Thomas Coughlin
Chris Farrell	James Thompson	Melody Richardson	Thomas Kimball
Chris Lamb	Jay Diepenbrock	Melvin Hayes	Tim Forrest
Christopher Sutton	Jeff McWhirt	Michael Cardinale	Tim Lee
Chuck Warner	Jessy Ayala	Michael Grossman	Tim Troske
Coleen Lawson-Tatler	Jill Gostin	Michael Morey	Todd McBride
Corey Ruth	Joe Decuir	Michael Chavis	Tony Campbell
Daniel Czuhai	Joe Lillie	Mike Wilson	Walt Burns
Daniel Fuccella	John Balsam	Nathaniel Ortiz	William Ratcliff
Daniel Merkl	John Brickell	Neil Barrett	Yiming Xie
Dave Green	John McGuinness	Nicholas Dijkhoffz	
Dave Sundstrom	John Prigmore	Nick Massetti	
David Bartlett	John Yaglenski	Niten Ved	

## SOUTHEASTCON 2022 RECOGNITION



Region 3 James Beall SoutheastCon Recognition

### Warren Nicholson

"In grateful appreciation of his dedication and service as General Chair of SoutheastCon 2022"

President and CEO, Warren Nicholson started Nfina Technologies in 2012, armed with decades of technology experience creating rugged, high reliability networking equipment and a desire to bring that quality and performance to the mainstream data storage market.

Prior to Nfina, Warren was Founder, President, and CEO of N-Tron Corp. in Mobile, Alabama. N-Tron designs, manufactures, and markets high performance industrial network switches. From it's founding as a startup in 1999, N-Tron grew to become a recognized leader in Industrial Ethernet products. N-Tron Corp. was sold to Spectris LLC (a Publicly traded FTSE company) in 2010. Before establishing N-Tron, Warren was CTO for RTP Corporation in Florida, an international company that designs, manufacturers and markets data acquisition and control systems for industrial and nuclear power plants.

Mr. Nicholson holds a MSEE degree from The University of South Alabama. He currently serves on the University of South Alabama Industrial Advisory Board, and recently received the Distinguished Alumni Award from that institution.

### Mohamed El-Sharkh

"In grateful appreciation of his dedication and service as General Co-Chair of SoutheastCon 2022"

Mohamed El-Sharkh received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Ain Shams University, Cairo,

Egypt in 1987, and 1990 all in electrical engineering. He received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa in 2002. Now he is an associate professor at the University of South Alabama and serves as a chair for IEEE Mobile section.

### SoutheastCon 2022 Conference Committee and Volunteers

TECHNICAL PROGRAM CHAIR:  
Edmund Spencer

TREASURER: Saeed Latif

SECRETARY & STUDENT PROGRAM CHAIR:  
Samuel Russ

LOGISTICS CHAIR: Thomas Thomas

SPONSORS CHAIR: John Steadman

WEBMASTER: Eric Ackerman

VOLUNTEERS & TUTORIALS CHAIR:  
Rodney Johnson

TECHNICAL PROGRAM SUB-COMMITTEE  
Clive Woods Daniela Touma  
Aurangzeb Khan Todd Andel  
Jinhui Wang Ryan Benton  
Na Gong Mohammed Haider  
Mohamed Shaban Arup Kumar Ghosh  
Ravi Gollapalli

### REGION 3 & VOLUNTEERS

Theresa Brunasso  
Nelson Lourenco  
Jill Gostin  
Stephen Hopkins  
Eric Grigorian  
Lee Stogner  
Eric Ackerman  
Pat Donahue  
Bailey Heyman  
Trenton Stafford  
Regina Hannemann  
Samuel Hudson  
Hulya Kirkici  
Elena Todorovska  
Sonja Dillard  
Tamseel Syed  
Joe Juisai  
Jim Conrad  
Alessio Medda

**Special thanks to Charles Lord!!**

Remember to join us for  
[SoutheastCon 2023](#).



## Western NC Section

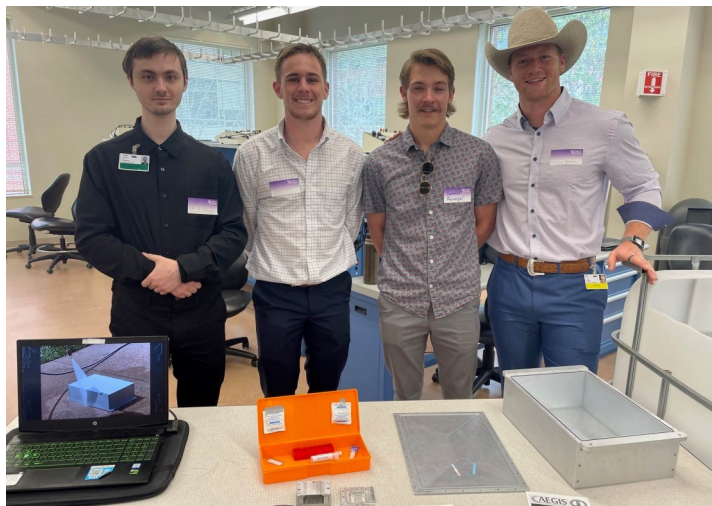
Arlissa Vaughn [[avaughn@aegispower.com](mailto:avaughn@aegispower.com)]  
WNCS V-Chair

Western Carolina University's College of Engineering and Technology celebrated their senior capstone projects in a symposium showcasing the various sponsored projects in fields including electrical, mechanical, computer, and manufacturing engineering programs. Student teams worked throughout the year on real-world projects sponsored by industry and government institutions to culminate in a completed prototype with documentation. In speaking with the students, they explained how the project is very multi-disciplinary and requires significant teamwork, much like the workforce environments many of them will go into post-graduation. Following the symposium, the [IEEE WNC Section](#) sponsored and hosted a pizza party gathering to celebrate the [WCU IEEE Student Branch's](#) graduating seniors. During this gathering, students had opportunity to discuss professional IEEE membership, career goals, and gain industry insight from professional IEEE members.

Figure 1: Student team who developed a sensor and microcontroller system to log data including runtime, temperature, vibration, and g-force impact details for use in a hardware application:



Figure 2: Student team who developed a watertight enclosure for electronics used in harsh environments, along with a test system to determine humidity inside the enclosure.



## Engineers Week Banquet (FWCS)

Sean Deeny, [[venner20@aol.com](mailto:venner20@aol.com)]

IEEE STEM Ambassador,  
IEEE FWCS RAS Chair

At the 2022 Tampa Bay Engineers Week Banquet the Florida West Coast Section honored Hillsborough County teachers with Lignell Teacher awards, students from six Engineering Organizations with Student Engineers Awards, and an IEEE Student.

In addition a tribute to Jim Howard (1950-2020) was showcased.

**Adam Ritzenhaller** is a chemistry and engineering teacher at Alonzo High School in western Hillsborough County. Adam earned his BS in environmental science with minors in chemistry and engineering in 2001 from Wesley College in Dover, Delaware. After working in several science related positions



Adam began his teaching career in 2004 at Mountain Ridge High School in Phoenix, Arizona. After finding his love of teaching he earned his M.Ed in Administration in 2006 and continued his teaching career at

Leesburg High School in Leesburg, FL as well as Chamberlain High School in Tampa before joining the science team at Alonso in 2013. Adam's teaching philosophy is simple: to get students excited about science and engineering and to encourage and guide them to pursue these fields as careers.

**Danielle G. Smith** is a Tampa native and former student of Hillsborough County Public Schools. Prior to serving as an educator, she studied Biology and Chemistry at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, FL. There she found her passion for educating young scientists through tutoring and mentoring students in various volunteer organizations catering to underserved youth. Initially, teaching was a role purposed to fill the gap between her college education and the pursuit of a career in medicine, however she quickly realized that education is where she could exercise her passion best. Working with the students at C. Leon King High school for the past two years has



been one of Ms. Smith's greatest pleasures in life. Driven by seeing her students succeed, she hopes to continue inspiring young minds for many years to come.

SCATC does provide [virtual tours](#) of their facility for those interested outside the Charleston area.

### *Florida West Coast Section - Robofest*

**Sean Denny, [venner20@aol.com](mailto:venner20@aol.com)**  
IEEE STEM Ambassador,  
IEEE FWCS RAS Chair

### **Robofest**

The RAS Chapter of the Florida West Coast participated in the 2022 Robofest Qualifying event April 9, 2022. The RAS Chapter helped RAS member and Robofest leader Emma Alaba promote, take photos and video, and provided guest judges for the event.

Robofest, hosted by Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, MI, is a festival of competitions and events with autonomous robots that encourages students to have fun while learning principles of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and Computer Science. Students design, construct, and program the robots. Any robotics kits are allowed in the construction of robots. Robots can be



programmed with any programming language. Robofest programs support Computer Science for All.

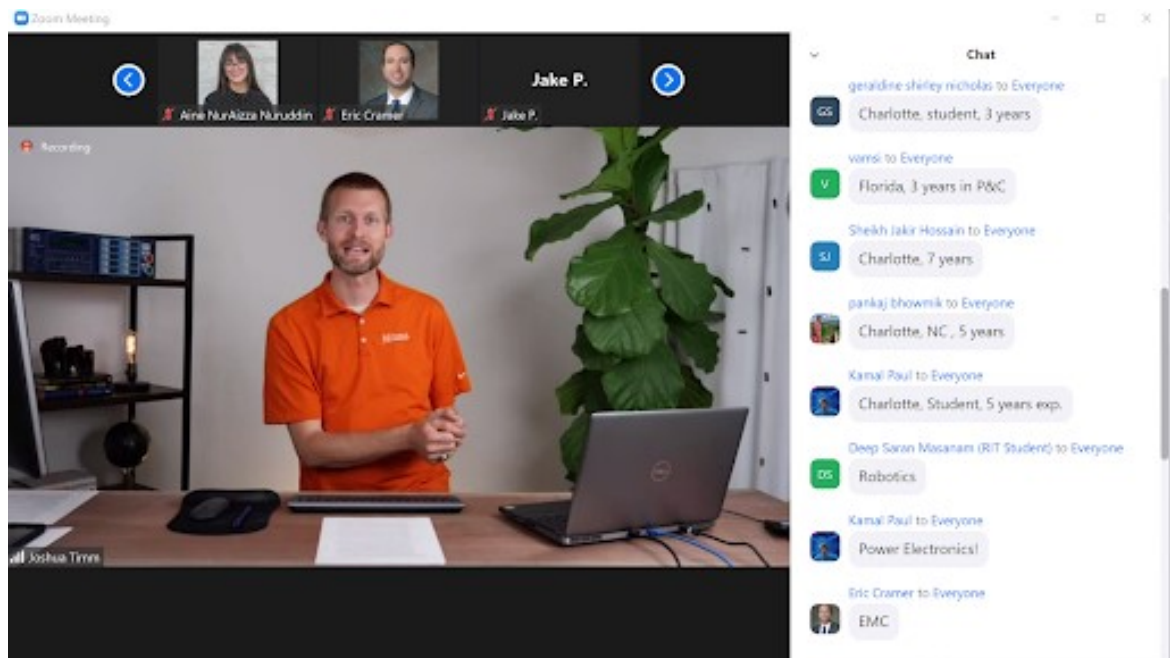
Teams compete in the junior (grades 5-8), senior (grades 9-12), and college divisions. For RoboParade, Junior includes 4th grade. Student teams, composed of up to five members each, can participate in a variety of events: Exhibition, RoboParade, Game & K-3rd Coloring Competition.

Robofest offers a wide variety of competition categories: Game, the main event is where math skills are put to the test; a new mission each year where students must solve unknown tasks without adult help within a specific time frame. In addition to the main game, others participate in various Robotic Exhibits: Exhibition, Each team has complete freedom to show off any creative computer programmed robotics R&D project; RoboArts, robotic Music, Fashion & Dance, Robotic Painting, and Interactive Kinetic Sculptures; RoboMed, high School and College teams create intelligent and interactive medical robotics/device projects; RoboParade, a parade of autonomous robotic floats; BottleSumo, the first robot to push intentionally a bottle off the table OR be the last robot remaining on the table; and etc.

*Charlotte, NC—Young Professionals*  
**Binesh Kumar, [venner20@aol.com]**  
 YP Chair

The Charlotte Young professional affinity group led by Binesh Kumar hosted a 'Mentorship & Young Professional Development' virtual event on Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup>. About 80 participants listened to Joshua Timm who is an IEEE senior member with more than 15 years of experience in the electric power industry as a protection & control engineer. Joshua interacted and engaged well with the audience, having everyone turn their camera on for an in depth discussion on how to invest in yourself for your career growth and success. Although this event did not take place in person, everyone felt like they were interacting with Joshua in the same room, participating well and asking great questions. This event was recorded and will be soon uploaded to R3 youtube channels. The Charlotte YPs are planning for several in person events and industrial site tours this year.

The R3 Young Professionals ex-com plans to encourage the regional affinity groups to hold a minimum of one in person social event and one professional development event such as a lab/company tour, resume reviews with their student chapters, mock interviews, or a variety of virtual mentorship events. Stay tuned for more reports on what the young professionals are up to in 2022.



*Coastal South Carolina Section*  
**Derick Pack, [[derik.pack@gmail.com](mailto:derik.pack@gmail.com)]**  
 Coastal SC Section

On April 22, 2022, several members of the Life Member affinity group took a tour of Trident Technical College's South Carolina Aeronautical Training Center (SCATC). SCATC is home to a range of programs including:

- Aircraft Assembly Technology
- Avionics Maintenance Technology
- Composite Manufacturing Technology (new program)
- Engineering
- Advanced Automation: Mechatronics
- Basic Machining and CNC Fundamentals

Tour members got to tour labs filled with 3D printers and walk through a hangar with a flight instrument simulator and several aircraft used to teach maintenance technologies. They also met with Electronics Engineering faculty to discuss robotics.



*Collaborating Across Land and Sea*  
**Melvin Buttuk**, IEEE University of Nairobi  
 Student Branch, and **Grace Perkins**, IEEE  
 University of South Florida Student Branch.

In April 2022, the IEEE Student Branch from University of South Florida (USF) from Tampa, Florida and from the University of Nairobi (UoN) from Nairobi, Kenya embarked on the next leg of a journey to bring together student branches in fruitful collaboration to empower and enlighten all those involved, bridging the physical distance between them.

In September 2021, USF from the Florida West Coast Section in Region 3 held an event titled "Artificial Intelligence and The Law" in collaboration with the University of Cape Town (UCT) Student Branch, Region 8 South Africa Section. This sparked an idea: to embrace the growth of inter-university cooperation in bringing up pertinent topics and engaging in talks, all while leveraging the technology of our time to ensure that such a joint effort is successful, even when continents apart.

The outcome of this idea manifested in the form of an online webinar organized and run by USF and UoN Student Branches, a virtual speaker event to merge the students in Tampa and Nairobi and beyond, essentially akin to having them together in one lecture hall, receiving one message and sharing a common experience. In decades past, one could dare to dream that such an event could be undertaken but now it is as easy as merely sending a link, and with that connections can span the globe.

The planning of such an event came with its own boons as well. Beginning in 2022, members from both student branch committees met remotely to brainstorm and exchange ideas and views. Andrew Seely, the Vice-Chair of the Florida West Coast Section spearheaded the interactions and continued to be a guiding hand throughout the whole process. His advice was crucial as it would form the ethos of this and future collaborations: to never miss the opportunity to collaborate with other IEEE Student branches, to always see the current action as a step

towards an even greater one and to ask the question, "Which university is next?"

The collaboration also brought about engagements between the Florida West Coast Section and the Kenya Section, a further example of the unifying effect of IEEE. Thus with collaborations taking place at the student branch level and discussion and dialogue at the section level, even greater opportunities and heights can be reached.

The culmination of months of planning was the aforementioned virtual speaker event entitled "Engineering Careers and The Power of IEEE" held on Friday, April 22, 2022. The student branches were honored to have Ms. Susan Kathy Land, IEEE Past-President, as the presenter for the day. The event was co-hosted by Grace Perkins, IEEE USF Chair, and Mukami Njeru, IEEE UoN Chair, a duo who are exemplars of IEEE Women in Engineering, leading the charge in their leadership positions and inspiring more students with their example.

Ms. Land spoke of how her journey with IEEE began, and of the many benefits the experience of volunteer work and a long relationship with IEEE has yielded. It is important to understand the technology of today, as it is IEEE's mission to advance technology for the benefit of humanity. Therefore, it is through collaborative networks that said goal can be achieved. To this point, Ms. Land offered the example of the collaboration between USF and UoN, as it is by virtue of being IEEE Student Branches that such a union could come about.

Additionally, one is never too old nor too young to engage IEEE in their personal or professional courses and it is not just for engineers. IEEE is open to many other fields, from STEM, to Law, to Government related fields, and the list goes on. This is all in line with the mission of IEEE Members, to strive to create a culture of inquiry and interest, and bring up conversation on concerned fields. As such an environment grows true development will come about, meaning that the more areas people are making significant change in, then the more lives can be



touched.

As the world gets more and more diverse, the need for standards becomes more apparent. It is this need that spurred Ms. Land to start off her IEEE journey in the development of software systems engineering standards. She mentioned that such steps have truly made her career fruitful, and advised the students to volunteer in the field of their choice, because IEEE seeks collaboration and participation. It is in volunteering that a bevy of opportunities can be found. Leadership skills that are highly sought after in the professional world can be honed by taking part in IEEE activities.

Moreover, with IEEE being the largest professional organization, such a network cannot be understated. It is possible to

find mentors who can act as guides who light the way towards professional growth, further emphasizing the role of IEEE in education: showcasing the potential to younger people for a greater impact. To offer a place for the youth is an important aspect, for it is the youth who are the future of IEEE, and as Ms. Land aptly told the students, "You are the key drivers of tomorrow's innovation."

By building on the enthusiasm and efforts of students, the work of IEEE across the globe will continue to shine. From writing papers and journals or participating in making standards to playing a part in workshops and conferences builds on the soft skills and essential leadership skills expected of a young professional who seeks to improve global conditions. Following from this, it is through IEEE that individuals can come into their own, and

be the leaders who people will follow.

See the video of this event at <https://ieeetv.ieee.org/video/engineering-careers-the-power-of-ieee>

## MOVE

Loretta Arellano [[lorettaja.la@gmail.com](mailto:lorettaja.la@gmail.com)]

"MOVE Across America" was a trip across the United States to deliver a disaster relief vehicle to the MOVE West team. The trip covered 3,200 miles over 17 days.

Last year the MOVE program was donated a disaster relief vehicle from Cisco Systems. After outfitting the truck for MOVE operations, both MOVE disaster relief trucks were deployed to hurricane Ida in Louisiana and to Mayfield Kentucky after the devastating tornado there. After two successful deployments, MOVE decided to execute its strategy to have a disaster relief truck on each coast.

Region 6 (US west coast) developed plans for West coast operations called MOVE West. With operations plans, budgets, team building, and fundraising efforts in place, it was determined that MOVE should arrive in San Diego California in time for the IEEE Vision, Innovation, and Challenges Summit (IEEE VIC Summit) & Honors Ceremony. This worked well with our presence at the PES T&D conference in New Orleans Louisiana. We worked with IEEE Sections along the route to generate stops where the MOVE truck could be displayed.

After a lot of planning, David Sewell and Grayson Randall left Raleigh North Carolina on April 22, stopping in Birmingham Alabama for an open session there.



We moved on to New Orleans for 3 days on the exhibit floor of PES T&D conference

where there were 10,500 attendees.



After T&D we showed the truck at the University of Texas - Dallas, University of Oklahoma- Norman, and University of New Mexico- Albuquerque. From there we displayed the MOVE truck to the Section in Phoenix Arizona.

The weather on this trip was uneventful except near Amarillo Texas. We encountered 2 very large thunderstorms in our path with apple size hail. We worked with our weather team who were watching this develop. They helped position us so we did not encounter any hail. We experienced strong winds and heavy rain but the efforts of the support teams kept us safe.



While in Phoenix, we met with the NBC affiliate who are developing a 1 hour special on the monsoon season. They spent almost 2 hours with us taking lots of film to be included in their show scheduled to air on June 25th. Watch the MOVE media channels for updates on how to see the show.

After Phoenix we delivered the MOVE truck to San Diego. We displayed the truck at the Evening of Innovation at Qualcomm the evening before the awards banquet. Many people visited including international awardees, IEEE staff, students, and other event attendees. The next day we

displayed the truck at the VIC conference where we also had great feedback on the program.

We followed up with a 2 day class for the MOVE West team. We will be going back in early June for another full week class to continue to develop their skills with the truck.

After the epic 3,200 mile trip, the original white MOVE truck will be stationed in San Diego while the black MOVE truck will be in Raleigh NC. This allows us coverage over most of the US. We look forward to learning about the different missions we will encounter in the west. Watch our MOVE media for deployment updates.

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ieeeusamove>.

MOVE is supported by donations and with a second truck, your donations are needed more than ever. Please consider a donation today to assist your fellow IEEE Volunteers as they respond to those in need. Visit [ieeefoundation.org/move](http://ieeefoundation.org/move)

Join the MOVEment today!!!

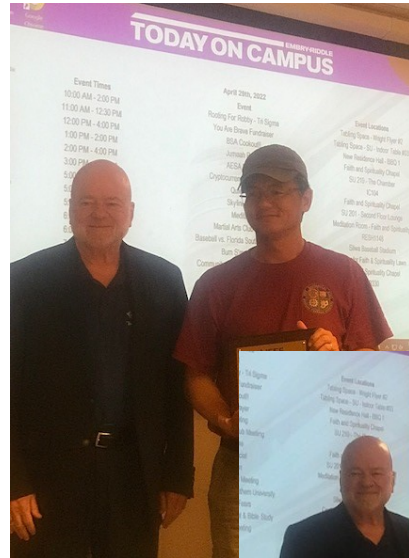
*Face to Face Again in  
Region 3 / Area 3*  
Raul Ortega [[rortega@ieee.org](mailto:rortega@ieee.org)]  
Chair, IEEE Area 3

Region3/Area3 has several goals for a great IEEE year. One of these goals is to bring all Area3 Sections, in Central and Southern Florida, closer in order to share in common efforts and maximize the benefits of IEEE meetings, functions and training. Key to this goal is creating a team spirit that can only be achieved by having personal, face to face interaction amongst all Area3 Sections. In order to bring this familiarity and team spirit into Area3 sections, chapters and groups, the plan is to encourage and plan travel to section locations in Area3 on occasions when a section is having a key meeting or other IEEE related function.

Case in point is the recent trip by Melbourne Section personnel, secretary: Mary Flavin, section support team member: Dee Ortega and section chair: Raul Ortega, traveled to Daytona Florida to attend and participate in the Daytona Section April

2022 Meeting. On the agenda were the Section's Special Awards winners from the Tomoka Science and Engineering school

Fair and student presentations and demonstrations from Bethune-Cookman University and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University robotics teams.





In addition to the presentations and commentary, a delicious Italian Buffet dinner was enjoyed by about 45 IEEE, university and elementary school students and family personnel.

*IEEE WiE East Tennessee*  
Olivera Kotevska [kolivera@ieee.org]

"The initiative of creating the WiE East TN group started around the fall of 2021 with the great help of Evelyn Licon. But, the desire to create this group started two years ago when I moved to East TN, and I noticed there was no group like this within a 100-mile radius. I could not find the proper support at that time, so I was waiting for the right person to show up. So when Evelyn contacted me with the possibility of creating the group, I was over the moon. The application process went smoothly, and we got 26 signatures of support which is like 95% of our membership. That was amazing and showed that the members were interested in having this group locally. We had our first meeting on March 4 on purpose to match the women's month. We had 15 attendees, and the meeting started with all of us introducing each other and getting to know our professional backgrounds. We had the election of the new officers, shared info about the upcoming IEEE WiE conferences, and had an open discussion with the members. Also, one of the first

things I wanted to do was get input from the members on their expectations because they are the most important. So, we sent a survey link during the meeting and received responses that they are primarily interested in webinars and networking. We started with a webinar series, one per month, and the first one was in April. Currently, we are almost booked until the end of the year. Also, I want the webinars to be a platform where members can feel comfortable presenting their work and, if needed, get feedback. We are in the process of creating the first in-person networking event, so hopefully, that will happen during the summer. My goal for the first year is for the members to have a chance to meet in person. We are a small group but a nice mixture of students, earlier and mid-career, and established scientists from academia and national laboratories. So I think there is an opportunity for mentoring and mentees. Another ongoing effort is to connect with other local women in engineering or women in tech groups and have joint events. We have many professionals from the private sector in this area, so it would be good to expand as a group. I see this as especially important for increasing our networking and impact. This is a stretch goal for us, but I have already made some connections. I am looking forward to the exciting period and having a great time."



---

## *IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee – 2022*

Director <i>Theresa Brunasso</i>	Director Elect <i>Eric Gergorian</i>	Secretary <i>Pat Donohoe</i>
Treasurer <i>Joe Pennisi</i>	Past Director <i>Jill Gostin</i>	
Area 1 North Carolina & Virginia <i>James Imanian</i>	Area 2 Georgia & South Carolina <i>Wyman Williams</i>	Area 3 Florida <i>Raul Ortega</i>
Area 4 Kentucky & Tennessee <i>Paul Kuban</i>	Area 5 Mississippi, Alabama, & Jamaica <i>Patrick Kung</i>	

### **Awards and Recognition Committee**

Awards and Recognition Chair <i>Nelson Lourenco</i>	Vice Chair <i>Devone Gale</i>	Prof Activities Representative <i>David Fillion</i>
Section Representative 1 <i>James Imanian</i>	Section Representative 2 <i>Wyman Williams</i>	Section Representative 3 <i>Raul Ortega</i>
Section Representative 4 <i>Paul Kuban</i>	Section Representative 5 <i>Patrick Kung</i>	

### **Members Communications**

Members Communications Chair <i>Sonya Dillard</i>	Member Recruitment & Retention Coord. <i>Sharlene Brown</i>	Newsletter Editor <i>Bill LaBelle</i>
Webmaster <i>Lucas Sweet</i> <i>Stephen Hopkins (Assistant)</i>	Information Coordinator <i>Ebonee Walker</i>	<i>Evelyn Licon (Assistant)</i> Fellows Coordinator <i>Hulya Kirkici</i>

### **Conference Committee**

Conference Committee Chair <i>Eric Ackerman</i>	Conference Committee Vice Chair <i>Wyman Williams</i>	Director Elect <i>Eric Gregorian</i>
Past Conference Committee Chair	Regional Student Activities Chair <i>Bailey Ulferts Heyman</i>	Conference Operations Specialist <i>Charles Lord</i>
Treasurer <i>Joe Pennisi</i>	Former Region Director <i>Jim Conrad</i>	SoutheastCon2022, Mobile <i>Hulya Kirkici</i>
SoutheastCon2023, Orlando <i>Joe Juisai</i>	SoutheastCon2024, Atlanta <i>Alessio Medda</i>	

### **Financial (FINCOM)**

Finance (FINCOM) Committee Chair <i>Joe Pennisi</i>	Director <i>Theresa Brunasso</i>	Director Elect <i>Eric Gregorian</i>
Conference Committee Chair <i>Eric Ackerman</i>	Past Director <i>Jill Gostin</i>	<i>Pat Donohoe</i>

### **Section Support**

Section Support Chair <i>Kristin Bing</i>	Life Member Coordinator <i>Claud Pitts</i>	Young Professional Coordinator <i>Eric Cramer</i>
Women in Engineering Coordinator <i>Evelyn Licon</i>	Senior Member Elevation Coordinator <i>Andrew Seely</i>	Section Operations Specialist <i>Charles Lord</i>
Section Operations Specialist <i>Mark Torres</i>	Project Coordinator <i>Allen Jones</i>	Technical Activities Coordinator <i>Tamseel Syed</i>

---

## *IEEE Region 3 Executive Committee – 2022 (cont.)*

### **Nominations and Appointments**

Nominations & Appointments Chair  
*Jill Gostin*

Young Professional  
*Eric Cramer*

Past-Director  
*Jim Conrad*

Past-Director  
*Gregg Vaughn*

### **Operational Audit**

Operational Audit Chair  
*Bill Ratcliffe*

Committee Member 3  
*Steve Kemp*

Committee Member 1  
*William Harrison*

Committee Member 4  
*Don Wright*

Committee Member 2  
*Damith Wickramamayake*

### **Professional Activities**

Professional Activities Chair  
*David Fillion*

Past PAC Chair  
*Jacquelyn Cunningham*

Employment & Career Services (USA  
-ECSC)  
*Nelson Lourenco*

Government Activities Coordinator  
(USA-GAC)  
*Lee Stogner*

Student Professional Awareness  
Coordinator  
*Bailey Ulferts Heyman*

### **Strategic Operations & Support**

Strategic Operations & Support Chair  
*Dave Green*

Director (non-voting)  
*Theresa Brunasso*

Treasurer (non-voting)  
*Joe Pennisi*

SOSC Vice-Chair  
*Jill Gostin*

Director-Elect (non-voting)  
*Eric Gregorian*

OAC Chair  
*Bill Ratcliff*

Secretary (non-voting)  
*Pat Donohoe*

### **Student Activities**

Student Activities Chair  
*Bailey Ulferts Heyman*

Student Representative  
*Jiayi Lin*

Student Activities Vice-Chair  
*Chase Battaglio*

Student Activities Liaison to PAC  
*Bailey Ulferts Heyman*

Student Activities Past-Chair  
*Pat Donohoe*

### **Other**

Humanitarian Activities Committee  
*Tamseel Syed*

Education Activities Rep to EAB  
*Damith Wickramamayake*

Regional Vitality Coordinator  
*Eric Gregorian*

Strategic Planning Rep  
*Dave Green*

Admission and Advancement  
Committee  
*Sharlene Brown*

A&A Rep  
*Maxine Cohen*

# CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

## IEEE MGA 2022 VoLT Program Volunteer Leadership Training

The **VoLT Program** prepares IEEE volunteers for leadership roles in their local units and beyond. Our graduates are taking positions of leadership across all levels of the organization.

Make a difference in the IEEE. Follow the steps below to learn how to



**REVIEW THE CHECKLIST**  
and complete the prerequisite courses  
available on the CLE



**APPLY FOR CONSIDERATION**  
Application duration:  
1 June 2022 - 30 July 2022

Visit us at [iee.elearning.org/CLE](https://iee.elearning.org/CLE) for more information  
and complete application requirements

Questions? Contact us at [volt@ieee.org](mailto:volt@ieee.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/ieee.volt>

[https://www.instagram.com/ieee\\_volt/](https://www.instagram.com/ieee_volt/)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ieee-center-for-leadership-excellence/>



**THE IEEE APP:**  
Your mobile  
gateway to  
IEEE.



**Download now  
and get IEEE at  
your fingertips.**



To contact any of the above members, please go to this website  
<https://r3.ieee.org/about/#1587483863309-20f649fe-ca1d>

Other Region 3 Address:

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

Facebook: Search for "IEEE Region 3"

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/r3ieee>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/r3ieee/?hl=en>