Minutes for IEEE Canada – TISP Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday June 19th, 2013
Time: 8:00- 9:00 PM

Teleconference call #:
1-866-512-0904
access code: 8514573#

1.   **Roll Call of Participants**
   See annotated table attached at the end.

2.   **Adoption of Agenda**
   Accepted. Added 1 item ("5a") on "Approval of Lesson Plans " for Tryengineering (Dave Hepburn)

3.   **Review of Minutes from May 15th telecom call**
   Approved.
   Corrections received from **Witold** and Janet will be added by **Rossitza** later to the Minutes.
   All minutes will be stored on the Website (Anader to send all copies to Davy).

4.   **Report on Vancouver & Seattle Workshop 2013**
   Zahra has collected the names of all volunteers. Steven McClain will double-check and correct the master spreadsheet (Anader to send to Steven). For example, **Tanaya Gua**, Chair of WIE in Vancouver section is a newly identified Volunteer. Zahra will use this updated master list for follow-up on Vancouver TISP activity planning.
   Last count was 48 registered and 44 showed up at the workshop.
   Anader will distribute the web link to the site for pictures.
   <u>Please send survey forms directly back to Lynn Bowlby. (attached)</u>

5.   **Status on 6th issue of TISP Canada's Newsletter (Courier #6)**
   Dirk: Issue #6 final draft has been sent for review and will be finalized before June 30.
   Newsletters were distributed at IEEE Executive workshop and were well received. Also, the IEEE R7 executive candidates were very complimentary of the whole program (Anader)
   Issue #7 is underway, likely for 3Q or 4Q this year. **Tanaya** has already submitted an article.
   Mark Isaak is looking into a "Teacher's Corner" piece about activities in B.C, such as 3D drafting and printing project between IBM and Abbotsford school district.
   Dirk is proposing an article highlighting our proposed "Master" presentation and how existing champions have reached out to nearby or inactive TISP sections using this presentation.

5a. **Approval of Lesson Plans**
   Anader to review status of Dave Hepburn's submitted plans with **Liz Kurzawa and Yvonne Pelham**.

6.   **Progress on Website(s) + Distribution links.**
   Davy reports all old databases have been migrated.

Still need the connection to the "ieee.ca" website. Since Geoffrey is now the "ieee.ca" webmaster and is in Montreal with **Davy,** the hope is this transition can be arranged through a meeting between them soon.

7. **Any Issues with STAO 2013 Conference in Ontario and other Sections**

Pat, Dave, Murray and other volunteers will present 1 workshop on "Working with Binary" at lunch-time Saturday, Nov. 16 (apparently this is a very popular time-slot). We will run our outreach booth as in previous years, but try and make it as exciting as possible with draws, ongoing demonstrations etc.

8. **Plans for National Engineering Month/Day with TISP Canada.**

Did not cover this agenda item.

9. **Review of TISP activities of all sections:**
   o **Sections reporting and plans for the rest of the year activities**
     o **Newfoundland**
       Brian has a new volunteer Amy Hsiao (Awards and Scholarships Chair).
     o **Canadian Atlantic**
       Dirk will make a TISP presentation to the LM Tour lunch in August.
     o **New Brunswick**
       No report provided.
     o **Montreal**
       No report provided.
     o **Ottawa**
       Janet reported last time that **Wolf Lunscher** attended the TISP training workshop in Vancouver 2013. He will take over the TISP activities and Chair for Ottawa Section next year.
     o **Toronto**
       Pat will make a TISP presentation to LM tour dinner in August.
       Late news: Pat will run a workshop session "Binary for the Younger Set", and "Binary Searching and Sorting" at the UofT Math Department outreach event for 25 teachers on August 7.
       Dennis sent an email that he was a judge at a Robotics competition: Dennis Cecic is also making plans to work with Pam Brittain there who runs the Math Kangaroo competition. He emailed on Aug 2 that he got a chance to speak with Pamela Brittain (UofT Dept of Math – Outreach & Special Projects Coordinator) on June 5th regarding possible collaboration. She was very interested in their microcontroller/robotics efforts and they agreed to follow up in the fall to plan outreach events – centered on embedded computing and control.

       Finally, Dennis did get a chance to speak with Pamela Brittain (UofT Dept of Math – Outreach & Special Projects Coordinator) on June 5th regarding possible collaboration. She was very interested in our microcontroller/robotics efforts and we agreed to follow up in the fall to plan outreach events – centred on embedded computing and control.

     o **Hamilton**
       David Hepburn is anxious about getting approval for lesson plans submitted to Tryengineering. Anader to follow up with **Liz Kurzawa** who is responsible for this.

- **Kitchener/Waterloo**
  - No report provided.
- **London Ontario**
  - Report from **Murray MacDonald**: "1) Work continues with an Althouse College of Education (at UWO) professor to provide a presentation to the Pre-Service Program (teachers-in-training) in November - based on Dave's transformer activity.

    2) Planning has started for a repeat of a joint project with PEO (Professional Engineers of Ontario) which this time will use a dam building lesson plan from Tryengineering .org. This will run in the fall at 5 schools.

    3) I am working on new project that has just come up. On May 24, we are participating in a SPARK conference with Thames Valley District Board. This has about 100 students in gifted and enhanced programs from several secondary schools. The focus is on Engineering with a presentation "Take a Look at Engineering" by the PEO (with some IEEE input). Then there will be 2 activities, each for half the participants. These will swap and repeat after lunch. The two activities will be on irrigation (by PEO volunteer) and transformers (by IEEE - me). TVDSB did a slick promotion video that I sent to Anader, It is a 12MB mp2 file if any one wishes to see it.."
- **Calgary**
  - **Anis Haque**: introduced **Dr. Kartikeya Murari,** Assistant Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Kartik and Anis described how they will run the Shad Valley program for high school students this summer and are proposing the "Ship the Chip" activity as their "design challenge" and 48 Students on July 2nd.
- **Edmonton/Northern Canada**
  - No report provided.
- **Vancouver**
  - **Emmanuel** THEPIE FAPI emailed on Aug 2nd: "I am focusing on **Anne Hebert** French School. The former director leaves the school and I am looking forward to meet the new team soon and will let you know."
- **Victoria**
  - No report provided.
- **Winnipeg**
  - No report provided.
- **Peterborough**
  - No report provided.
- **Kingston**
  - No report provided.
- **Quebec**
  - No report provided.
- **St. Maurice**
  - No report provided.
- **Sherbrooke**
  - No report provided.
- **Plans for the rest of the year activities - School Boards Liaisons**

  Several sections have plans to address "non-traditional" school private or small-town boards, i.e. Hamilton plans to make a presentation to Private School.

10. Action items

Anader to send various items to **Steve McClain**.
Rossitza to make corrections to May 15 final minutes and distributed.
Anader to follow-up status of lesson plans already submitted to Tryengineering.org
Davey to make a master folder(s) or web-page structure on the new website for all of our pictures
Each section with a "TISP" web page or link should now point to the new master web site
Vancouver section to prepare list of proposed activities (Steven, Zahra, Alon)

11. Time for the next meeting?

Wednesday August 14th, 2013, 8:00 PM.

12. Varia

Dirk Werle, Editor - TISP Canada Courier, emailed the link to the TISP Canada Courier #6 on June 21:
https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/43715268/TISP/TISP%20Canada%20Courier%20No6%20_19June2013.pdf
"The current issue highlights and illustrates the TISP workshop in Vancouver and other recent events. A big Thank You to all the contributors for their volunteer work and excellent article submissions. We'll be sure to add TCC #6 to the new & improved TISP Canada website presently under construction.
As usual, your comments and suggestions, as well as contributions to Issue #7, are encouraged and welcome!"

David Hepburn emailed the following text regarding a virtual high school:

IS A VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL REAL?

During a recent visit to the small lake-side town of Bayfield, Ontario, Dave Hepburn visited a newly-opened building opposite his hotel. As will be seen from the photo, it was labeled as a "Virtual" high school. Intrigued, Dave dropped in and met with some of the staff. A brief summary of our conversation is as follows:-

• This school is privately owned and has been in business for 15 years. However the building in Bayfield is new, having been opened in 2012, and Dave assumes this is their head office.

• The school currently employs about 90 teachers, up from 75 last year. However as the photo would suggest, the building cannot accommodate anywhere near those numbers. He was advised that the actual teachers work from home. The Bayfield building houses about 20 staff, who are concerned with maintaining the currency of the curriculum, plus accounting and other administrative work.

• The school offers high school level courses on the Net, on a no-pass, no fee basis. The fee for each course is $499. Their curriculum is approved by the Ontario Ministry of Education, and their teachers are Ontario licensed.

• The current curriculum comprises 65 "courses", mostly addressing general high school subjects, such as history, geography, math, etc., none of which have any direct relevance to

what our TISP program offers. However, there are several courses titled "Science", and the school is planning to expand. It should also be recognised that when the school uses the term "course" that means the equivalent of a full 8-month school year, which is a great deal more than the 114 individual lesson plans we have to offer. So the VHS is indeed a busy place.

- The student enrolment covers numerous foreign countries, but it also has Canadian students who wish to up-grade or supplement their high school records by adding additional; courses.

- Dave was advised that the VHS is represented in STAO (Science Teachers' Association of Ontario), and in fact gave a presentation there last year, entitled "Virtual Science – Real Learning", which seems appropriate.

- While both of the two VHS staff Dave spoke to had vaguely heard of the IEEE, neither had ever heard of our TISP program or our "TryEngineering.org" web site. They were therefore genuinely interested, because the school is always seeking areas into which to expand. In fact at the moment they only cover Grades 9 – 12, but have plans to go down a couple of grades, to maybe Grade 6. So when Dave told them that we had 115 general science lessons available FREE, they became very interested.

- It was agreed that we would try and meet again next November at STAO 2013.

- Within TISP, it has been suggested that we consider writing a joint article with VHS, for our own newsletter. But that's for future consideration at the moment.

13.   **Adjournment:** 9:20pm

IEEE Canada – TISP Committee Members 2013:

Chair, Anader Benyamin-Seeyar,
TISP Secretaries, Rossitza Marinova & Mooney Sherman
Newsletter Editors, Dirk Werle, Patrick Finnigan, Dave Hepburn, Murray MacDonald
School Boards Liaison, Patrick Finnigan & David Hepburn
Treasurer, Kaveh Moezzi
Webmaster: Davy Zou
Note: Absentees in red and attendees in black font colors.

Sections	Section Champion(s) / Guests
• **Newfoundland :**	**Brian Kidney / Amy Hsiao**
• **Canadian Atlantic :**	**Dirk Werle**
• **New Brunswick:**	**Brian Scott / Esam Ghanem**
• **Quebec:**	**Hoang Lehuy / André Morin**
• **St. Maurice:**	**Adel-Omar Dahmane**
• **Montreal :**	**Samir Kharaf / Manijeh Khataie**
• **Ottawa :**	**Janet Davis / Wolf Lunscher**
• **Toronto :**	**Patrick Finnigan & Dennis Cecic**
• **Hamilton :**	**Dave Hepburn**
• **Kitchener/Waterloo :**	**Amir Khatibzadeh**
• **London Ontario :**	**Murray MacDonald / Maike Luikken**
• **Peterborough:**	**Sean Dunne / Luc Matheau**
• **Kingston:**	**Basel Nabulsi / Sidney Givini**
• **Saskatchewan :**	**Wahid Khan / Craig**
• **Calgary :**	**Kartik Murari / Anis Haque**
• **Edmonton/Northern Canada :**	**Rossitza S Marinova / Mooney Sherman**
• **Vancouver :**	**Steven McClain, Mark Isaak, Zahra Ahmadian, Emily Landry, Tanaya Gua**
• **Victoria:**	**Amirali Baniasadi / Kelly /Alexandra**
• **Winnipeg:**	**Witold Kinsner & Dario Schor / Shaahin Filizadeh**
• **IEEE R7:**	**Bruce Van-Lane**