

Past-President's Message

from Don Volzka, IEEE Power Engineering Society past-president



Future Leadership Positions

Greetings! The purpose of this article is to request your support and assistance in providing for the successful volunteer staffing of future PES leadership positions. I hope to give you some insight into the content of PES Bylaws in this regard and to explain how you or someone you know can get involved directly.

Nominations and Appointments

Section 13.6.2 of the PES Bylaws defines the duties and membership of the PES Nominations and Appointments (N&A) Committee. The committee reports to PES president-elect Teddy Püttgen, is chaired by the immediate PES past-president, and includes at least four other members appointed by the chair. Of the members, not more than two may be current Governing Board members. Current N&A Committee members are Bruce Dietzman, Leo Grigsby, Arun Phadke, Wanda Reder (Governing Board member), and Barney Speckman (Governing Board member). The official charge of the N&A Committee is to "...study the qualifications of offices to be filled and the qualifications of available personnel and suitable candidates for election by the Society Membership of the Board...". At the direction of PES president John Estey, our charge is to also consider and recommend all positions at the board level and be sure that a succession plan for each is in place, where appropriate. For your information, the vice-presidents are appointed by the president with the approval of the Governing Board (PES Bylaws section 12.2).

Now, to the reason for writing this article. By the end of February 2003, I must complete the slate of candidates for the four elected positions and the plan for consideration by the PES president for the remainder of the Governing Board positions for 2004 and 2005. My goal is to encourage qualified members to volunteer for available positions if they are willing to serve and desire to contribute to the leadership efforts of PES.

Allow me to briefly review the available positions, the requirements as de-

finied in the PES Bylaws, and the specific talents needed.

There are two ways to get on the ballot for one of the elected positions.

- The first is to be recommended by the N&A Committee. The way to begin that process is to let one of the members of the N&A Committee know of your interest in a specific position and your qualifications. That member will then bring your intent forward to the committee for its consideration. The committee can recommend more than one candidate for a specific position.
- The second way is to follow PES Bylaw section 11.3, which provides for individual members to get on the ballot for president-elect, secretary, or treasurer. The vehicle is called a Nominating Petition. Such a petition sets forth the office, the term of office, and the name of the candidate. The petition must be signed by a minimum of 50 voting Society Members in good standing and submitted in a letter to be received by the PES Executive Office and the Technical Activities Board secretariat at IEEE no later than noon on the Friday immediately preceding 15 June; for 2003, this is 13 June. Candidates nominated by valid petitions shall be added to the ballot by the board. All candidates for PES officer positions are required by the PES

Constitution to be IEEE Fellows or Senior Members.

PES President-Elect

The president-elect is the only officer required by PES Bylaws to have Governing Board experience. Bylaws section 8.2 requires the president-elect to have served on the Governing Board for at least 2 years. The term of office is 2 years, followed by an additional 2 years as president.

PES Secretary

The duties of the secretary are covered in PES Bylaws section 8.3. No specific requirements regarding qualifications are noted. However, it is highly desirable that the candidate is very detail oriented and well organized in order to be successful. The present secretary is John McDonald, and he has been re-elected for his second term, the maximum permitted under the PES Bylaws. Like the other Governing Board members, a great deal more is expected than is covered in the PES Bylaws about the specific position, since the person is directly involved in determining policy and assuring that it is carried out.

PES Treasurer

The duties of the treasurer are covered in Bylaws section 8.4. No specific requirements regarding qualifications are noted. However, it is highly desirable that the candidate has a very solid business/finan-

Announcements on the PES Web Site

<http://www.ieee.org/power>

The PES Web site (<http://www.ieee.org/power>) contains current information on PES Meetings, Chapters, and Technical Activities. Consult the site for details on the following changes that will go into effect in January 2003:

- Advance publication of Transactions paper abstracts on the PES Web site only
- New Transactions paper discussion deadlines
- Transfer of Power Engineering Letters from *IEEE Power Engineering Review* to *PES Transactions*.

cial background. PES and IEEE finances are very complex, and successful performance is substantially improved with experience in that area. The present treasurer is Hugh Rudnick, and he has been re-elected for his second term, the maximum permitted under the PES Bylaws.

IEEE Division VII Director

The IEEE Board of Directors is made up of a total of 31 elected members. Four are directors elected by the assembly; another is the RAB vice-president elected by the RAB Assembly. The remaining 26 directors are elected by the IEEE membership. Of the 26, 10 are regional directors and 10 more are division directors representing the various Societies of IEEE. The Power Engineering Society is one of four Societies large enough to have its own director. This is an extremely important position. The only requirements noted in the IEEE Bylaws are that the person must be a Fellow or Senior Member and a member of the Society being represented. It is also very important that the person elected is familiar with the operation of the board and the politics involved in order to be effective. Virginia Sulzberger is our current Division VII director. IEEE has made it clear that this should be a contested election, so at least two candidates are required. If you have the needed background and would like to become involved, please let me know.

PES Vice Presidents

The vice presidents lead the various activities of the PES organization. In

most cases, selection of individuals to fill these positions begins with a recommendation from the incumbent for a person who has demonstrated the skills, knowledge, and initiative necessary for the goals of that particular PES activity to be met. The recommendation is made to the president.

As mentioned earlier, John Estey directed the N&A Committee to act as coordinator/facilitator to assure that a succession plan is in place for the coming years. If you have a desire to get involved at a higher level, please make that known to the appropriate vice president, to John Estey, or to me. The vice presidents are appointed for 1 year and may be reappointed to serve a maximum of five terms. The following is brief review of the status of each of the vice presidents and the need for new faces.

Education/Industry Relations Activities. Mariesa Crow is the vice president in her first year of office. An opening for this position is not expected in the near term. However, the person who will ultimately succeed Mariesa will need to have experience in this area of PES activities, so anyone interested in helping in this crucial part of our work should speak with Mariesa.

Meetings Activities. Don Russell fills this position and is working to expand the Meetings Activities team in order to spread the work among more people. He is interested in speaking with anyone interested in joining this team. Either Don Russell or Teddy Püttgen can tell you as much as you would like to

know about what is involved. Please contact one of them if you are interested.

Membership/Chapters Activities. Barney Speckman has agreed to serve his fifth and final term in 2003 as this vice president. His successor must be named soon to permit an orderly transition in 2004. Please contact Barney if you would like to be involved in this aspect of our endeavor.

Technical Activities. Jim Harlow is completing his second and last term as vice president. Bruce Dietzman is all set to succeed him in 2003. Technical Activities is the only department in PES that has a set procedure to accomplish succession and, in my judgement, is most certainly doing a superb job in that regard.

Technical Information Services. Saifur Rahman has agreed to serve his third term as vice president in 2003. Continuity in this area is very important because of the new magazine launching next year and the continuing need to keep up the progress made in handling paper reviews. Saifur, too, is expanding the team in Technical Information Services and is very anxious to speak with anyone who is interested in this fast-changing activity that is at the heart of one of the most valued benefits PES provides to members.

PES Governing Board Members at Large

A revision in the PES Bylaws was approved at the PES Summer Meeting in Chicago. Specifically, PES Bylaws section 12.6 was revised to increase the number of Governing Board members at large from two to four. The reason for the change is to increase the talent pool at the board level because history has shown that many times this is where the selection of individuals for higher positions on the board began.

Our two current members at large are Gary Engmann, who is serving his second term, and Wanda Reder, who is serving her first term. If you are interested in one of these four positions for 2003 or beyond, please contact either John Estey or me.

Are You Ready, Willing, and Able To Serve?

All of these positions need financial and employer support, and there is a substantial time commitment associated with each of them. For more information, contact any of the N&A Committee members, Bob Dent, or me.

2004 IEEE Fellow Nominations

Deadline: 15 March 2003

Recognizing the achievements of its members is an important part of the mission of the IEEE. The IEEE grade of Fellow is conferred upon a person of "outstanding and extraordinary qualifications and experience in IEEE designated fields, and who has made important individual contributions to one or more of these fields." Many of our PES colleagues made significant contributions to the profession through their work in engineering, technical leadership, and education. As a professional community, we need to be more proactive in nominating our colleagues for this significant award. Candidate must be IEEE Senior Members must have completed 5 years of service in any grade of IEEE membership.

The deadline for nominations is 15 March 2003. Nomination information and forms are available on Web, <http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/fellows/fellows.htm>. For more information, contact Chen-Ching Liu, PES Fellows Committee chair, liu@ee.washington.edu.