

by Terry Martin



## Hope for a Bright Future

**A**t the time of this writing, the world is hopeful that the COVID-19 vaccine will loosen the hold that the virus has had on us. We are all anxious to return to our face-to-face meetings with smiles, handshakes, and hugs with our colleagues from around the world. I am hopeful to see many of you in October.

With the hope of seeing you later this year, I can't help but think of the difficulties our conference organizers have been dealing with during this pandemic. The planning for conferences and meetings could typically be made years in advance, but now this has all changed. We make our plans well in advance but are forced to make significant modifications within just a few months of our meetings. Hats off and a big thank you to all of the conference organizers for being so adaptive and creative with your planning.

In addition to our conferences, our Society has many other areas of volunteer activity. As president, I have the opportunity to observe most of

the activities within the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IES), and as I have mentioned in past articles, our Society has a very large Administrative Committee (AdCom), which results in a very large volunteer effort. Due to the size of our AdCom and growth of our Society, publications, and conferences, I am hopeful that the IES will be able to add more staff from the IEEE to assist our volunteers with their efforts. The addition of staff from IEEE should make our volunteer efforts more productive in the future.

Speaking of volunteer efforts, I would like to thank all of the editors-in-chief of our Society publications for their outstanding efforts in making the IES publications of the highest quality.

- *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics*—Emil Levi, Liverpool John Moores University, United Kingdom
- *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics*—Ren C. Luo, National Tiawan University, Taiwan

- *IEEE Journal of Emerging and Selected Topics in Industrial Electronics*—Chandan Chakraborty, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India
- *IEEE Open Journal of the Industrial Electronics Society*—Leopoldo G. Franquelo, Universidad de Sevilla, Spain
- *IEEE Industrial Electronics Magazine*—Peter Palensky, TU Delft, The Netherlands
- *IE Technology News*—Fei Gao, University of Technology of Belfort-Montbéliard, France

If you have a chance, please tell them you appreciate their work.

As the IES continues to grow, we are always looking for new people to fill roles within the Society. If you are reading this article, and you are not involved with IES but would like to be, please send me an email at [t.martin@ieee.org](mailto:t.martin@ieee.org), and I will be more

than happy to help you find a place within our Society.



**HATS OFF AND A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS FOR BEING SO ADAPTIVE AND CREATIVE WITH YOUR PLANNING.**