

Around the Globe

IEEE Administrative Meeting and Technical Talk in Abu Dhabi

■ Nazih Khaddaj Mallat

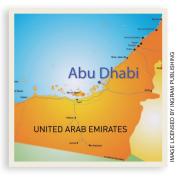
he College of Engineering at Al Ain University of Science and Technology (AAU)—in conjunction with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Joint Chapter of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) and IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society (IMS), as well as the AAU

student branch of the IEEE—organized an IEEE administrative meeting and technical talk at the AAU Abu Dhabi Campus, Mohammed Bin Zayed City, on Sunday 8 May 2016.

Presiding over the two events was Dr. Nazih Khaddaj Mallat, dean of the AAU College of Engineering, UAE IEEE MTT-S and IMS Joint Chapter chair, and AAU IEEE student branch counselor. The technical talk was delivered by IEEE Fellow Prof. Shervin Shirmoham-

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madi from the University of Ottawa, Canada. The events were attended by many IEEE local Chapter chairs, students, IEEE Members, and an officer from the IEEE UAE Section.

During the administrative meeting,

Prof. Shirmohammadi discussed the goals of the IMS and what the Society offers to Chapters and members; he concluded with a list of IMS Chapter best practices (Figure 1). His presentation included the following topics:

- the Chapter development funding program
- the IMS Outstanding Chapter Award
- the IMS Outstanding Student Chapter Award
- IMS conferences, including the flagship IEEE International Instrumentation and Measurement Conference (I2MTC)
- the Chapter Chairs Summit at I2MTC
- the IMS journal IEEE Transactions on Instrumentation and Measurement



Figure 1. Prof. Shirmohammadi presenting IMS chapter best practices.

- the IMS Distinguished Lecturer program
- the IMS course development fund
- tips and tricks for new Chapters.

The presentation was a part of the IMS Chapter Outreach Program, whose purpose is to support and nurture young Chapters. The outreach program suggests that the advisor (Prof. Shirmohammadi, in this case) be in regular contact with the local Chapter for a period of two years, offering assistance as needed. At the end of the two-year program, the advisor is to visit the Chapter again to assess its current state and how it has grown over the previous two years. This visit also serves as a means to evaluate the success of the outreach program. Success metrics may include retention and/or increase in number of members, member elevation, attendance and participation at meetings, frequency of meetings, whether or not a Chapter has taken advantage of the support programs offered by the IMS (or other IEEE Societies, in the case of joint Chapters), and so forth.

Later, in his technical talk "Video, Games and Modern Video Systems," Prof. Shirmohammadi explained that video traffic on the Internet has reached unprecedented levels: not only is global Internet traffic itself growing by 21% annually; up to 90% of this traffic will be in the form of video by 2018. While the great



Figure 2. Prof. Shirmohammadi (third from left) being honored by Dr. Khaddaj Mallat.

majority of current video traffic is for traditional single-view, two-dimensional video, new types of video on the horizon for consumers—such as ultrahighdefinition video, multiview video, tiled video, three-dimensional (3-D) video, and cloud gaming video-will make video processing and transport much more complex than it is currently. Prof. Shirmohammadi also made the point that another layer of difficulty is added when considering that the majority of consumers will access these videos not with traditional computers connected via wired networks but with their mobile devices such as smartphones or tablets. In fact, it is forecast that by 2019 consumers will access the Internet by 11.5 billion such mobile devices. This

creates difficult challenges because of battery limitations, wireless access mode (which has much wilder fluctuations than wired networks), and the differing display and size characteristics.

Prof. Shirmohammadi showed specific examples of the research challenges and presented solutions covering a wide range of systems, including high-definition video conferencing, 3-D/multiview video, video on demand, cloud gaming, mobile gaming, and mobile video.

At the conclusion, Prof. Shirmohammadi was honored by AAU, as shown in Figure 2, and Dr. Khaddaj Mallat confirmed that AAU is continually organizing such scientific international meetings for the benefit of IEEE UAE Members and their community.

11th IEEE UAE Student Day Hosted by Al Ain University

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I Ain University of Science and Technology (AAU), in conjunction with the Joint Chapter of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) IEEE

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Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MMM.2017.2713899 Date of publication: 8 August 2017 Microwave Theory and Techniques Society and the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurement Society along with the IEEE AAU student branch, organized the 11th IEEE UAE Student Day at the Abu Dhabi campus on Saturday 21 May 2016.

IEEE UAE Student Day is an annual event during which all IEEE UAE active (undergraduate) student members are eligible to participate in all competitions. The students submit their projects through the IEEE student

branch advisor at their university. The main objectives of this event are as follows:

- to enhance the culture of competition among engineering students
- to recognize outstanding achievements by UAE IEEE students
- to foster the exchange of knowledge and experience among UAE IEEE students
- to enhance the leadership qualities of UAE IEEE students
- to introduce the IEEE to the public.