



Weng Cho Chew

Sincere Thanks for a Wonderful Year

As this is my final “President’s Message,” I cannot thank enough the people of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S) who have helped me during my presidency. I came in as an ignoramus, not knowing much about the working of a Society with a membership of close to 9,000. As I have said before, it has been like running a small college in the United States.

First and foremost, I would like to thank the Society’s immediate Past Presidents Ahmed Kishk, Mike Jensen, Roberto Graglia, and Tapan Sarkar; Chief Secretary Zhongxiang Shen; Chief Financial Officer Don McPherson; and Publication Chair Ross Stone, who all graciously stepped up to help me and offer advice. Each of them has more years of service in the Administrative Committee (AdCom) than I do and knows the Society much more intimately than I can imagine. I would also like to thank President-Elect Koichi Ito, who came to my timely aid on many occasions, as well as past presidents such as Jennifer Bernhard, Rick Ziolkowski, John Volakis, and Yahya Rahmat-Samii, plus many more whose opinions I occasionally solicited. I love to hear the diversity of viewpoints, and no matter how varied the opinions are,

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each of them has its good intention. I also had the opportunity to overlap briefly with Past President Trevor Bird and assimilate his wisdom. Thanks also go to Past President Magdalena Salazar-Palma, who graciously stepped forward to chair the Society Review Committee: this is an onerous task as I quickly learned. She did this despite the very many burdens she has shouldered as a public servant of our community. Last but not least, my sincere appreciation is given to Michael Shields, Steve Best, and the local Organizing Committee for a fantastic job in putting together the 2018 IEEE International Symposium on Antennas and Propagation and USNC-URSI Radio Science Meeting in Boston this past summer.

To the AdCom members, editors-in-chief, and Standing Committee chairs, I would like to thank them abundantly, as all of them are volunteers and have been working enthusiastically for the betterment of our Society. Many of them have more years of service in the AdCom than I have. There are also many unsung heroes, and they work tirelessly in the

background to move our Society forward. These are the members of the Standing Committees as well as members of the editorial boards. There are also outgoing chairs of the Standing Committees and their outgoing members that I overlapped briefly with, as well as the outgoing AdCom members and outgoing members of the editorial board: I would like to thank them full-heartedly in the name of the president.

I also realized the empowerment of volunteerism. One thing that I learned while I was Society president is that, even though we are all flawed, we each have our positive attributes that together can be used to contribute to the betterment of our Society. IEEE’s motto is “advancing technology for humanity,” and our motto is “advancing electromagnetics for humanity.” Electromagnetics is indispensable in many advanced technologies. History has shown that technology improves the standards of living, improves the quality of life, and engenders peace. But advancing technology also has the potential of destroying our environment. We are given the stewardship of planet Earth. Let us work together to arrive at a sustainable approach for advancing technology to make our world a better one.

