



Education News

IEEE MTT-S Webinars: Your Educational and Professional Resource

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The IEEE Microwave Theory and Technology Society (MTT-S) Education Committee continues to offer high-quality webinars from experts in their respective fields, a series that started in 2016 [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6]. These webinars have continued through 2024 and have provided collaborative learning opportunities to our MTT-S members as well as the global microwave/RF community. The MTT-S Education Committee is grateful to our webinar speakers for their efforts in preparing and delivering cutting-edge educational content through our popular MTT-S webinar series. This month’s “Education News” column presents the webinars that are scheduled for the first half of 2025 (January to May), which are listed in

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Table 1. These webinar speakers represent a diverse group of leading subject-matter experts from around the

globe, including current or emeritus Distinguished Microwave Lecturers. Past webinars as well as other MTT-related resources can be found at the MTT Resource Center: <https://resource-center.mtt.ieee.org/>. Viewing of previous MTT webinars is free for MTT members. IEEE Professional Development Hours are also available.

If you would like to be considered as a webinar speaker and present a topic of current interest to the MTT-S community in the 2025 webinar series, please

TABLE 1. The MTT-S webinars for the first half of 2025.

Date	Title	Presenter	Presenter's Affiliation
14 January 2025	“RF Plasma Circuits and Antennas”	Dimitrios Peroulis	Purdue University
11 February 2025	“Emerging Digital Transmitters for Wireless Communication From RF to mm-Wave”	Huizhen Jenny Qian	Xidian University
11 March 2025	“Lessons From the 3MT: Crafting and Delivering Clear, Brief, and Memorable Scientific Presentations”	Erin Kiley	Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
8 April 2025	“Noninvasive Passive Internal Body Thermometry Using Microwave Receivers”	Zoya Popovic	University of Colorado Boulder
13 May 2025	“Short-Range Microwave Sensing for Healthcare Applications”	Changzhan Gu	Shanghai Jiao Tong University

send an e-mail to Dr. Davi Rodrigues, Dr. Xun Gong, or Dr. Rashaunda Henderson, outlining your topic and providing a brief abstract, biography, and sample slides.

References

[1] R. K. Gupta and M. Hamilton, "MTT-S education committee launches successful 2016 we-

binar series [Education News]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 17, no. 11, pp. 84–91, Nov. 2016, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2016.2601539](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2016.2601539).

[2] R. K. Gupta and M. C. Hamilton, "MTT-S 2017 webinar series—another successful year of collaborative learning [Education News]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 19, no. 2, pp. 100–101, Mar./Apr. 2018, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2017.2781159](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2017.2781159).

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webinar abstracts [Education News]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 20, no. 3, pp. 93–100, Mar. 2019, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2018.2885672](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2018.2885672).

[4] R. H. Caverly, M. C. Hamilton, and R. Henderson, "Continuing our IEEE MTT-S webinar series [Education News]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 22, no. 2, pp. 72–74, Feb. 2021, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2020.3037386](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2020.3037386).

[5] X. Gong, M. C. Hamilton, R. Henderson, and R. H. Caverly, "2022 IEEE MTT-S webinar schedule [Education News]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 23, no. 1, pp. 70–71, Jan. 2022, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2021.3117310](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2021.3117310).

[6] X. Gong and R. Henderson, "Webinars scheduled for the second half of 2023 [Education News]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 24, no. 6, pp. 82–83, Jun. 2023, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2023.3256392](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2023.3256392).



MicroBusiness (continued from page 16)

acquisition by IBM in 1995 helped. At the time, IBM was focused on its OS/2 operating system, which lagged behind Windows. Strategically, it made sense for IBM to offer a suite of applications along with their operating system. After all, that's what IBM's former partner and now competitor was doing with Windows and its Microsoft Office suite. I'm not sure what happened behind the scenes, but Lotus was gradually absorbed into the greater IBM, and its products slowly disappeared. Lotus might have been better off operating independently.

As I noted in last month's column, there are successful partnerships and acquisitions. To be successful, there needs to be a well-thought-out strategy for the combined business or operation, a plan for how to manage it, and a plan for the transition to that state, including cultural alignment. But the starting point must be adequate due diligence [2]. Any acquisition is a gamble, often an expensive one. The less you know what technologies are being acquired, what is in the development pipeline, how the company addresses

what markets, and what their culture and priorities are, the lower the odds of success. Without that knowledge, the right answer might be, better not.

Similar truths hold within organizations. While it sometimes makes sense to combine activities, often, it does not. Many technology businesses require both electrical and mechanical engineering expertise in support of their products and services. While these are both engineering functions, it might not make sense to combine them both into the same organization. Similarly, the sales function is different from the marketing function. And while they are often managed within the same organization, and their work needs to be coordinated, they are often best not combined as one unit. Sales people and marketing people have very different jobs.

If we look within the technical committees of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Technology Society (MTT-S), consider TC2, Design Automation, and TC14, Microwave and mm-Wave ICs. Design automation is key to developing ICs, but combining these committees

would not make sense. The design automation topic overlaps with multiple technical areas, not just TC14. So, instead of merging, the solution is to encourage collaboration. Similar things hold if we look within IEEE technical activities. In MTT-S, we care about reliability, but it wouldn't make sense to merge MTT-S and the Reliability Society. Most of the other IEEE societies are concerned with reliability. Here, too, we should seek collaborations, among the Reliability Society and many others.

Let's go back to the example of the failed marriage. They are best off not being together. But they had children, so they need to find a path forward regardless. They needed to find a path to collaborate or at least coordinate. And that holds true in many cases, just not with chocolate and strawberries.

References

[1] F. Schindler, "Is success linked to merit? [MicroBusiness]," *IEEE Microw. Mag.*, vol. 22, no. 8, pp. 14–15, Aug. 2021, doi: [10.1109/MMM.2021.3078039](https://doi.org/10.1109/MMM.2021.3078039).

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