On 23 August 2018, the IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society (SSCS) held a technical seminar at the University of Tokyo, Japan. SSCS Distinguished Lecturer (DL) Dr. Nick Van Helleputte, Imec Belgium, presented a talk about sensor interface circuits. Helleputte gave audience members an overview of the various sensor types, such as gas, temperature, humidity, pressure, position, and various biomedical sensors, and how to interface them. He also discussed in-depth state-of-the-art instrumentation amplifier designs as well as transimpedance amplifier designs and advanced circuit design techniques, such as chopping, bootstrapping, and offset cancellation. The audience of 25 people enjoyed the talk and active discussion with Helleputte.

—Tetsuya Iizuka
Secretary, SSCS Japan Chapter

With a concentration of radio frequency and mixed-signal design activity present in Ireland, there is considerable interest there regarding advanced training for solid-state circuits. Dr. Ivan O’Connell, Microelectronic Circuits Centre Ireland (MCCI), has taken a leadership role in inviting IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society Distinguished Lecturers (DLs) to speak. To maximize the impact of these events, they are held during normal working hours, and the speakers are invited to present at multiple locations in close proximity to the target audiences. The Chapter now serves the needs of members in the four largest population centers in Ireland: Dublin, Cork, Limerick, and Belfast. On 28 August 2018, DL Salvatore Levantino, Politecnico di Milano, presented the talk “Wideband Linear Phase/Frequency Modulators in CMOS” at MCCI Cork.

—Peter Kennedy
Chair, SCSS
United Kingdom and Ireland Chapter