The Education and Student Activities Committee (ESAC) has continued to pursue a variety of items related to the EMC education of Society members and looking at how to provide new opportunities for the many talented students that are involved in EMC. This work is being coordinated through the regular monthly teleconference meetings that ESAC conducts, and over the last few months, I am happy to report that ESAC has had a total of five “regular” meetings (in addition to frequent focused discussion among individual ESAC members outside of the “regular” meetings). The “regular” and “focused” discussions have enabled ESAC to perform a significant amount of work!

(If you are a member of ESAC and have not been included on the teleconference meeting notice or meeting reports – and would like to be, please let me know via email at: msteffka@ieee.org. We are working hard trying to have the meetings held at a time to encourage international participation.)

ESAC Officers

Dr. Daryl Beetner, of Missouri University of Science and Technology (MST) continues to serve as ESAC Vice-Chair and Dr. Sarah Sequin (University of Kansas) is the ESAC Secretary.

Recent ESAC Activities

In order to assure the highest quality educational opportunities for symposium attendees, I am pleased to announced that ESAC has established an “Advisory Board” of internationally well-known and well respected members of the Society to assist ESAC in developing the topical content and possible instructors for the “Fundamentals” tutorial and the Clayton R. Paul Global University (GU).

2014 Symposium Plans

ESAC recently completed the preparation and submission of an ESAC-sponsored “Fundamentals” tutorial for the 2014 IEEE International Symposium on EMC. As in past years, this tutorial is designed to provide an introduction to a number of topics that are essential to successfully working with the challenges of EMC.

ESAC is pleased to announce that we have a new GU chair for 2014 – Professor Antonio Orlandi (Italy). Professor Orlandi is well-known in the EMC Society and the GU curriculum that he designed for 2014 reflects his knowledge and experience. (See the 2014 symposium website for a detailed description of the 2014 Clayton R. Paul Global University!) The major change for this year’s GU is the redesign of the GU curriculum for tighter integration into the symposium schedule according to Dr. Clayton Paul’s original “vision”. GU will now be Monday (full day), Tuesday (morning), Wednesday (morning), and Thursday (morning). Since the GU attendees should already have a few years’ experience in EMC, this will allow GU attendees to participate in some of the symposium technical sessions and be able to interact with the exhibitors more than in previous years!

In other symposium related news, ESAC has selected a new Student Hardware Design Competition Chair, Professor Arturo Mediano (Spain). I am sure many of you remember Professor Mediano’s “standing room only” demonstrations at recent symposiums. ESAC welcomes Professor Mediano’s leadership in this important role to help talented students succeed in EMC. The details of this design competition can also be found on the symposium website – and we encourage students take part in this opportunity.

ESAC and Standards Development and Education Committee (SDECom)

ESAC has continued dialog with Don Heirman and Alistair Duffy of the EMC Standards Committees to maintain linkage between ESAC and SDECom. We are planning to hold a “face-to-face” meeting between representatives of these two groups at the EMC 2014 symposium (similar to our initial meeting in 2013).

Experiments Manual

ESAC has realized the need to include modeling and simulation based experiments in the upcoming revision of the “Experiments Manual”, both in the areas of EMC and Signal Integrity (SI). The committee is currently developing plans for incorporating this type of new material into the manual, and encourages suggestions from Society members as to what they would like to see included.

2014 Symposium Educational Opportunities

ESAC is welcoming of anyone with an interest in EMC education either for students, experienced professionals, or academia. Please contact any of the ESAC officers, or ESAC Chair, Mark Steffka at msteffka@ieee.org, or feel free to join us at the next face-to-face meeting that is being planned for the 2014 IEEE International Symposium on EMC in Raleigh, North Carolina.