IEEE Signal Processing Society

Technical Committee News: Get Involved!

The Signal Processing Society (SPS) has 13 technical committees that support a broad selection of signal processing related activities defined by the scope of the Society. Technical Committees are actively involved in awards, conferences, publications, and educational activities, and provide technical advice to the Society's leadership.

Learn more about the Signal Processing Society Technical Committees by visiting:
www.signalprocessingsociety.org/technical-committees/list/.

RECENT CHANGES

The Signal Processing Society and its Technical Committees recently revised its bylaws and policies and procedures. As a result of these changes, the Society's Technical Committees are now being governed under a common set of policies. The policy revisions are meant to ensure that Technical Committees remain at the forefront of innovation and interdisciplinary research and foster renewal and openness. They address several areas, such as: Technical Committee size, common management structure, election processes, and creation of subcommittees. Another major change is that now Technical Committees have the opportunity to expand their membership base by adding Technical Committee Affiliate Members. The new Bylaws and Policies and Procedures Manual are available at: http://www.signalprocessingsociety.org/about/governance/.

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Technical Committee Affiliate Members are non-elected, non-voting members of the Technical Committee. There is no limit to the number of Affiliate Members a Technical Committee can have. Affiliate membership is open to:

■ IEEE SPS members (any grade) and IEEE student members interested in the scope of a given Technical Committee.
■ Non-IEEE members of professional organizations in interdisciplinary fields within the Technical Committee's scope.

Technical Committee Affiliate Members will receive calls for Member and Vice Chair nominations, as well as any eNewsletter the Technical Committee may have. Technical Committee Affiliate Members also have the opportunity to act as reviewers for one of the Society's conferences or be appointed to one of the Technical Committee's subcommittees.

Becoming a Technical Committee Affiliate Member is easy, just visit
www.signalprocessingsociety.org/tcaffiliate/and request Affiliate Membership. Sign up today!

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS/SIZE/COMMON MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

All Technical Committees normally have 20 to 40 elected Members. Members can serve for two consecutive three year terms if re-elected at the end of their first term. Technical Committees each have a Chair and Vice Chair, who serve two calendar years; and a Past Chair, who normally serves one year. Technical Committees may also have a small number of Associate Members, selected by the committee and appointed by the Chair. Associate Members are non-voting members of the Technical Committee who are involved in specific tasks assigned by the Chair, such as reviewing conference submissions. All the Technical Committees must hold at least one meeting per year, at one of the Society's conferences. They may also hold meetings at their workshops and make them open to Associate and Affiliate Members.

CREATION OF NEW SUBCOMMITTEES

All Technical Committees have subcommittees to help accomplish the duties of the Technical Committee. The Technical Committee Chair makes the subcommittee appointments, which can be chosen from elected Members, or Associate and Affiliate Members. The subcommittees address the following activities: Awards, Nominations and Elections, Workshops, Industry/Government, Webmaster, Newsletter, Area Chairs, Student, Education, and four Regional Representatives (Regions 1-6, Region 7/9, Region 8 and Region 10).

ELECTIONS PROCESS

The election process has been unified across all Technical Committees. The Vice Chair and new Member elections are organized by each Technical Committee's Nominations and Elections Subcommittee, which is responsible for making an open call for nominations in the Society's eNewsletter and website, and conducting the balloting. New Member elections are held once each year, so one-third of the Technical Committee's membership turns over. The slate of candidates for new Members will be representative of the diversity of SPS members in the Technical Committee area, which includes: gender, geographic, academic/industry, junior/senior, etc. The slate will include at least as many candidates that have never served on the Technical Committee as open slots. The annual election results for both elections will be finalized by October.