

## REGION 6 DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

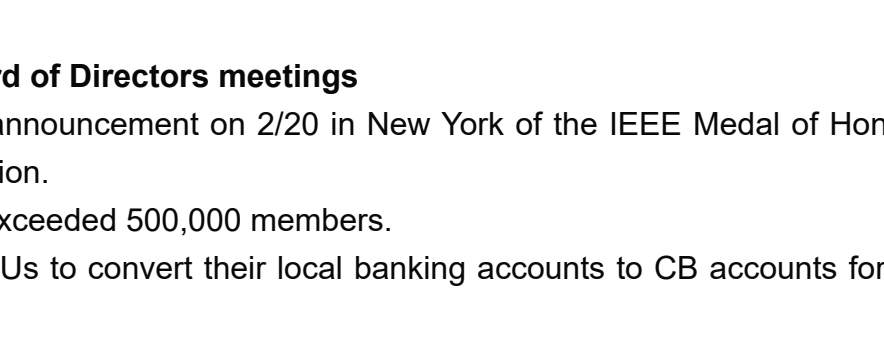


Dear IEEE Volunteers,  
This is Joseph Wei, 2025 - 2026 Region 6 Director. I would like to welcome and thank you for volunteering for Region 6. I have received feedback from many of you to prioritize improving communication and reducing the amount of IEEE emails by starting with this monthly newsletter that consolidates pertinent information regarding news and activities in IEEE and in Region 6.

My priority is to support you as volunteers with training and empowerment to maximize our impact to the IEEE community and to the world. Imagine the Possibility of working as ONE IEEE.

Feel free to email me with ideas, suggestions and issues at [joseph.wei@ieee.org](mailto:joseph.wei@ieee.org).

*Joseph Wei*



## KEY UPDATES

### • Highlights from recent IEEE Board of Directors meetings

- IEEE will have a major press announcement on 2/20 in New York of the IEEE Medal of Honor Award prize being increased to \$2 million.
- IEEE global membership has exceeded 500,000 members.
- IEEE Finance will require all OUs to convert their local banking accounts to CB accounts for Nextgen by the end of 2025.
- Many OUs have substantial amounts of reserves in their regular CB accounts. IEEE Finance is encouraging all OUs to allocate a reasonable amount of their OU reserves to be put into Long Term Investment Funds (LTIF). Long term means 10 years or longer which the LTIF generates better average returns than the regular bank account. OUs can access the returns from LTIF more quickly to support additional activities.
- The Hawaii Subsection petition was approved by the IEEE Board.

### • Highlights for Region 6

- IEEE USA membership grew ~2% in 2024 and Region 6 membership grew ~2.6% for the first time after membership declined for many years. Let's continue the momentum to grow more members in Region 6.
- Region 6 membership currently has ~88% as professional membership and ~12% as student membership. We need to increase student membership to start a pipeline of Young Professionals members.
- The current average age of an IEEE is 51 years old and for a USA member is 55 years old. We need to focus on growing students and younger members. And, leverage more experienced members in mentoring these younger members.

## UPCOMING ELECTIONS

### Call for Nominations: 2026 IEEE MGA Leadership Positions

The IEEE Member and Geographic Activities (MGA) Nominations and Appointments (N&A) Committee is soliciting nominations for the following Leadership Positions:

- MGA Vice President-Elect/Board Chair-Elect
- MGA Treasurer
- MGA Vice Chairs
- Committee Chairs
- IEEE HKN – MGA Governor-At-Large

A complete list of available MGA positions, committee descriptions, and information on the MGA Nominations and Appointments process are available [here](#).

[Nominate yourself or a colleague now!](#)

For questions, email [mga-noms@ieee.org](mailto:mga-noms@ieee.org)

🕒 The deadline to submit nominations for the above positions is **15 March 2025**.

[Submit Now](#)

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### BRIANNE TENGAN

#### The IEEE-USA Jim Watson Student Professional Awareness Achievement Award Recipient



Brianne Tengan, an Electrical Engineer at BAE Systems Inc., has been instrumental in revitalizing the IEEE Hawaii Section. During the 2022-2023 period, the Hawaii Section struggled due to the pandemic, with inactive chapters and limited participation. Brianne facilitated identifying new enthusiastic chapter officers, restarting the Student Branch at UHM and working to establish the new Hawaii Pacific University Student Branch, established a social media presence to promote Section and Chapter activities, established programs and events to increase and retain Student and Young Professionals, and formed a new Chapter and Affinity

Groups to broaden appeal to local community of engineers. During 2024 elections, Brianne was elected Hawaii Section Chair and extended her influence to IEEE Region 6 as the Young Professionals Coordinator. She continues to positively impact students and young professionals. For her outstanding contributions, Brianne Tengan has been recognized with the IEEE-USA Jim Watson Student Professional Awareness Achievement Award.

## 2024 IEEE Region 6 Award Recipients



A heartfelt congratulations to this year's outstanding IEEE Region 6 Award recipients! Your dedication, leadership, and contributions to the engineering and technology community are truly inspiring 🌟.

- Outstanding Affinity Group Member: **Quynh Tran and Alka Singh**
- Outstanding IEEE member who promoted Global Humanitarian Projects or Activities: **Timothy Troske**
- Outstanding IEEE member who promoted Membership Development or Senior Member Elevation: **Alberto Tam Yong**
- Outstanding IEEE member who is an Outstanding Educator, Mentor or Facilitator in the area of STEM: **Dr. Edward Epp**
- Outstanding Service and Leadership to the IEEE: **Ed Perkins**
- Outstanding Engineer: **Pranav Chaudhary**
- Outstanding Corporate Service: **Burns & McDonnell**
- Outstanding Small Section of the Year: **IEEE Hawaii Section**
- Outstanding Affinity Group Chapter of the Year: **IEEE Hawaii Women In Engineering**
- Outstanding Chapter of the Year: **San Francisco Bay Area MEMS & Sensors Chapter**
- Outstanding Large Student Branch of the Year: **IEEE Student Branch University of California, Irvine, IEEE Student Branch University of California, San Diego**
- Outstanding Small Student Branch of the Year: **IEEE UHM Student Branch (University of Hawaii at Manoa).**

This well-deserved recognition highlights your impact in advancing innovation, education, and professional excellence within IEEE and beyond.

## EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

### 2025 IEEE Rising Star Conference



The IEEE conference, held in Las Vegas in January, brought together over 400 students, IEEE Young Professionals, and IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu members for an inspiring and impactful event. This conference served as a dynamic platform for networking and collaboration, allowing participants to learn, connect, and exchange ideas with some of the brightest minds in engineering and technology. Attendees had the opportunity to engage with industry leaders, career coaches, and professors, gaining valuable insights to advance their careers and contribute to technological innovation.

See <http://ieee-risingstars.org/>

### Joint IEEE Region 4 & Region 6 Annual Meeting

The Joint IEEE Region 4 & IEEE Region 6 Annual Meeting was held in San Francisco in January 2025, bringing together IEEE leaders, volunteers, and professionals from across both regions for an engaging and impactful gathering.

Participants had the opportunity to exchange insights on emerging industry trends, discuss best practices for member engagement, and explore innovative ways to enhance IEEE's presence and impact. The meeting also provided a space to recognize and celebrate the achievements of outstanding volunteers and chapters, highlighting their contributions to the IEEE community.

By fostering collaboration among IEEE members from diverse backgrounds and expertise, the meeting played a pivotal role in strengthening IEEE's mission and preparing for the challenges and opportunities ahead.

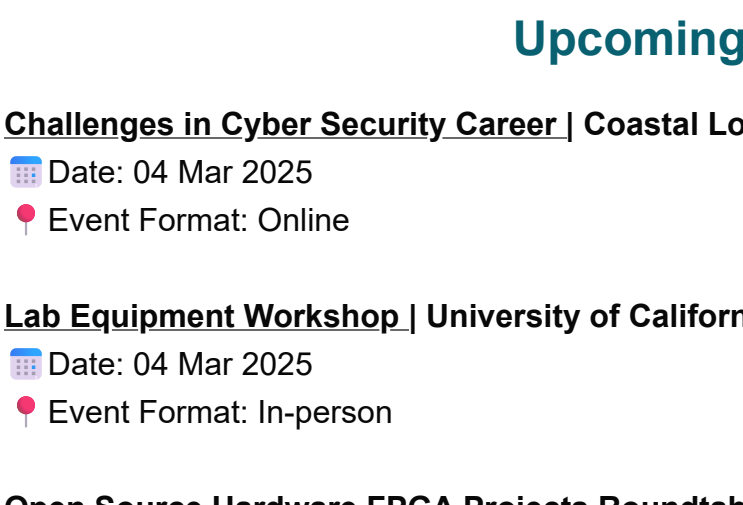


### 2025 IEEE Region 10 Opcom with Joseph and Scott attending



The IEEE Region 10 Opcom was held in Incheon, S. Korea, with over 100 people attending from 65+ Sections and invited guests from other Regions. Joseph delivered a presentation with an introduction of Region 6 and its goals for 2025, and offered to collaborate with Region 10 on joint activities. Scott gave a presentation on the very successful 2025 Rising Star Conference in Las Vegas.

On behalf of Region 6, Joseph presented Region 10 Director, Takako Hashimoto with the infamous Region 6 Hawaiian shirt, along with Ghiradelli chocolate from San Francisco to all the attendees. (picture (L to right, Scott Tamashiro, Tim Lee, Kathleen Kramer, Takako Hashimoto, and Joseph Wei).

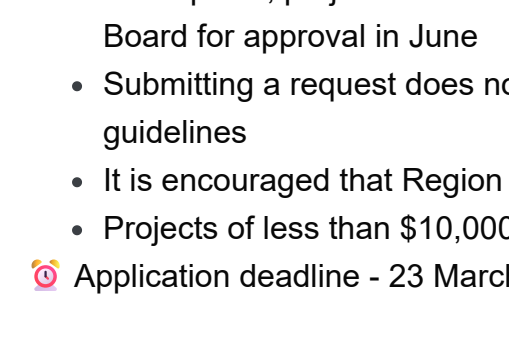


### Explore IEEE Education Week Events



IEEE Education Week is planned for April 6-12, 2025. It is a weeklong celebration of educational opportunities provided by IEEE and its many organizational units, societies and councils from around the world. IEEE Education Week is a great way to explore education programs and offerings from IEEE. Discover live and virtual events scheduled during IEEE Education Week [here](#).

## Upcoming events

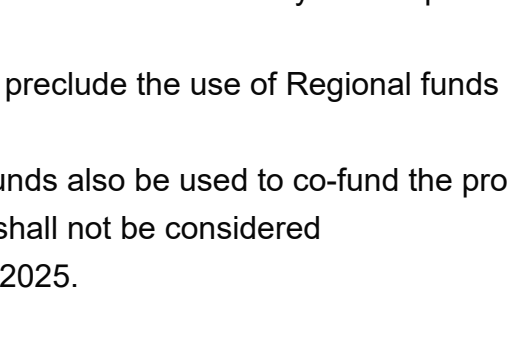


IEEE-USA Congressional Visits Day (CVD)

Washington, D.C.

8-9 April 2025

Register by March 7

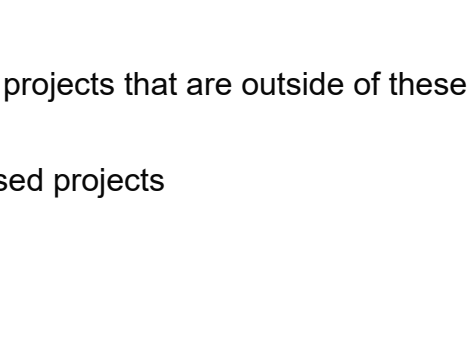


12th IEEE Conference on Technologies for Sustainability

Santa Ana, CA

20-23 April, 2025

Early-Bird Registration by March 30



IEEE WIE International Leadership Conference

San Jose, CA

15-16 May 2025

Early-Bird Registration by March 4th

## Upcoming local events

### Challenges in Cyber Security Career | Coastal Los Angeles Section Chapter, C16

📅 Date: 04 Mar 2025

📍 Event Format: Online

### Lab Equipment Workshop | University of California-Los Angeles

📅 Date: 04 Mar 2025

📍 Event Format: In-person

### Open Source Hardware FPGA Projects Roundtable | IEEE San Diego Open Source Digital Radio Group

📅 Date: 04 Mar 2025

📍 Event Format: Online

More local events can be found here: [Link](#)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Call for 2025 MGA Surplus Funding Proposal

MGA is inviting Regions & MGA Committees to submit proposals for potential Region activities or projects. Guidelines on Requesting MGA Surplus Funding:

- Projects must be completed within the current calendar year.
- Multi-region projects are encouraged
- MGA FinCom will recommend a maximum amount of funding for all projects to the MGAB
- Compliance with the FOM rules will be reviewed by MGA FinCom
- If compliant, projects will be reviewed and ranked by MGA OpCom and recommended to the MGA Board for approval in June
- Submitting a request does not preclude the use of Regional funds for projects that are outside of these guidelines
- It is encouraged that Region funds also be used to co-fund the proposed projects
- Projects of less than \$10,000 shall not be considered

🕒 Application deadline - 23 March 2025.

[Apply Now](#)

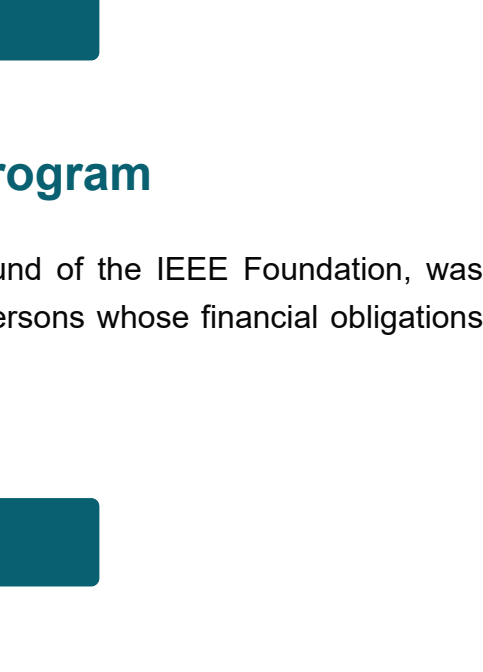
### Announcing the 2025 Tech4Good Call for Proposals

The 2025 IEEE Tech4Good call for proposals is now open! Tech4Good, an IEEE Humanitarian Technologies program, offers funding to support localized technological projects led by IEEE members to achieve positive social impact. Teams can apply for US\$2,500 to US\$10,000 to implement their project related to one of these themes:

- Agricultural Technology (SDG 2: [Zero Hunger](#))
- Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WaSH) Technology (SDG 6: [Clean Water & Sanitation](#))
- Clean Energy and Sustainable Power (SDG 7: [Affordable & Clean Energy](#))
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Digital Connectivity (SDG 9: [Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure](#))

See the [Tech4Good call for proposals landing page](#) for more details.

🕒 Application deadline - 23 March 2025.



[Apply Now](#)

## IEEE WIE Family Cares Grant Program

This grant program, made possible by the IEEE Family Cares Grant Fund of the IEEE Foundation, was established to promote attendance at IEEE conferences, especially by persons whose financial obligations to care for family members may prevent their attendance.

🕒 Application deadline - 24 March 2025.

[Apply Now](#)

## IEEE New Initiatives Program

The New Initiatives Program is designed to support potential new IEEE programs, products, or services that will provide significant benefit to IEEE members, the public, the technical community, and customers, or which could have lasting impact on the IEEE or its business processes. Initiatives must be of strategic importance to IEEE.

📍 Details on specific procedures for the submission can be found [here](#).

## IEEE Future Directions

The IEEE Future Directions Committee (FDC) seeks to identify, develop, and promote projects that are value-added for IEEE and its members, bringing together multiple Societies and Councils to provide broad and deep perspectives on a particular topic, application, or technology. These projects range from short-term activities to reach a specific goal to Future Directions Initiatives seeking longer-term cross-collaborative engagement among industry, academia, and government striving to develop and deploy various future technologies.

📍 Details information can be found [here](#).