

## REGION 6 DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

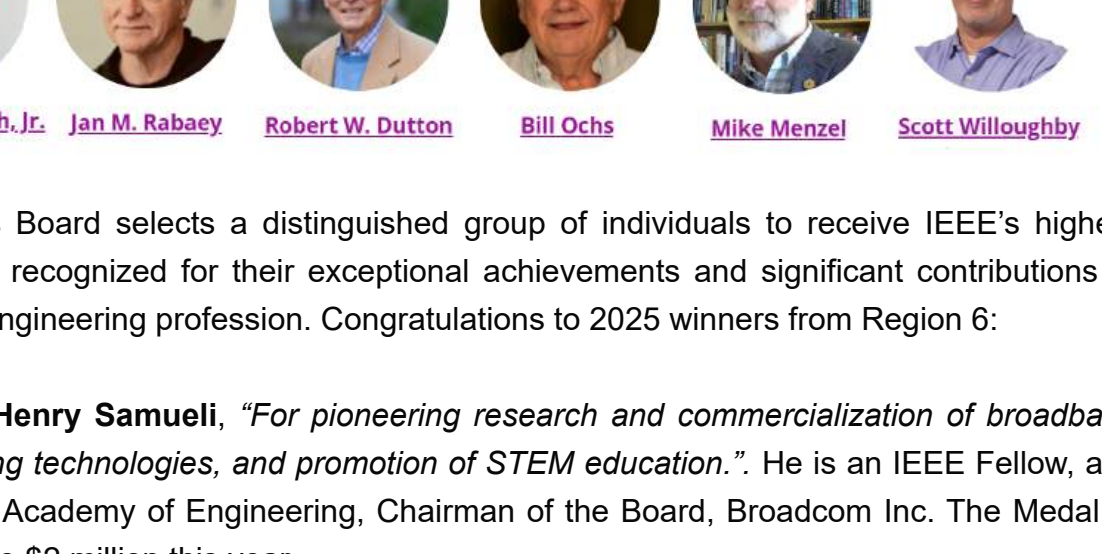


Dear Members and Volunteers,  
I am thrilled to welcome 9,483 new members who joined Region 6 as of March 27, 2025! Section Chairs in Region 6 should log into VTools and use Engage to send a welcome email to these new members and share with them the local Section and Chapter activities in your Sections. There are also 740 members to be reminded to renew their membership.

Thank you to everyone who shared their suggestions, questions, and ideas for improvements. Some of these suggestions are already on the MGA board's roadmap. I am also delighted to receive emails from members interested in volunteering and have referred them to the appropriate Organizational Units (OUs) within Region 6. Please continue to communicate with me so I can better serve the members in Region 6.

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

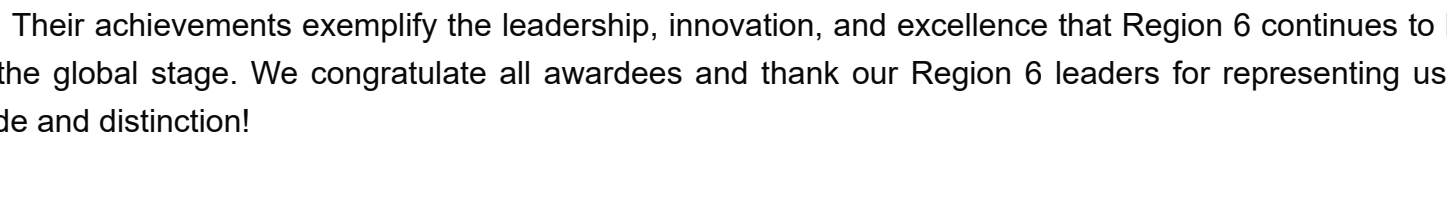
Joseph Wei



P.S. I've asked Microsoft Copilot to generate these two images. The image on the left, featuring the words "IMAGE THE POSSIBILITY," aims to inspire members and volunteers to think outside the box and come up with impactful new ideas. The image on the right encourages teamwork across Regions and Organizational Units.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

### Region 6 IEEE Medal awardees at the IEEE annual Award Ceremony in Tokyo



Henry Samueli Robert W. Heath Jr. Jan M. Rabaey Robert W. Dutton Bill Ochs Mike Menzel Scott Willoughby

Each year, the IEEE Awards Board selects a distinguished group of individuals to receive IEEE's highest honors. These recipients are recognized for their exceptional achievements and significant contributions to technology, society, and the engineering profession. Congratulations to 2025 winners from Region 6:

🏆 **IEEE Medal of Honor: Henry Samueli**, "For pioneering research and commercialization of broadband communication and networking technologies, and promotion of STEM education." He is an IEEE Fellow, and member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering, Chairman of the Board, Broadcom Inc. The Medal of Honor prize has been raised to \$2 million this year.

🏆 **IEEE/RSSE James Clerk Maxwell Medal: Robert Heath**, "For contributions to multiple-antenna technologies in wireless networks." He is an IEEE Fellow and Charles Lee Powell Chair in Wireless Communications at the University of California, San Diego.

🏆 **IEEE James H. Mulligan, Jr. Education Medal: Jan M. Rabaey**, "For worldwide impact in integrated circuits and systems through inspirational teaching, textbook development, and visionary leadership." He is an IEEE Life Fellow, Professor Emeritus of the Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences Department, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA, and Chief Technology Officer, Systems Technology Co-Optimization, imec, Belgium.

🏆 **IEEE Jun-ichi Nishizawa Medal: Robert Dutton**, "For contributions to and leadership in developing Technology Computer-Aided Design (TCAD) tools for the semiconductor industry." He is an IEEE Life Fellow and Robert and Barbara Kleist Professor Emeritus at Stanford University.

🏆 **IEEE Simon Ramo Medal: Mike Menzel, Scott Willoughby, and Bill Ochs**, "For development of the James Webb Space Telescope, first deployed to see the earliest galaxies in the universe."

- **Mike Menzel**, Mission Systems Engineer, James Webb Space Telescope, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.
- **Scott Willoughby**, Vice President, Program Excellence, Northrop Grumman, Redondo Beach, California.
- **Bill Ochs**, former Project Manager for the James Webb Space Telescope at NASA Goddard, currently Principal Engineer at FTS International, LLC.

👏 Their achievements exemplify the leadership, innovation, and excellence that Region 6 continues to bring to the global stage. We congratulate all awardees and thank our Region 6 leaders for representing us with pride and distinction!

### IEEE Student Branch at University of California, Irvine Leading the Way in Engineering Education & Community Engagement

The UC Irvine IEEE Student Branch is making waves with their strong commitment to hands-on engineering education and community building! Recently, the branch received **three major awards**, further solidifying their impact in the field of engineering:



🏆 **Silver Darrel Chong Student Activity Award** (November 2024) – The award was given in recognition to the student branch's continued commitment to the IEEE Open Project Space program having expanded efforts to reach more students with over 300 applications and increasing the number of student members to 115. Additionally, the curriculum was refined to better align with the overall Electrical Engineering and Computer Science curriculum at UC Irvine. This marks their second consecutive win, after earning Bronze in 2023.

🏆 **Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award** (November 2024) - The award was given in recognition for the student branch's work in 2023 to provide students support in their technical and professional skills in addition to providing new ways to find connections within the field.

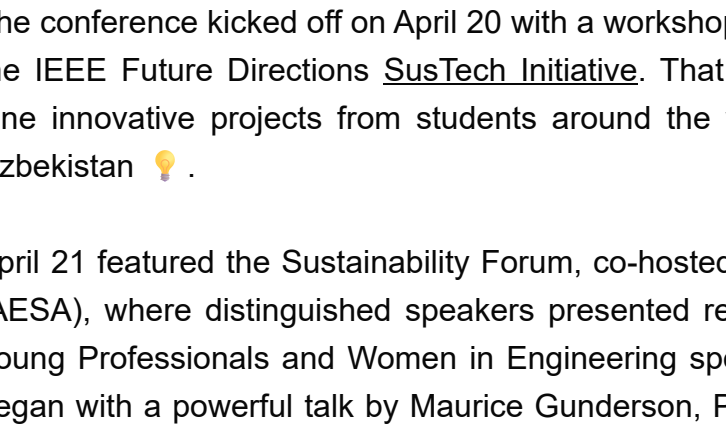
🏆 **Region 6 Outstanding Large Student Branch** (January 2025) – The award was given in recognition of the student branch's overall commitment to fostering technical and professional development through a variety of workshops, programs, and professional networking events. The student branch continues to expand how they help advance the UC Irvine and Orange County community with new events planned such as research fairs and bringing UC Irvine its first embedded hackathon.

These awards reflect the dedication and hard work of the IEEE UCI student branch in advancing engineering education, empowering students, and giving back to the community.

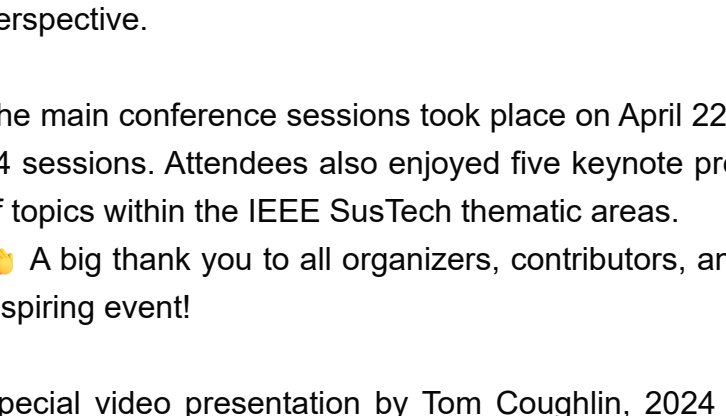
👏 **Congratulations, UCI IEEE!** Keep inspiring innovation and leadership in engineering!

## KEY UPDATES

### IEEE Region 6 at the 2025 IEEE Honors Ceremony in Tokyo!



Group photo of all the recipients



1-on-1 fireside chat

We're pleased to share that IEEE Region 6 had a strong presence at the 2025 IEEE Honors Ceremony, held April 23–24 in Tokyo, Japan. Notably, Region 6 had the highest number of medal recipients 🏆, a testament to the remarkable innovation, technical excellence, and global impact of our region's members.

👏 The ceremony featured a keynote address by Japan's Royal Princess Takamado during the Awards Dinner.

🔥 On April 22, the Vision, Innovation, and Challenges Summit (VICS) brought energy and excitement with a 1-on-1 fireside chat with Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple.

🌟 VICS also hosted the inaugural Young Professional Laureates Program, bringing together over 60 YP members from around the world for leadership development and engagement.

Congratulations to all award recipients, and thank you to our Region 6 leaders for representing us on this global stage! Your excellence continues to inspire and drive IEEE's mission forward.

### The 12<sup>th</sup> IEEE Conference on Technologies for Sustainability



The 12th IEEE Conference on Technologies for Sustainability (SusTech 2025) took place in person with hybrid access at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Santa Ana Orange County Airport, Santa Ana, CA, from April 20–23, 2025. With over 180 participants, the four-day event featured a dynamic mix of workshops, student posters, keynote speeches, panel discussions, and technical sessions focused on advancing sustainable technologies.

The conference kicked off on April 20 with a workshop on "Technologies for a Circular Economy," organized by the IEEE Future Directions **SusTech Initiative**. That same day, the **Student Poster Competition** showcased nine innovative projects from students around the world, including submissions from Uganda, Korea, and Uzbekistan 🌱.

April 21 featured the Sustainability Forum, co-hosted with the **Armenian Engineers and Scientists of America** (AESA), where distinguished speakers presented real-world sustainability solutions. In the same day, IEEE Young Professionals and Women in Engineering sponsored a networking reception and panel. The evening began with a powerful talk by Maurice Gunderson, PE, titled "Creating and Crossing Capitalism's Continuum of Chasms," followed by an engaging panel discussion on sustainability from a young professionals' perspective.

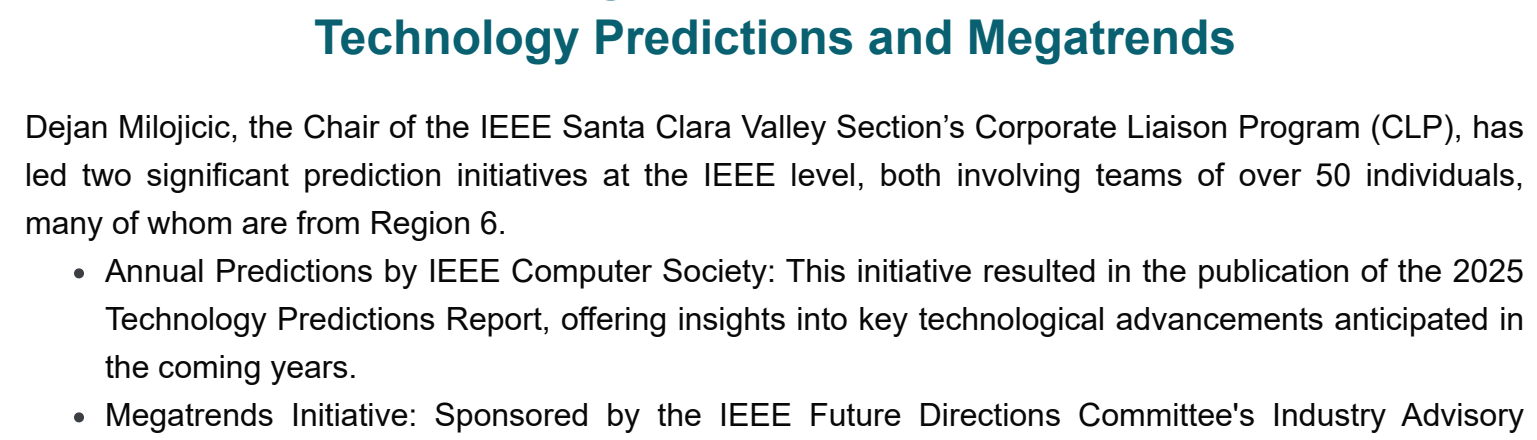
The main conference sessions took place on April 22–23, featuring more than 120 paper presentations across 24 sessions. Attendees also enjoyed five keynote presentations and two major panels covering a wide range of topics within the IEEE SusTech thematic areas.

👏 A big thank you to all organizers, contributors, and attendees for making SusTech 2025 a meaningful and inspiring event!

Special video presentation by Tom Coughlin, 2024 IEEE President, "Utilizing Technology for a Sustainable Climate".

See <https://ieee-sustech.org/program> for more information  
For more information on Sustech, sign up for the interest list (<https://listserv.ieee.org/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=SUSTECH-INTEREST&A=1>) to receive announcements and updates.

### 2025 IEEE Joint Central/Northwest/Southern Area Meeting

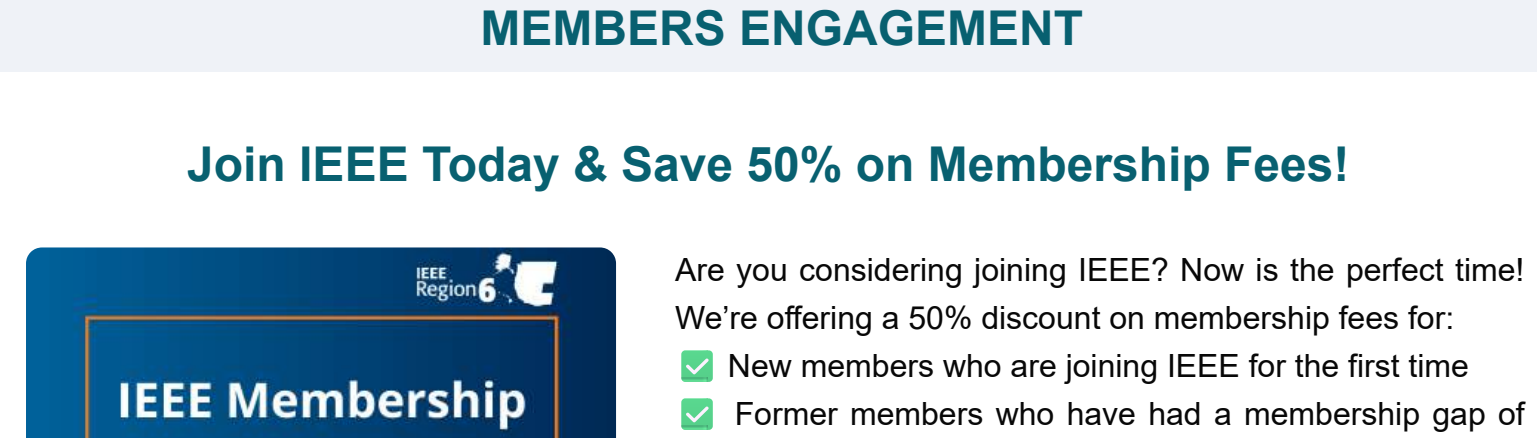


On Saturday, April 26, 2025, IEEE Region 6 brought together leaders and students from the Central Area, Northwest Area, and Southern Area for a dynamic Spring Joint Area Meeting at Santa Clara University.

- 👏 Share best practices across Sections
- 👏 Engage in volunteer leadership training
- 👏 Support professional development
- 👏 Cheer on talented students in the engaging student competition!

We are grateful to everyone who participated and helped make this event a success. The energy, collaboration, and innovation shown by our IEEE community continue to inspire!

### 2025 IEEE-USA Congressional Visits Day (CVD)



On 8-9 April, IEEE-USA successfully organized the 2025 Congressional Visit Day (CVD) to advocate for the policy interests of IEEE's U.S. members. CVD serves as a vital opportunity for IEEE members to engage directly with policymakers, helping to ensure that legislation is informed by real-world insights from across the country.

Throughout the two days, advocates shared firsthand experiences and perspectives on key issues affecting their workplaces and industries. These insights provided invaluable input to policymakers, helping guide legislative decisions that impact the engineering, technology, and innovation sectors. The strong turnout and active participation underscored the growing recognition of IEEE-USA's role in shaping policies that support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields nationwide.

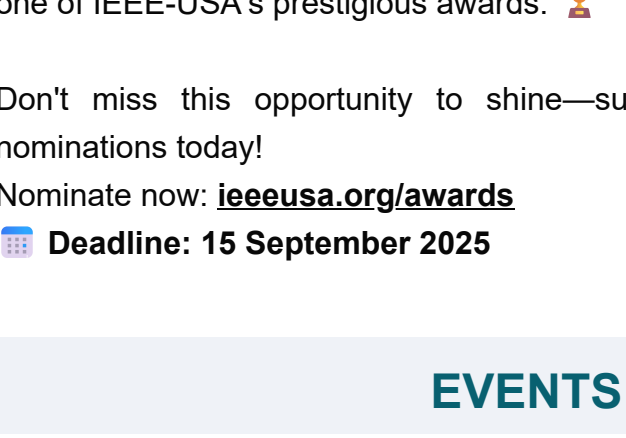
### IEEE Rising Stars: Now Lighting Up Region 9



In March, Region 6 Director Joseph Wei attended the IEEE Region 9 Annual General Meeting in Brasilia, Brazil, where exciting news was shared: IEEE will host its own Rising Stars Conference this year, inspired by the original Rising Stars Conference 🌟 founded by Region 6. 🏆 🌟

🌟 Region 9 Director Jenifer Castillo Rodríguez officially announced that IEEE Rising Stars Latin America and Caribbean 2025 will take place on August 15–17 in Panama City, Panama — bringing together the brightest IEEE Students and Young Professionals across the Americas! This event is a powerful example of cross-region collaboration between Region 6 and Region 9, expanding the impact of Rising Stars beyond borders to build leadership, inspire innovation, and foster global connections.

### 2025 IEEE Annual SAC / YP / WIE / LM Joint Meeting



On 14–16 March, the 2025 IEEE Annual SAC / YP / WIE / LM Joint Meeting took place in Panama City, bringing together global IEEE volunteers for a dynamic exchange of ideas and initiatives. Discussions focused on the challenges and opportunities under the guiding principle of "One IEEE." The sessions highlighted the importance of collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and ensuring equity in professional development across IEEE communities. It was truly motivating to connect with passionate volunteers and explore ways to drive meaningful impact worldwide. Looking forward to continuing these conversations and fostering global cooperation! 🌟 🌟 🌟

### IEEE Region 6 Contributions to Technology Predictions and Megatrends

Dejan Milojevic, the Chair of the IEEE Santa Clara Valley Section's Corporate Liaison Program (CLP), has led two significant prediction initiatives at the IEEE level, both involving teams of over 50 individuals, many of whom are from Region 6.

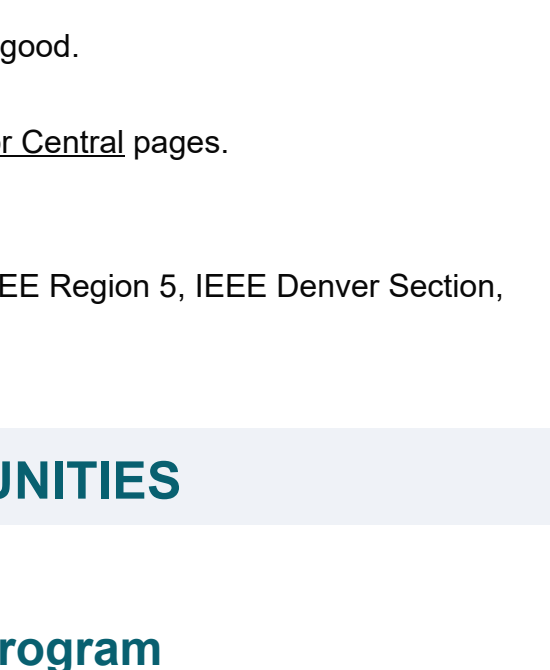
- **Annual Predictions by IEEE Computer Society:** This initiative resulted in the publication of the 2025 Technology Predictions Report, offering insights into key technological advancements anticipated in the coming years.
- **Megatrends Initiative:** Sponsored by the IEEE Future Directions Committee's Industry Advisory Board, this effort focuses on identifying and analyzing major technology megatrends shaping the future.

The CLP has planned four in-person events throughout the year, with each expecting around 30 participants. For more information on these initiatives, please visit the following links:

- 📁 Technology Predictions 2025: <https://www.computer.org/press-room/2025-technology-predictions>
- 📁 Technology Megatrends: <https://engage.ieee.org/FD-Megatrends-2024.html>

### Congratulations to Our New IEEE Senior Members!

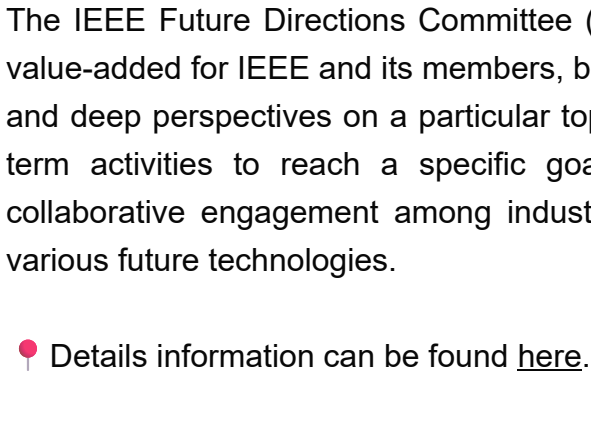
We're proud to recognize the outstanding accomplishments and professional excellence of **289 members** who have recently achieved IEEE Senior Member status in Region 6. Becoming an IEEE Senior Member is a significant career milestone — one that honors not only technical contributions and professional maturity, but also leadership and impact in advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. Your dedication, innovation, and hard work truly inspire us all and continue to elevate our engineering community. 🏆



📁 Interested in becoming an IEEE Senior Member? Learn more about the criteria and application process here:  
<https://www.ieee.org/membership/senior/>

## MEMBERS ENGAGEMENT

### Join IEEE Today & Save 50% on Membership Fees!



Are you considering joining IEEE? Now is the perfect time! We're offering a 50% discount on membership fees for:  
✅ New members who are joining IEEE for the first time  
✅ Former members who have had a membership gap of two years or more

Don't miss out—take advantage of this special offer and be part of our growing community! 🌟 ⚡  
📁 Act now and join us today:  
<https://lnkd.in/gXtCVjs>

### Call for Participants

#### IEEE Volunteer Leadership Training Program



The **VoLT Program** equips passionate IEEE volunteers with the leadership tools, organizational knowledge, and global network needed to grow within IEEE and beyond. 🌟  
What you'll gain:  
✅ Deeper understanding of IEEE's structure & tools  
✅ Mentorship from experienced leaders  
✅ Team business project experience  
✅ Leadership, communication & professional skills  
✅ Recognition upon graduation 🏆

📁 Apply between May 1 – June 30, 2025  
📁 Learn more and apply:  
<https://lnkd.in/g8S9gRHG>

### Call for Nominations: 2025 Outstanding Section Awards!

IEEE MGA is now accepting nominations for Outstanding Section Awards!

Each year, the MGA Outstanding Section Awards are presented to one large, one medium, and one small Section (across all Regions), to recognize their excellent work and successful efforts in fulfilling the educational and scientific goals of IEEE for the benefit of the public.

Nominate now: <https://lnkd.in/gRiSDQgD>  
📁 Deadline: 15 May 2025



### Call for Nominations: 2025 IEEE USA Awards

The 2025 **IEEEUSA Awards** nomination cycle is now open! 🌟 It's time to celebrate excellence and recognize those making an impact in their fields. Nominate a colleague, a mentor, or even yourself for one of IEEE-USA's prestigious awards. 🏆



Don't miss this opportunity to shine—submit your nominations today!  
Nominate now: <https://lnkd.in/g8S9gRHG>  
📁 Deadline: 15 September 2025

## EVENTS AND CONFERENCES

### Upcoming conferences



IEEE WIE International Leadership Conference  
San Jose, CA  
15-16 May 2025



2025 IEEE Life Members Evolution Conference  
Greater Boston, MA  
11-13 June 2025

Registration

Registration by June 10

### Upcoming local events

**Got a Lot of Chip Designin' to Do | SCV/SF/OEB Joint Section Chapter, TEM14**

- 📁 Date: 01 May 2025
- 📁 Event Format: Virtual

**2025 IEEE GameSIG Intercollegiate Computer Game Competition Showcase | Orange County Section**

- 📁 Date: 03 May 2025
- 📁 Event Format: Virtual

**Algorithms to Implement Diversity Coding for Link Failures in Networks | San Fernando Valley Section Joint Chapter, C16/COM19**

- 📁 Date: 06 May 2025
- 📁 Event Format: Virtual

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

### Call for papers

#### 2025 IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference

The **15th IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC 2025)** is now accepting submissions of original work showcasing practical and scholarly, technology-enabled solutions aimed at addressing the needs of underserved and marginalized communities worldwide.

This year IEEE GHTC 2025 will highlight and explore "Technologies in Context" as its annual theme. This theme encourages authors to assemble diverse teams including community members articulating the need and/or desire for technology, relevant policymakers, and/or interdisciplinary academic teams to describe their technological intervention in social, cultural, environmental, economic, and/or political contexts.

- 📁 **Conference Dates:** October 22–25, 2025
- 📁 **Location:** Colorado School of Mines, Colorado, USA

Join a global community dedicated to using technology for social good.

📁 **Submission Deadline:** May 30, 2025

📁 For complete details on topics and submission, see the [Author Central](#) pages.

📁 **Learn more and submit:** <https://ieeeghtc.org>

IEEE GHTC 2025 is sponsored by IEEE Region 6, IEEE SSIT, IEEE Region 5, IEEE Denver Section, IEEE MTT-S, IEEE-USA and IEEE Smart Village.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### 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](#).

