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R E P O R T

UNITED STATES



ACTIVITIES BOARD

USAB 1982 Report

"Taking positions: that's what it's all about in USAB in Washington. It seems like we do it every day—before congressional hearings, on proposed bills, and before the Executive Branch for a variety of reasons. The opportunities are there. But more and more, as IEEE gets established, we are asked to take positions, by both the Legislative and Executive Branches. We take positions on technological issues, such as nuclear waste and microwave radiation. And we take positions on issues of interest to the careers and livelihoods of our members, such as pensions and patents."—Edward J. Doyle, IEEE Vice President, Professional Activities

Introduction

As the IEEE celebrates the tenth anniversary of its Washington activity in 1983, Vice President Doyle's remarks emphasize that the United States Activities Board (USAB) is becoming the focal point for all activities of the IEEE in Washington. In his "USAB Chairman's Message," carried every other month in *IEEE Impact*, Mr. Doyle has addressed some of the major issues facing USAB during the last year, such as technology transfer (April 1982, p. 3); political-action committees (June 1982, p. 3); membership in the American Association of Engineering Societies (August 1982, p. 3); professional activities (October 1982, p. 3); and "To Take a Position or Not" (December 1982, p. 3). This report, prepared in late 1982 by IEEE Public Information in Washington, summarizes the 1982 activities of four USAB councils: the Career Activities Council, David C. Lewis, chairman; the Member Activities Council, Ronald J. Wojtasinski, chairman; the Government Activities Council, Russell C. Drew,

chairman; and the Technology Activities Council, Larry K. Wilson, chairman.

Career Activities Council

Manpower Task Force: Richard J. Gowen, task-force leader. In response to pending legislation, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1982, Task-Force Leader Gowen wrote to Representative Romano L. Mazzoli (D-Ky.) and Senator Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.): "We oppose the proposed change in current practice (for certifying alien engineers) which would authorize the Secretary of Labor to 'use market information without reference to the specific job opportunity for which certification is requested.'" Also, in response to proposed legislation, the task force recommended "that students who are not United States citizens be required to leave the U.S. for a period of at least two years prior to entering the U.S. workforce, except in those individual cases where a student has completed a graduate degree and has demonstrated exceptional skills,"

as outlined by the task force. The student may, for example, have "been offered employment at a compensation level appropriate for those exceptional skills." "IEEE-USAB Legislative Alerts" were sent to U.S. members urging them to contact Congressmen on these matters.

Last April, the USAB helped prepare the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) testimony on the proposed National Engineering and Science Manpower Act of 1982. A "USAB Entity Position Statement on Engineering Manpower in the United States" is available through the IEEE Washington Office.

Also, a number of meetings were held with Government agencies and engineering associations to discuss problems in the analysis of manpower supply and demand.

Patent Rights Task Force: Robert J. Frank, task-force leader. Following introduction by Representative Robert Kastenmeier (D-Wis.) of H.R. 4732, a bill proposing Federal standards for permissible employee pre-invention assignment agreements, task-force members met with Mr. Kastenmeier to schedule hearings on employed inventors' rights. Subsequently, last July, Task-Force Chairman Frank testified at hearings. Mr. Frank and USAB staff also met with officials of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Commissioner of Patents, and various trade-association representatives supporting employed inventors' rights as contained in H.R. 4732.

A "USAB Entity Position Statement on U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Fee Bill" was also submitted by the task force in opposition to legislation increasing patent filing

and maintenance fees. Although the bill was signed into law last August, the task force still seeks to modify it. According to the group, a single fee structure applicable to all patent owners should be adopted. The cost of operating the Patent and Trademark Office should not be assumed totally by users through filing and maintenance fees, it argues. The task force recommends a "sliding fee structure" placing fees late in patent terms.

Service Contracts Task Force: Carlton A. Bayless, task-force leader. The task force is recommending legislation that would modify Federal procurement regulations to prevent "wage busting" among professionals. Also, in response to a request last year by the Service Contracts Task Force, Representative Jack Brooks (D-Texas) asked the General Accounting Office (GAO) to review professional employee salaries under Federal service contracts to determine whether legislation is necessary to prevent wage busting. And the task force expressed its opposition to conclusions of a draft GAO report, entitled "The Service Contract Act Should Be Repealed." Finally, it reviewed what the group considers to be "anticompetitive features" of Federal regulations.

Employment Assistance Task Force: Richard J. Backe, task-force leader. Through the Professional Abstracts Registries (PAR), approved by the Institute in January, 1982, for a two-year period, prospective employers obtained the resumes of IEEE participants in the United States, as monitored by the Employment Assistance Task Force. Also, at the end of December, the task force published an *Employment Guide for Engineers and Scientists*,

containing information on resume preparation, placement services, interviewing techniques, strategies for considering salary and fringe-benefit offers, as well as leave-employment agreements and leave contracts. A directory of companies and employment agencies is included. Complimentary copies will be available to unemployed members early this year through the IEEE Washington Office. Finally, the task force is completing work on a machine-readable questionnaire seeking member salary information and member views on the IEEE U.S. assessment. The questionnaire could be included in the dues mailing as early as this year.

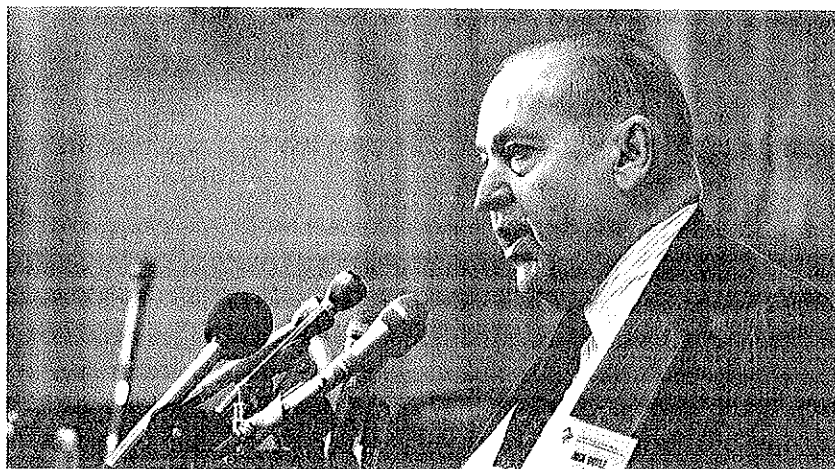
Committee on Professional Opportunities for Women (Compow): Eunice Rogers, committee chairman. A Compow survey seeking information from some 4000 female IEEE members on salary, position level, and any differences in treatment on the job was distributed in December, 1982. Results will be announced early in 1983. Committee Chairman Rogers has also made numerous Compow presentations before the Student Professional Awareness

Conferences, Professional Activities Committees for Engineers (PACE) workshops, and other major IEEE-sponsored conferences.

Ethics Task Force: Arthur L. Rossoff, task-force leader. The task force surveyed U.S. membership on a draft uniform "Code of Ethics" as submitted to the AAES Ethics Committee. The draft uniform code is eventually to be considered by the federation's member societies and the federation itself.

Licensure and Registration Task Force: Joel B. Snyder, Howard B. Hamilton, task-force leaders. At the request of the National Council of Engineering Examiners (NCEE), the Licensure and Registration Task Force is seeking licensed Professional Engineers (PEs), both electrical and electronics, who may or may not be IEEE members, to develop questions for the Professional Practices Section of the 1984 Professional Engineering examination and subsequent exams. A task-force subcommittee will screen and recommend questions for submission to the NCEE, which, in turn, will select the final questions for the PE exam. A "Question Writer's PE

Edward J. Doyle, Vice President, Professional Activities



Packet" is available from the IEEE Washington Office. In addition, USAB is considering an "Entity Position Statement on Registration."

Career Maintenance and Development Task Force: Marlin P. Ristenbatt, task-force leader. The task force is completing a report entitled "Critical Workplace Factors," describing engineering firms believed to have outstanding career-maintenance and -development programs. Also, planning began in 1982 for another IEEE Careers Conference October 27-28, 1983, in Palo Alto, California, chaired by Wallace D. Decker. Previous conferences have focused on "What's Working to Enrich Engineering Careers" and "Building a Professional Work Climate." Proceedings of both conferences are available through the IEEE Service Center in Piscataway, N.J.

Age-Discrimination Task Force: Larry Dwon, task-force leader. A PACE Guide on Age Discrimination has been developed by the task force and will be available from the IEEE Washington Office in 1983. The guide provides information on how any "aggrieved person" can bring civil action in a court of "competent jurisdiction." Task Force Chairman Dwon wrote in the August, 1982, *IEEE Impact*: "It is important that members who feel they are being or have been discriminated against act quickly and not procrastinate." The task force has also produced a PACE source sheet on age discrimination. And it has completed a slide presentation on how to cope with age discrimination, available from the Washington Office.

Pension Task Force: Gordon Mitchell, task-force leader. The task force prepared a PACE source sheet on pensions, "The IEEE Role

in Improving Pension Rights for the Engineering Profession," available from the Washington Office. The task force is also developing a major document on "How to Evaluate Your Pension Plan," as well as an analysis of pension and retirement plans of the top 10 employees of IEEE members. Finally, it has produced a position statement against combining benefits of private pension plans with Social Security.

Member Activities Council

Professional Activities Committees for Engineers (PACE): Ronald J. Fredricks, national PACE chairman. At the first of two national workshops on professional activities in Arlington, Virginia, in April, 1982, U.S. IEEE members voted to change the name of the Professional Activities Committees (PAC) to Professional Activities Committees for Engineers (PACE), avoiding confusion with PAC, the widely-used acronym for political action committees. The distinction became more crucial in 1982 when USAB began to consider forming a political-action committee allowing U.S. IEEE members to make voluntary contributions to political candidates.

At the second national workshop in Phoenix, Arizona, in September, 1982, PACE members approved, with modifications, participation in political-action committees and the AAES. The group also voted to take an "advocacy role" in support of nuclear-waste-management legislation. A report on the second national workshop is available from the IEEE Washington Office.

Regional/Divisional Fund: Ronald J. Wojtasinski, member activities council chairman. During 1982,

USAB funds were distributed to the PACE Regions and Divisions for Section and Society projects. These funds have been used for local job and data banks, seminars/workshops, as well as local/state government interaction.

Salary Survey Task Force: Henry N. Bowes, task-force leader. For the first time, portions of the 1981 IEEE U.S. Membership Salary and Fringe Benefit Survey were updated by the Salary Survey Task Force. According to the February, 1982, Salary Update for IEEE Members, location was the prime factor in determining salary increases, with the largest increase occurring in IEEE Region 5, the South Central area. The update is available from the Washington Office. The 1983 IEEE U.S. Membership Salary and Fringe Benefit Survey should appear mid-year. USAB's investment in its own software program for analyzing the data is expected to provide material for related projects as well as produce future savings.

Opinion Survey Task Force: George A. Morris Jr., task-force leader. Questions for the IEEE U.S. Member Opinion Survey, available in 1983, were prepared with contributions from all areas of the Institute. Included in the survey are questions about formation of a political-action committee and IEEE membership in AAES. The questionnaire is now being circulated among members.

USAB Award and Recognition Committee: Howard B. Hamilton, chairman. USAB Awards for Professional Activities in 1982 were given to Larry Dwon for "outstanding contributions to the advancement of the professional goals of the Institute"; to Senator John Glenn (D-Ohio) for advo-

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for
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cating IEEE goals of professionalism in engineering; as well as to Valdemar Bodin, James F. Fairman, and Arthur N. Greene for "dedicated service toward attaining recognition of engineering professionalism."

Student Awareness Task Force: Charles K. Alexander Jr., task-force leader. Student Awareness Task Force Leader Alexander worked with 1982 IEEE Regional Activities Vice President Hans C. Cherney and the Regional Activities Board, sponsors of the 12 Student Professional Awareness Conferences held in IEEE Regions 1-6 in 1982. The conferences are designed "to increase professional awareness among Student Members of the IEEE and, as a secondary effort, to do the same for EE students as well as students in allied fields." Ties between IEEE student branches and PACE were strengthened; and a USAB liaison to *Potentials*, "The Magazine for

Engineering Students," was created.

IEEE Impact: Benjamin J. Leon, Editor. Six issues of *IEEE Impact*, "The Newsletter of the IEEE Professional Activities Committees for Engineers," were distributed with regular columns by the USAB chairman and the National PACE chairman plus a regular, updated "IEEE Legislative Status Report." The newsletter benefited from expanded member contributions and is available on request to the Washington Office.

Government Activities Council

Congressional Fellows Committee: Thomas L. Fagan, committee chairman. In July, three IEEE congressional fellows were selected to serve on Capitol Hill, beginning in 1983. They are: Jack Lubowsky, director, Scientific Computing Center, Downstate Medical Center, State University of New York; Orin E. Marvel, senior engineering fellow, Training and Control Systems Center, Defense Electronics Division, Honeywell Inc.; and Doyce E. Satterfield, manager for science and engineering, Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, Office of the Chief of Staff, Department of the Army. Over the last decade, 21 IEEE congressional fellows have worked with congressmen reviewing proposed legislation from an engineering and scientific perspective, identifying qualified witnesses for legislative hearings, serving as liaisons to executive departments and agencies as well as to the engineering and scientific communities.

Legislative Newsletter: Jane G. Evans, project manager. Topics covered in the *IEEE Legislative*

Report, prepared by Senior Legislative Specialist Edith T. Carper, included the Engineering and Science Manpower Act, nuclear-waste management legislation, telecommunications issues, technology transfer, national space policy, patent rights for employed inventors, and R&D. The monthly newsletter provides a review of congressional activities relevant to IEEE members, especially legislation being monitored by USAB's many committees and task forces. Copies are available through the Washington Office.

Washington Internship for Students of Engineering (WISE): Russell C. Drew, government activities council chairman. The 1982 USAB-sponsored WISE student was Susan E. Word, an electrical engineering senior at Texas A&M University. Ms. Word researched public-policy implications of cellular radio or mobile telephones, under the supervision of F. Karl Willenbrock, former IEEE president.

Technology Activities Council

Energy Committee: John A. Casazza, chairman. Following a meeting with the assistant director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, John Marcum, the Energy Committee agreed to assess potential effects of Reagan administration reorganization proposals on various energy technologies. Last March, the Energy Committee and R&D Committee joined in presenting House testimony supporting the electric energy systems program of the Department of Energy. In April, Committee Chairman Casazza testified before the House in favor of increased

funding for Federal solar-energy and conservation programs.

Last November, the committee urged U.S. IEEE members to contact their congressmen in support of H.R. 7187, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. The committee favors the following provisions of the legislation: (1) a schedule for the design, location, and construction of a Federally-owned and -operated permanent repository, including a specific licensing procedure detailing the requirements for each stage of the schedule; (2) state participation procedures, including financial impact assistance, leading to a cooperative relationship between the states and the Federal government; as well as (3) a "last resort" interim storage program for spent fuel to prevent potential nuclear-power-plant shutdowns from a lack of on-site storage capacity. Finally, the committee is working with the Energy Department's Office of Industrial Programs to inform industry of research projects within the department that might be performed in the private sector.

Research and Development Committee: J. Leon Shohet, committee chairman. For the second consecutive year, an analysis of electrotechnology in the Administration's proposed Federal research budget was prepared by the R&D Committee, previously undertaken by staff. Once again, the committee report was included in the "Inter-society Preliminary Budget," published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In March, 1982, the committee held its Second Annual Federal R&D Budget Briefing with Administration spokesmen discussing the research budgets of the Departments of Defense and Energy, the National

Science Foundation, as well as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). It also presented House testimony on the Fiscal Year 1983 NASA budget, calling for additional 30/20-GHz communications satellite funding. Finally, the committee endorsed full funding for the Very High Speed Integrated Circuits (VHSIC) and university research support programs.

Committee on Communications and Information Policy (CCIP): Alan F. Culbertson, committee chairman. A newly organized and augmented committee, the CCIP (formerly, the Telecommunications Policy Committee) conducted a special technical briefing for the staff of the House subcommittee considering revisions in the Communications Act of 1934. IEEE Past President Richard W. Damon also testified on the Communications Act Rewrite. In this case, the IEEE was one of three parties invited to appear before the House Subcommittee.

In addition, as noted in a USAB entity position statement, the CCIP urged that radio-frequency interference (RFI) be addressed through a voluntary standards process, as opposed to regulatory mechanisms. And the committee filed a formal document with the Federal Communications Commission on "spread spectrum." Finally, the CCIP encouraged and is supporting an IEEE Standards Board Ad Hoc Committee effort to propose methodology by which network standards can be set through a restructured telephone industry.

U.S. Technology Policy Committee: Henry L. Bachman, committee chairman. In February, 1982, the U.S. Technology Policy Committee held its fifth conference, "Charting the National Course," including sessions

on "Energy Policy," "National Resources for Innovation," "Information Systems Technology Policy," and "Public Understanding of Technology." During the conference and in conjunction with other activities of National Engineers' Week (including major IEEE Board meetings), the following speakers addressed IEEE engineers: Senator John Glenn (D-Ohio), Representative Don Fuqua (D-Fla.), Presidential Science Adviser George A. Keyworth, Congressional Office of Technology Assessment Director John H. Gibbons, National Science Foundation Director John B. Slaughter, and National Academy of Engineering President Courtland D. Perkins. IEEE President Robert E. Larson also delivered an address to congressional staff in the U.S. Capitol, entitled "Developing a More Coherent U.S. Technology Policy through Consensus-Building." The Conference on U.S. Technology Policy Proceedings is available through the IEEE Service Center. The committee also sponsored a seminar on U.S. technology policy for the IEEE Executive Committee held in January, 1983.

Capitol Hill presentation of IEEE Robotics Satellite Seminar. In December, 1982, USAB sponsored a site at the U.S. Capitol for congressional staff, congressmen, and media interested in viewing the IEEE Educational Activities short course on robotics broadcast nationwide via satellite, as suggested by IEEE Professional Activities Staff Director Leo C. Fanning.

Request for Federal support of Ex-Im Bank export trade funds. Responding to a request for support from the IEEE Pittsburgh Section PACE, Vice President Doyle wrote Senator Robert W. Kasten (R-Wis.)

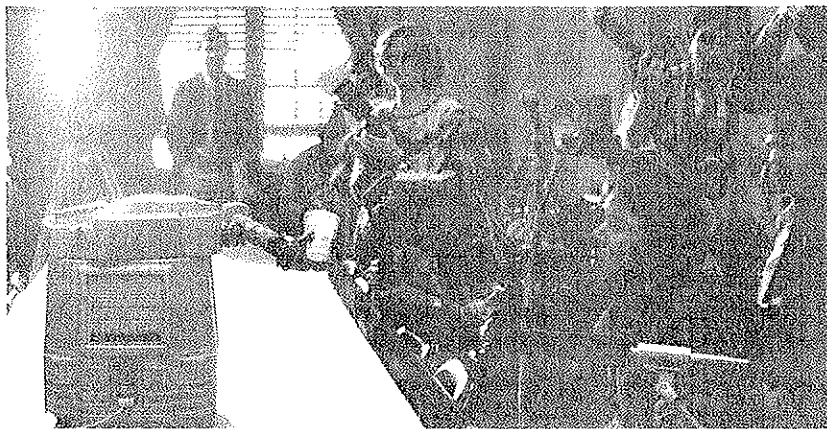
and Representative Clarence D. Long (D-Md) requesting Federal support of Export-Import (Ex-Im) Bank export trade funds. In August, 1982, Mr. Doyle noted that the Congress was considering legislative changes "to improve policies by which Ex-Im Bank operates." He urged that the Bank "give full support to the export of electronics, nuclear power, aerospace gear, machine tools, and other commercial products." Section PACE members also wrote their congressmen on this issue.

Committee on Man and Radiation (Comar): O.P. Gandhi, committee chairman. Last year, a "Position Paper on Human Exposure to Microwaves and Other Radio-Frequency Electromagnetic Fields (RFEM)," prepared by Comar, was adopted by the Board of Directors. According to the position paper, "There is no cause for public concern regarding the environmental levels of RFEM fields to which the general population is exposed." Comar is also continuing work on an educational film about microwaves. In addition, a "USAB Entity Position Statement on Health Aspects of Video-Display Terminals" was approved in 1982.

Volunteer Management

Financial Planning: Peter A. E. Rusche, USAB controller. For the first time in 1982, the 1983 USAB budget was completed in mid-year. Similarly, the 1982 program plan was completed earlier than usual, and the 1983 program plan is expected to be available in January. Also, the program plan may eventually be expanded into a multiyear plan.

A five-year financial forecast was



Media Technology Briefing, IEEE Robotics Satellite Seminar, Capitol Hill Site

used in preparing the 1983 budget. In addition, considerable improvements were made in administrative procedures, with one monthly financial report available within days of receipt of relevant data.

Public-Information Activities

As part of the Institute's overall public-information objectives to enhance public recognition of the engineering profession, foster a better understanding of the influence of technology on the public welfare, and promote the interests of the IEEE and its members in the public arena, IEEE Washington Office public-information volunteers and staff contributed to national coverage of many of the foregoing activities in the media, including the Associated Press, UPI, CBS, NBC, BBC, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *National Geographic*, *Aviation Week and Space Technology*, as well as *Electronics*. In addition, a Public Information Workshop was held in conjunction with the National PACE Workshop in Phoenix, Arizona; copies of the 1983 *Technical*

Resources Directory for Media were distributed to PACE editors; and a media technology briefing was held in connection with the robotics satellite seminar.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the USAB councils have contributed to IEEE's increased recognition on the Washington scene. In all of these activities, Vice President Doyle notes: "It has always been my feeling that the USAB, as best it can, should represent the thinking of the membership of the IEEE. Obviously, it can't please everyone on every issue." But Mr. Doyle urges members: "Write to the Council Chairmen (care of the IEEE Washington Office, 1111-19th Street, N.W., Suite 608, Washington, D.C. 20036). Write to me (at the same address). Let us know what you think. We may not do just what you ask, but we will do something a little differently because you wrote."

For assistance with information contained in this report, individuals are urged to call the Washington Office at (202) 785-0017.



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IEEE Public Information
Washington, D.C.
Information Line (202) 785-2180