

# Minutes of the IEEE South Saskatchewan Section ExCom Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, January 27th, 2021 at 5:00pm

**Venue:** Zoom 948 6563 7908

## Attendance:

### Voting Members

Irfan Al-Anbagi	Chairman
Raman Paranjape	Vice-Chairman, and Immediate Past Chairman (Ex-officio)
Kin-Choong Yow	Secretary
Brent Maksymiw	Membership Development Co-Chair
Aditya Pathak	Student Activities Chair
Tessa Herzberger	Assistant (Grad Student Rep)
Victor Edoho	Coordinator (TISP)
Adam Tilson	Webmaster, and Regina Engineering Society (RES) Rep, and Computer Chapter Chair (Ex-officio)
Usman Munawar	PES/IAS Joint Chapter Chair (Ex-officio)
Reagan Ong	WIE Affinity Group Protem Chair (Ex-officio)

### Non-Voting Members

Doug Wagner	Student Branch Advisor
Mohamed Ahmed	YP Affinity Group Vice-Chair

### Regrets

Moeed Shamim	Treasurer, and eNotice Coordinator, and vTools Coordinator
Shahedur Rahman	Membership Development Chair
Zhanle Wang	Professional Activities Chair
Jason Whitelaw	YP Affinity Group Chair (Ex-officio)
Kaylee Tumack	WIE Affinity Group Protem Vice-Chair

## 1. Call to Order (Irfan Al-Anbagi)

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. The Chairman welcomed everybody back and wished everybody a Happy New Year. The Chairman introduced Mohamed (YP Vice Chair) and Aditya (Student Activities Chair).

## 2. Acceptance of the meeting agenda

**Motion** – To accept the agenda as circulated.

Carried. [Brent/Victor. All in favor]

3. Acceptance of the previous minutes

**Motion** – To accept the 20191029 minutes as circulated.

Carried. [Reagan/Brent. *Abstentions*: Doug, Mohamed, Aditya and Reagan. The rest all in favor]

**Motion** – To accept the AGM minutes as circulated.

Carried. [Victor/Aditya. *Abstentions*: Mohamed. The rest all in favor]

4. Section Update (Irfan Al-Anbagi)

Irfan shared that he attended the IEEE West meeting and it was announced that there will be Training Sessions available for members.

Irfan shared that the challenge we are facing is that of losing members. He hope that we can get our students back.

Tessa updated that she will be sending out masks in a couple of days.

Doug pointed out that the IEEE South Saskatchewan section is currently supported by SaskTel and SaskPower, and he suggested to target more industries like the Potash industry.

Irfan questioned the committee: What is our target for 2021? How to reach out to more members? What benefits can they get as members? The main priority is to get our members back.

5. 2020 Annual Report (Kin-Choong Yow)

Kin-Choong reported that 3 things are still missing from the 2020 Annual Report, which are the Chairman's Welcome message, the financial statement and Victor's photo. Irfan said that he will send his message by the next meeting.

6. Approval of Educational Activities Chair (Irfan Al-Anbagi)

Irfan asked Aditya to consider the position of the Educational Activities Chair. Tessa said that she will be graduating in a few months' time and will no longer be eligible to be the Grad Student Rep, so Irfan also asked Tessa to consider this position too.

7. Financial Update (Moeed Shamim)

Moeed is unable to attend this meeting. He will need to go to the bank to update the signatures.

8. 2021 ExCom Election Process update (Kin-Choong Yow)

Kin-Choong presented the process to elect the ExCom as described in the IEEE MGA Operations Manual. Irfan asked how realistic is it? We are a small section and we cannot even fill the positions unlike larger sections. Irfan also asked do we need to have a motion to do this? Kin-Choong replied that it is stated in the IEEE MGA Operations Manual that sections are expected to follow the guidelines laid out in the manual. Kin-Choong said that we could have a motion **not** to follow the IEEE MGA Operations Manual.

Raman said that he is intrigued by Kin-Choong's enthusiasm. He said that he is in support of any process that brings us closer to the IEEE MGA Operations guidelines. He said that if there is a motion **not** to follow the IEEE MGA Operations guidelines, he would definitely vote against it.

Reagan suggested that we should propose a process that meets our needs. Doug suggested that perhaps we can call for a nomination for the Section Nominating Committee. If there are no responses, we can do as what we are doing now.

9. IEEE Student Branch "Reactivation" (Douglas Wagner)

Doug reported that he had thought about how he can "reactivate" the student branch. He planned to set up Zoom interviews with IEEE members from the industry, so as to attract students to be more active. He believes that this will boost student activities by making them participate. He hope to have an active student branch in the Fall.

10. Professional Activities update (Zhanle Wang)

Zhanle is unable to attend this meeting, but he had organized a Webinar on Jan 25th by Prof. Lina Bertling Tjernberg from the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH).

11. IEEE South Sask undergraduate students scholarship (Irfan Al-Anbagi)

Irfan suggested to give a scholarship to attract students to be more active. The criteria is that students must be active in the IEEE. Raman gave an example of pairing students with industry members, and have a zoom meeting for maybe 15 minutes once a semester. Kin-Choong agreed that it is a good idea but he pointed out that we need someone passionate to drive this and keep these going.

The meeting adjourned at 6.33pm [Reagan/Raman].