

President's Message

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The CAS Society in 2001 – Year End Report

This is my final message as president of the Circuits and Systems Society (CASS). For me it has been a tremendous responsibility and also a great honor and privilege. I also find this year to be one of significant opportunities and challenges. By all accounts, our Society is considered as one of the most technically vibrant and forward looking societies within the IEEE. With the help of dedicated volunteers spread around the world, we have served our membership with distinction in 2001.

What is it that we have collectively accomplished during 2001?

■ The most visible accomplishment this year has been our membership increase that presently stands at 21,157 (over 35% increase). This makes us the fourth largest society within the IEEE behind the Computer, Communication, and Power Engineering societies. This increase is due to successful student membership promotion and recruitment at key conferences. The table and graph show the most recent active CASS membership statistics. As I indicated previously, the challenge for 2002 is to maintain our membership at similar levels.

During the year, we also started a new program titled "Promotion of the CAS Society in Targeted Countries". The focus for 2001 has been on China. Ruey-Wen Liu, our past president, played a critical role in this activity. The Society has decided to extend this successful program next year to India and Russia.

■ During this year, we have created an impressive web site for the CAS Society (<http://www.ieee-cas.org>). Among other things, the web site is being used to run the Society's administration by placing agendas, minutes, action items and so forth.

■ The Society has budgeted for a new administrative staff person for publications at the IEEE Headquarters for 2002 with the intention of accelerating the review and publication process and to help run our publication division efficiently. The staff position has been approved by the IEEE and we will

soon start the recruitment process.

■ We have improved our collaborative efforts with our sister societies, particularly with the Signal Processing (SP) Society this year. I expect to see more progress in this regard with the SP Society in 2002.

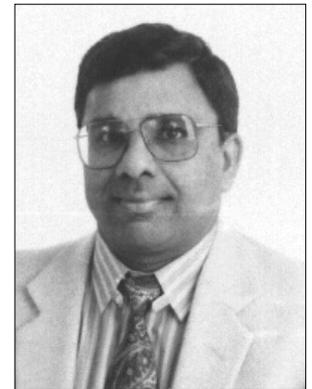
There is so much common interest between our two societies. Both of our societies will be benefited through sound cooperation.

■ The CAS Society played an important role in the creation of the new IEEE Council on Nanotechnology. The CASS is considered one of the four key sponsoring societies of this new council. I am pleased to inform that CASS volunteers, Cliff Lau and Wolfgang Porod, have been elected as the president elect and vice president for publications respectively for this new Nano Council. We have also been very supportive in the formation of the Neural Network Society (from being a Council). In a way, we have been continuing this year the past tradition of supporting the formation of new councils and societies within the IEEE.

■ The Distinguished Lecturer Program under the able guidance of Ellen Yoffa has been greatly expanded during the year. The program has 43 distinguished CAS lecturers. And this year there were 50 events spread across all regions. For 2002, there is a plan to provide web casting of some of these successful lectures for the benefit of all members.

■ Our regional vice presidents continue to play an important role in promoting CAS in their respective regions and for the first time they organized Chapter Chair's Meetings in their regions. The Society has invested a good amount of resources in promoting CAS educational tours. The success of the program in Region 9 is worth mentioning in this context.

■ In the area of technical activities, we now have fifteen technical committees covering diverse tech-



2001 Active CAS Member Statistics

| | Jan-01 | Feb-01 | Mar-01 | Apr-01 | May-01 | Jun-01 | Jul-01 | Aug-01 | Sep-01 | Oct-01 |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Region 1 | 1425 | 1216 | 1265 | 1296 | 1322 | 1327 | 1354 | 1361 | 1371 | 1388 |
| Region 2 | 747 | 645 | 673 | 699 | 721 | 730 | 753 | 765 | 792 | 805 |
| Region 3 | 787 | 662 | 695 | 714 | 721 | 740 | 752 | 779 | 790 | 802 |
| Region 4 | 808 | 675 | 714 | 734 | 758 | 771 | 784 | 805 | 823 | 830 |
| Region 5 | 1223 | 1028 | 1075 | 1109 | 1132 | 1158 | 1173 | 1187 | 1206 | 1224 |
| Region 6 | 3867 | 3229 | 3389 | 3463 | 3530 | 3597 | 3728 | 3845 | 3878 | 3897 |
| Region 7 | 539 | 440 | 474 | 492 | 505 | 540 | 557 | 581 | 597 | 601 |
| Region 8 | 3813 | 3898 | 4027 | 3597 | 3775 | 4089 | 4245 | 4556 | 4621 | 4683 |
| Region 9 | 547 | 564 | 610 | 491 | 511 | 634 | 1226 | 2100 | 2101 | 2103 |
| Region 10 | 2722 | 2758 | 2799 | 2413 | 2570 | 3182 | 3310 | 4786 | 4801 | 4824 |
| Member Totals | 16478 | 15115 | 15721 | 15008 | 15545 | 16768 | 17882 | 20765 | 20980 | 21157 |
| Higher Grades | 11122 | 10021 | 10292 | 9958 | 10104 | 10256 | 10730 | 10774 | 10924 | 10999 |
| Students | 2548 | 2474 | 2701 | 2578 | 2921 | 3919 | 4297 | 7069 | 7033 | 7028 |
| Associates | 1580 | 1392 | 1441 | 1230 | 1270 | 1317 | 1544 | 1583 | 1713 | 1847 |
| Affiliates | 30 | 28 | 30 | 26 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 28 |

nical interests of our members while keeping the core and connecting theme of circuits and systems. Also we have started working on bringing out benchmark CAS publications in emerging technical fields. I am hoping that the first such publication would appear during 2002.

■ We had significant accomplishments in the key area of publications. With the cosponsoring of two new IEEE transactions this year (mobile computing and nanotechnology), the Society now is involved with eight transactions and two magazines. Our new *CAS Magazine* started in 2001 under the dedicated leadership of the founding editor-in-chief, Mike Sain, and is looking more and more impressive and informative with each succeeding issue. Our past president Rui de Figueiredo played an important role in the development of this magazine. It is my hope and desire that the *CAS Magazine* will soon become one of the most sought after IEEE magazines.

■ I had the pleasure of choosing four outstanding editors-in-chief for our transactions. The new EICs are Professor Tamas Roska for *TCAS-I*; Professor Ian Galton for *TCAS-II*; Professor Karti Mayarm for *TCAD*; and Professor Thomas Sikora for *TCSVT*. I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the outgoing EICs: Professors M. N. S. Swamy, Chris Toumazou, Nanni De Micheli, and Dr. Weiping Li.

■ Another impressive arena has been our conference division. We have continued the successful workshop programs on emerging technologies. We also supported many CASS sponsored conferences around the globe with grants and loans, as in the past.

For me, ISCAS in Sydney, Australia, and ECCTD in Espoo, Finland, have been the most memorable ones. The Design Automation Conference continues to be a major successful technical event sponsored by our society in every sense. A noteworthy involvement for our Society this year has been with the first ever IEEE Nano Conference held in Maui, Hawaii in October 2001.

■ The 2002 IEEE Fellows list is out, and a record number of our CASS nominees have become new Fellows. My sincere appreciation to Wai-Kai Chen for chairing the Fellow Committee this year.

During 2001, we have also started looking at the long-term administrative staff needs of our Society. The societies of our size, such as Signal Processing, Electron Devices, and Power Engineering, have a full time staff of 8 or more. In order to run our operations efficiently, it is my belief that we must seriously consider having expanded centralized staff support. The Society indeed should be governed by volunteers as it is today. However, if we seek the most qualified volunteers to serve our Society, we need to recognize that the time available for them is limited, and hence proper staff support is a necessity. This has to be done with great care and after serious deliberations in our governing bodies. The societies mentioned above built their current centralized staff support over a long period.

It is my pleasure to welcome newly elected members of the 2002 Board of Governors: Jason Cong, Eby Friedman, Hiroaki Kunieda, Mark Flomenhoft, Enrico Macii, and Robert Newcomb.

The new members of the 2002 Executive Committee are Giovanni De Micheli (president elect), Geert De Veirman (VP conferences), Martin Hasler (VP technical activities), Maciej Ogorzalek (VP Region 8), and Sergio Netto (VP Region 9). I wish them all the best. They are most qualified and the Society is in safe hands.

The outgoing members of the Board of Governors are Ian Galton, Michael Green, and Chris Toumazou. The outgoing Executive Committee members are Bing Sheu, Mona Zaghoul, Tony Davies, and Juan Cousseau. I wish to express my sincere thanks to all these dedicated volunteers. My special thanks goes to K. Thulasiraman and George Moschytz for serving as chairs of Constitution and Bylaws and Nominations Committees respectively. There are many many more volunteers around the world who have contributed to our Society during this year and I am thankful to all of them for their services to CASS.

This is my last message as president, so I wish to express my gratitude to all of my 2001 Excom colleagues: Josef Nossek, Bing Sheu, Ibrahim Hajj, M.N.S. Swamy, Mona Zaghoul, Geert De Veirman, Wasfy Mikhael, Tony Davies, Juan Cousseau, and Nobuo Fujii for their leadership, significant contributions, and their friendship during this year. Also, Giovanni De Micheli as president's advisor, and Bob Marks as Society parliamentarian, served with dis-

tion and I sincerely acknowledge and thank them for their services and friendship.

I wish the incoming president, Josef Nossek, all the best and look forward to supporting him in moving our Society to newer heights. It has been my pleasure working with Josef very closely all through the year.

My thanks go to Barbara and Tom Wehner for providing the administrative support for the Society. I also greatly appreciated the service of I-Hung Khoo as my administrative assistant this year. Hung has assisted me with the CASS work around the year, including the weekends.

Needless to say, I received the most inspiration, understanding, and support from my family, all through the year, for which I am ever grateful.

Also, I am thankful for the support provided by the forward looking administration (in particular vice president Polakoff and dean Mahoney) of the California State University, Long Beach, California.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions: (Professor Hari C. Reddy, California State University at Long Beach, Long Beach, CA 90840; Tel: (562) 985-5106; Fax: (562) 985-8887; Email: hreddy@csulb.edu).

I wish each of the CASS members a very successful, safe and enjoyable New Year 2002. We all should be very proud of being part of this great society.

