IEEE Buenaventura Section

OpCom Meeting Minutes

# February 22, 2021

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| online |

## Attendees

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| Doug Askegard | Jerry Knotts | Chuck Seabury |
| Karl Geiger | Victor Lin | Mohammad Tehrani |
| Deron Johnson | Momin Quddus |  |

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

## Last Month's Highlights

Momin attended the Region 6 OpCom on behalf on the section.

MTT co-hosted a talk on Exploring Martian Geology

ComSoc will be hosting a series of meetings, starting with Prof. fred harris of UCSD. They also plan to host two meetings in March with Dr. Bernie Skyler. MTT will co-host at least one of them.

## Minutes of Previous Meeting - Deron

Minutes from the January 11 meeting were accepted as submitted.

## Treasurer's Report - Karl

Section spending continues to be minimal since we have switched to online meetings.

Due to lower interest rates, the interest income on the section’s bank balance will be less than what it was in 2020. Last year, the section budgeted $600/year in interest income; it banked $375 due to mid-year interest rate cuts. This year 2021, interest income will likely be about $220/year.

The section filed its required annual MGA banking end-of-year and compliance documentation on January 28. Filing before February 15 earns the section a small bonus.

A question came up regarding the plan for the IEEE Foundation funds by the end of the year. Deron agreed to contact Nathalie and get the details. Subsequent to the meeting, Nathalie and Deron discussed the following:

• February: Convene team to schedule and track talks through November 2021 on Raising the Awareness of the Role of Sustainable Engineering. Also, discuss possible promotional items around this theme, since it is budgeted. [In Progress]

• March: Team to plan a summer “field trip” for Engineering Sustainable Farming (drive-through or virtual).

• April: Small team to plan Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Engineering and mini-seed funding.

• May: Strategic planning for Girls Make STEM with Heart.

• Summer: See if/how First Lego League will be having tournament in the fall.

## Section Recognition/Awards

There was a consensus that we can delay our annual recognition brunch until we can get together in person.

In previous years, we have given scholarships to a couple individuals that were referred to us from NEWC-VSB. It looks like that organization will not be having a fundraiser banquet this year. It is unclear if, or how, we can fill in the gap. *I might have missed something here so let me know if there are more details.*

## Other Items

Mohammad mentioned he attended a talk from the Optical Society of America (OSA) on Sherlock. He will see if we can do a joint meeting.

## Next Meeting

**Monday, March 29, 2021; 6:30 PM**