
January 2007

Rock River Valley Section

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Event

Sense

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc.

RRVS Section and Industry Application Society Chapter Meeting Engineering and the Bottom of the Pyramid

WHEN Thursday, January 25,
2007

WHERE

Rock Valley College, Woodward Technology Center, Rooms 117/119. I-90 to Riverside Blvd., exit and go west to Mulford Rd. Go south to 2nd light, turn east into RVC. Follow road to left to last building on right.

AGENDA

6:00 PM Networking
6:30 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Presentation

PROGRAM

Low income markets present a tremendous business opportunity. The opportunity to make a profit and to help billions of aspiring poor world wide is at hand. The presentation will address the following questions. What are the goals of the United Nations for helping the world's poor? What could engineering do to help meet the goals and what is engineering doing now to serve low income markets?

SPEAKER

Giri Venkataramanan

(M'92) earned his B.E. in electrical engineering from the Government College of Technology, Coimbatore, India, in 1986, his M.S. from California Institute of Technology in 1987, and his Ph.D. from Univ of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1992. Giri has been a faculty member at UW-Madison since 1999 where he continues to direct research in various areas of electronic power conversion as an Associate Director of the Wisconsin Electric Machines and Power Electronics Consortium (WEMPEC). He holds five U.S. patents and has published a number of technical papers. His interests are in microgrids, distributed generation, renewable energy systems, matrix and multilevel power converters, and ac power flow control.

MEAL INFORMATION

Dinner menu: Indian buffet featuring vegetables and chicken. The costs are: member and student non-members: \$5, non-member: \$10, and student members: \$2. Please make your

dinner reservations by calling Ginger at 815-394-5696 or sending her an email (ginger.spinasant@hs.utc.com) by Monday, January 22, at 5pm. Please include the following information: your name, phone number, email address, IEEE member number, and choice of dinner entrée. Unemployed members may call one of the officers for special arrangements.

NOTE

The meeting is open to the general public. You need not be an IEEE member. Guests are welcome. Please call Ginger at 815-394-5696 for questions.

Know Your New Officers

Chair—Joe Etminan **Professor of Electronic Engineering Technology, Rock Valley College**

Thank you for choosing me to serve IEEE Rock River Valley Section as Chair. I've been affiliated with the section since 1986. I received my BS, and MS from Alabama A & M University Electrical and Industrial Technology. In 1986 I moved to Rockford and starting teaching Electronics courses in the Engineering and Technology Department at Rock Valley College. I continued my education, and received my second Masters from Northern Illinois University in Electrical Engineering. Currently, I split my time between Rock Valley College and Hamilton-Sundstrand, where I work as a contract engineer. If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to contact me.

Vice Chair—Paul Hofmann **Electronic Test Engineering Section Lead, Hamilton Sundstrand**

Thank you for choosing me to serve the IEEE Rock River Valley Section as Vice Chair. I have been affiliated with the section since 2002. I received my BSEE from University of Michigan – Dearborn (1980) and an MBA from Rockford College (2006). I am a Section Lead engineer at Hamilton Sundstrand in the Electronic Test Engineering department, Rockford, IL. Contact me should you have any suggestions or questions.

Treasurer—Adrian Vandergrift **Senior Engineer, Hamilton Sundstrand**

Thank you for choosing me to serve the IEEE Rock River Valley Section as Treasurer. I've been affiliated with the section since 2002. I received my BS in Electrical Engineering from Northern Illinois University in 1999. I am a Senior Design Engineer at Hamilton Sundstrand, in Rockford, IL. Please feel free to call or email me with any questions.

November RRVS Meeting Recap

The annual joint meeting between the RRVS and the NIU student branch was held again this past November in the NIU Engineering Building. This year the presentation was by Dean Patterson, past president of the Power Electronics Society and currently a visiting professor at University of Nebraska. Dr. Peterson's presentation on renewable energy focused on sustainable alternative energy. He started by reviewing the basic concepts of thermodynamics, energy, and power. He continued discussing the various levels of energy available from a variety of sources. The discussion then went on to investigate the methods of utilizing several different forms of alternative energy such as solar, wind, tidal and ocean wave.

Overall the presentation was highly informative on the various aspects of renewable energy. The audience appreciated the presentation and had a very enjoyable evening.

Submissions to *Event Sense*

Send articles and job ads to the *Event Sense* editor, Bob Parro, via e-mail. Please make submissions by the twenty-fifth of the month. All submissions are subject to editing for style, clarity, and space considerations.

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*Messages for student officers can be left at the NIU Dept of Electrical
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(815) 753-9974 or e-mail at sb.niu@ieee.org*

*The Rock River Valley Section gratefully acknowledges the following
companies and university for supporting Section Officers:*

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Rock River Valley Section
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RRVS Calendar

- January RRVS Section Meeting** **January 25**
"Engineering and the Bottom of the Pyramid" at Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL
- February National Engineer's Week** **February 20**
RRVS will have a booth setup during Engineering Week at Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL
- February RRVS Section/Meeting** **February 22**
"0.1 Horsepower and 0 to 5 GHz in 50 Picoseconds: The Challenges in Delivering Power to Tomorrow's Microelectronics" at EigerLab, Rockford, IL
- March RRVS Section/Meeting** **March 8**
"Fuel Cells" at Rock Valley College, Rockford, IL



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