



The Benefits of Being a VTS Member

This is an exciting month in the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS). We look forward to seeing many of you at the 97th Annual IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference (VTC2023-Spring) held on 20–23 June 2023 in Florence, Italy. We owe many thanks to J.R. Cruz as VTS vice president for conferences; Alberto Reatti and Lorenzo Ciani as general cochairs; and Gabriele Maria Lozito, Fabio Corti, Rui Dinis, Alicia Trivino, Luca Pugi, and Salvatore Musumeci as Technical Program Committee cochairs of VTC2023-Spring.

As mentioned in my March 2023 “President’s Message” column, one of our focuses this year is providing more benefits and services to our members, including mentorships to young professionals and promoting education activities.

The Student Travel Grant Awards program was created to provide travel grants to IEEE VTS student members to present their research outcomes at VTS-sponsored conferences. I am pleased to announce that VTS is offering more travel grant awards this year to enable more students to travel and experience our world-class conferences in person. If you are a student who has a paper accepted for VTC2023-Fall or the 2023 IEEE Vehicle Power and Propulsion Conference, please consider applying for a travel grant.

COUNCIL-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES PROVIDE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLISH AND COLLABORATE ON RESEARCH, NETWORK WITH COLLEAGUES, STAY CURRENT ON NEWS AND EVENTS, DEVELOP STANDARDS, AND PARTICIPATE IN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

VTS also offers two student fellowships annually, each at US\$5,000, to promote graduate-level studies in vehicular technology and transportation electronics. These fellowships are offered to IEEE student members who are full-time graduate students. The deadline for application is early September.

Learn more about both of these opportunities on the VTS website: <https://vtsociety.org/awards/about-awards>.

I have been a member of VTS for over 25 years, and even now, I am learning about the unparalleled benefits that our Society has to offer VTS members.

Join an IEEE Technical Community or Council

IEEE develops communities around particular technology challenges or cutting-edge technical areas. VTS is proud to sponsor several of these communities. VTS members can join each of these technical communities for free by visiting the IEEE website, signing into your account, searching for the webpage of the community, and adding the registration to your account. As a registered member of a community, you will have access to valuable infor-

mation and resources including the IEEE Blockchain web portal, e-newsletters, conferences, educational opportunities, publications, standards development, the IEEE Future Directions Resource Center, and more.

- The IEEE Blockchain Community provides a collaborative footprint between industry, leading entities in the field, and key blockchain stakeholders and implementers that encourages positive blockchain ecosystem growth and capture.
- The IEEE Future Networks Community brings together researchers, scientists, and engineers from industry, academia, and governments to solve the challenges associated with the development and deployment of future networks.
- The IEEE Smart Grid Community provides expertise and guidance for individuals and organizations involved in the modernization and optimization of the power grid.
- The IEEE Sustainable Information and Communication Technologies Community seeks to foster the incorporation of green metrics and standards in design concepts for various technical domains. The initiative brings together expertise

from different fields, in conferences and publications, with a view to foster holistic design and standardization approaches.

Technical Councils are groups of Societies working together in broad areas of technology. They sponsor activities that benefit individuals in all of the member Societies. As a VTS member, you can become a participant of each of the following Councils for free by adding the registration on the Council webpage to your IEEE account. Council-sponsored activities provide you the opportunity to publish and collaborate on research, network with colleagues, stay current on news and events, develop standards, and participate in educational activities.

- The IEEE Biometrics Council advances, promotes, and coordi-

nates work in the field of biometric technology including the theory, design, and application of biometrics based on physical and/or behavioral features and traits for identification, verification, encryption, recognition, and medical diagnosis.

- The IEEE Council on Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) focuses on the theory and practice of matters relating to RFID and RFID-related systems with a focus on radio frequency identification and the Internet of Things (IoT).
- The IEEE Sensors Council serves its 26 IEEE member Societies in the multidisciplinary technical area of sensors, covering all aspects of sensors and sensing systems, from design to fabrication and applications in IoT.

- The IEEE Systems Council promotes activities around systems engineering including systems modeling, simulation, and integration as well as robust design, safety, and human factors and product transition.

I would like to encourage you to actively participate in various VTS activities and to contribute to the Society. Furthermore, I would like to know how the VTS can better serve you. Please do not hesitate to contact me (wzhuang@uwaterloo.ca) for your ideas, suggestions, comments, questions, or concerns. Working hard together, we will make the VTS better and stronger. I hope to see you at VTC2023-Spring!

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