Governance in Technical Activities

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Why am I here?

- Key TA staff attending (over about 5 years) all AdComs
- Provide a interface (and point of contact) with IEEE
- Learn about the individual S/Cs
- Modify processes to enhance collaboration



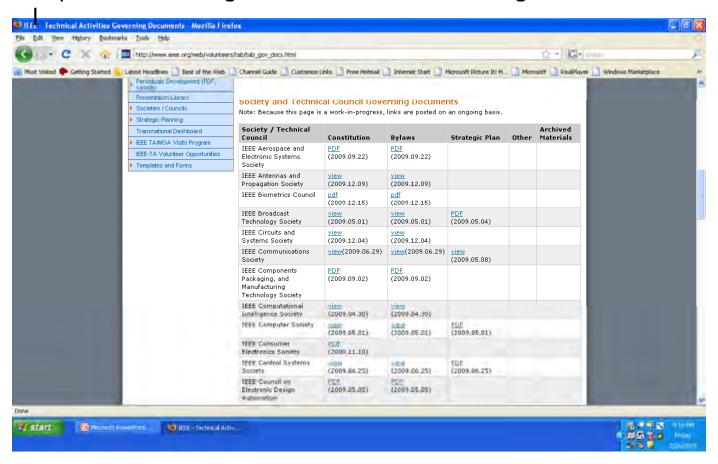
Governance

- Support for S/C Governance Documents
- Assistance with governance and process issues
- Society Membership
- Volunteer issues
- Web content and tools
- Society Review process



On-line Links to all S/C Constitutions and Bylaws

http://www.ieee.org/about/volunteers/tab/tab_gov_docs.htm



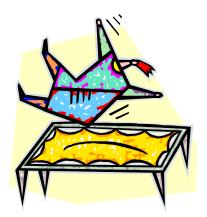


Limitations of Governance Documents

- There are not enough rules to address every possible issue that comes to you
- When you try to write a rule for every circumstance, you end up with
 - Too many rules
 - Feeling that some rules are "not important"
 - Confusion and mistrust
- Sometimes you need to make a decision that is unpopular or makes some of the group unhappy.

Governance: Conducting the Meeting "What are the Rules?"

- New York State
- IEEE Constitution
- IEEE Bylaws
- IEEE Policies
- OU Governing Documents
 - Technical Activities Operations Manual
 - Society Constitution and Bylaws
- Roberts' Rules of Order
 - Primarily for Issues NOT CODIFIED in other Governing Documents





Examples of things codified in other documents (1)

- Bylaw I-300.4(1): "..the majority of the votes of the members present and entitled to vote, at the time of the vote, provided a quorum is present, shall be the act....". Not present and voting.
 - The number of those entitled to vote is the denominator



Implications

- All those who may vote are considered in the total number of voters
- Therefore, calculation of a majority is based on this total number of voters (1/2 +1 = majority)
- If a number of people abstain or do not cast a vote, the number needed to pass a motion is still the majority



Examples of things codified in other documents (2)

TAB Operations Manual: Allowed to postpone or lay-on-the-table" until the next meeting, even though TAB meets only three times a year



Some recent governance issues

- Affiliates
 - Societies may determine the rights of affiliates; may they hold office?
- Number of candidates for elections
 - Elections should allow for the voters to have an impact
- Use of email voting
 - Majority of those eligible to vote



Terms of Office (1)

• At the Board of Directors and TAB level, Bylaw I-304.5 Terms of Appointment, states that "acceptance of appointment will carry with it the understanding that a member would normally be reappointed annually to serve for no more than three consecutive terms".



Terms of Office (2)

- Policy 13.2(c): ..."Members of Standing Committees and Boards and any subcommittees of the Standing Committees and Boards shall generally be appointed for no longer than three consecutive years"...
- TAB Operations Manual (regarding TAB Standing Committees: "Reappointment is permissible, for a maximum of three (3) terms."

Communications

- Web sites
- Information on S/C activities
 - Board of Director reports
 - IEEE Annual Report
 - The Institute
 - Conference highlights
 - Marketing-like summary of S/C
- Highlighting new technology areas
 - Smart Grid
 - Cloud Computing



Volunteer Training

- Workshops
- Presentation Library
- Center for Leadership Excellence
 - General leadership skills
 - Operations
 - Strategy



Society Membership

- 2011 renewal eMembership
- Alignment with Society membership promotion
- 2012-2013 society membership
 - Drive to standard pricing
 - Bundling, etc.
- Overall Society membership promotions



Thank You

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