Nominees for IEEE Computer Society Offices and Board of Governors Positions in 2008

On the following pages are the position statements and biographies of the IEEE Computer Society’s candidates for president-elect, first and second vice presidents, and Board of Governors. Within each category, candidates are listed in alphabetical order. Election of officers to one-year terms and of Board members to three-year terms, each beginning 1 January 2008, will be by vote of the membership as specified in the bylaws.

Ballots must be returned no later than 12:00 noon EDT on Tuesday, 2 October. Members in all regions can vote via the Web at www.computer.org/election or by fax with Election Services Corp. at +1 516 248 4770. Return ballots by mail to the IEEE Computer Society, c/o Election Services Corp., PO Box 9209, Garden City, NY 11530-9009, USA. For replacement ballots, call +1 516 248 4200.

Results will be announced in the December issue of Computer. The opinions expressed in the statements are those of the individual candidates and do not necessarily reflect Computer Society positions or policies.

James D. Isaak

Position statement. Our Society must attract the next generation of technologists and phase out financial dependence on subscriptions. We have not fully leveraged our IEEE relationship, and now is the time to do so by delivering state-of-the-art services with lower fees.

While serving on the IEEE Board of Directors, as well as the Computer Society Board of Governors, I have been an innovative catalyst for change. In chairing the IT Strategy Committee, I have helped to establish a foundation for personalized services and related revenue opportunities and worked to procure the eCollaboration/community tools that are essential to attracting leading-edge professionals.

Challenge: Declining membership. Path forward: Deliver a 21st century professional environment; champion individual participation; 2nd Life, Zude, what’s next?


Challenge: Competing with “free online.” Path forward: Apply the Google approach to funding services.

Challenge: Attracting students into field. Path forward: Leverage IEEE and other precollege programs; develop a positive visibility program.

Challenge: Disruptive career environment. Path forward: Continuing education, social networking, employer-independent benefit programs.


Please visit my Web site, www.JimIsaak.com, for details on how we can address these challenges.

My diversity of leadership roles within the IEEE provides the experience needed to address these challenges and the social network essential to make it happen. Many years in industry, a few in academia, and a lifetime of global collaboration provide me with an appreciation of our membership.

I am a proud recipient of the Hans Karlsson Award for “Outstanding leadership and achievement through cooperation,” which reflects the approach I favor.

(Lisaak continued on next page)

Susan K. (Kathy) Land

Position statement. This year, as the Computer Society’s first vice president, I have been leading an effort to implement a revised business model for conference operations. This rollout has been challenging and follows a two-year review of the Society’s conferences portfolio and subsequent analysis of the previous business model. These changes were prompted, in part, by a need to address the financial situation of the Computer Society, which is facing deficits in the foreseeable future and, in part, to provide a simplified process for conference organizers.

During my years as a volunteer with the Society, I have been privileged to serve in several different areas, including two years as vice president of standards activities and as a member of the Board of Governors. I feel my experience uniquely qualifies me to understand the challenges we now face and to continue working with our volunteer leaders and staff in pursuit of our plans for restructuring.

We have made significant progress in our pursuit of organizational transformation by establishing deliberate policy and intentional directional changes to support the Society’s position of advancing the theory, practice, and application of computer and information processing technology. We must recover our revenue streams to rebuild and better serve our membership. To do this will require concerted and continued effort by the senior leadership of the IEEE Computer Society.

As volunteers, we should all look for ways to help the Society provide its customers with total solution improvements to facilitate the retention of the Society position as the recognized authority and source for defining how software and systems are developed, tested, and maintained. If elected, I will strive to ensure that IEEE Computer Society products are relevant to the marketplace, are affordable, and provide a consistent view of the state of the practice. I will continue to support the definition of initiatives and directions that enable collaboration, support interoperability, strengthen our marketing, and sustain our plans for fiscal improvement.

For additional information in support of my experience and vision for the future of the Society, please visit www.susankathyland.com.
George V. Cybenko

Position statement. The next several years present great opportunities for the IEEE Computer Society. Distribution channels for technical publications are changing dramatically, so we have to rethink both our print and paper publications businesses to lead rather than follow trends. In addition, the demographics of the Society’s membership will be changing as the global economy evolves, so we need to be constantly responsive to the changing needs of members.

Computer professionals still value technical content highly but are less willing to pay for it through subscriptions or society membership dues. This is especially true for developing economies and for younger professionals who have smaller discretionary budgets. Moreover, people are becoming more comfortable with Web searches and more free material is out there for them to find.

Professional societies have become large and hierarchical, leading many members to have only superficial, intermittent interaction with the societies. I believe there is much to do in redefining the IEEE Computer Society and its mechanisms for interacting with its members. This is the area I believe I can contribute to most as first vice president. In particular, it is important to better harness the human networking potential of the Society, both in hard-core technical issues and in individual professional development. We can start this by shifting our Web presence from the library model, where users check books out and do not talk, to the café model, where talking, thinking, and interacting are expected and rewarded. I welcome your ideas and support in realizing these visions.

Biography. George Cybenko has served on the Board of Directors of the IEEE Computer Society (2002-2004 and 2005-2007). He has been involved in a variety of IEEE Computer Society publications activities, as founding editor in chief of IEEE Computing in Science and Engineering and as founding editor in chief of IEEE Security and Privacy. Cybenko has also served as member, author, editor, and conference organizer for several other IEEE bodies, including the Signal Processing, Information Theory, and Control Systems Societies. He currently holds the Dorothy and Walter Gramm Professorship of Computer Science and Engineering at Duke University and is a co-founder of International Design Competition Committee, Computer Society History Committee, and is currently chair of the Technical Achievement Award subcommittee.

Sorel Reisman

Position statement. This is my first opportunity to publicly thank you for electing me second vice president. I hope that the Electronic Products and Services Board’s accomplishments have met your expectations and that you will continue to have faith in my leadership.

Last year, I advocated refocusing the Society’s mission upon new electronic tools and services to meet the expectations and needs of our globally diverse practitioner and academic membership. My premise was, and continues to be, that it is essential for us to provide an electronic infrastructure to enable you to communicate better with one another, to share ideas, and to cooperate in inventing new technologies, systems, and applications, regardless of your country of residence. Over the past year, I have actively participated in planning committees on which I was an outspoken voice, promoting the transformational structures and processes necessary to make this happen. Consequently, we are now reinventing our Web presence with a completely redesigned, communities-based www.computer.org. This infrastructure, set for release in 2008, will be the foundation for our new, cost-economical, revenue-producing, Web 2.0-centric future.

While I am proud of this accomplishment, I am looking forward to next year, toward developing the kinds of new products, services, and policies that will capitalize on this new technology base and allow us to become a robust and thriving international membership enterprise. To learn more about me, my board’s accomplishments, my ideas, hopes, and plans, please visit www.sorelreisman.com. If you don’t have time, then please just vote for me!

Biography. Sorel Reisman is managing director of the international consortium MERLOT, and professor of computer science and decision science at California State University, Fullerton. His 21-year academic career follows more than 15 years of senior management positions in systems development/marketing at IBM, Toshiba, and EMI. He is second vice president of the Electronic Products and Services Board and a 2006-2007 member of the Transformation, Planning, and Membership Committees. He has served as executive director of the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, as well as president of the National Alliance of State University System Boards of Trustees. Reisman has also served on the boards of directors of the University Technology Management Association, the California Association of University Trustees, the University Accounting Association, and the California Computing Center Council. In 2000, the California Computing Center Council honored him with its Outstanding Contribution Award. Reisman’s other practice and service focuses include the creation of the California Collaborative for Teaching and Learning; serving as founding president of the California Technology Foundation, an organization chartered to operate in the public interest, which manages three federally funded research and development centers for the US government. He has more than 20 years of industry experience in the practical application of software engineering methodologies, the management of information systems, and leadership of software development teams.

Land has served on the Computer Society Board of Governors and in positions as first and second vice president. Land is the 2007 recipient of the IEEE Standards Association Standards Medallion. She is a current member of Computer Society bodies that include the Standards Activities Board, Software and Systems Engineering Standards Executive Committee, Professional Practices Committee, Membership Committee, Planning Committee, Computer Society International Design Competition Committee, Computer Society History Competition 61, and is currently chair of the Technical Achievement Award subcommittee.


Nominees for first vice president
Nominees for second vice president

Antonio Dória

Position statement. Our Society is being challenged. We are running a structural deficit, membership is dropping, and market share is shrinking. We face hard times. Rather than hardship, I see a huge opportunity for improvement and for increasing efficiency.

If elected, I will work to ensure that we develop products, programs, and services that are relevant and consistent with the state of the practice. I will focus on attracting underserved communities such as practitioners, students, and young professionals, while strengthening our value to academics. I will explore new market opportunities by expanding our services to corporations. Our Society should be inclusive. I will work to make our products, programs, and services affordable to all, especially to those members living in economically stressed areas like Latin America, Africa, Eastern Europe, and Asia. I intend to do this by diversifying our distribution model in order to meet our members' and customers' needs.

As second vice president of the Computer Society, I will work diligently to ensure the long-term sustainability of our Society by discontinuing or adapting existing products, programs, and services that are not adding value to our membership.

Change hurts, and can be disruptive, but it provides a good foundation and represents an opportunity to create a promising and healthy future. If we want to continue being the leading society in computing, we need to act.

I ask for your support. It will be an honor to continue serving you. For more details about my vision for the Society, please visit my Web site, www.matakiterani.com/ieee-cs.

Biography. Antonio Dória has been an active Society volunteer since 2000. Currently, he is a member of the Board of Governors and is the Society’s vice president and chair of the Chapters Activities Board. During his tenure, the Chapters Activities Board has focused on initiatives to bring the Society closer to members, especially in underserved regions such as Europe, Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

He serves on the Society’s Executive Committee, History Committee, Intersociety Cooperation Committee, Membership Committee, Planning Committee, Outreach Committee, New Initiatives Committee, and Transformation Plan Committee. Dória served on the Executive Director Search Committee as Region 9 liaison to the Computer Society and as Ecuador Chapter chair.

Dória is chairperson and chief software architect at Matakitani, a Portugal-based software house specializing in business intelligence solutions. Earlier, he was the technology vice president of Enterprise Software Solutions in Miami, where he led the development of an international ERP solution.

An IEEE senior member and the IEEE Region 9 student activities chair, Dória has earned several certificates of appreciation for his contributions to the IEEE and the IEEE Computer Society.

Michel Israel

Position statement. The Computer Society is at a crossroads; it is imperative that we renew our commitment to our essential purposes. Publishing magazines, journals, and proceedings is important aspects of our work, but not everything. We must facilitate the technical interchange among members through seminars, conferences, workshops, chapters, educational programs, and other means as well as publications. Computer engineering and science is practiced in an international environment. Hardware and important software systems are developed for worldwide use. As an international professional society, we can help our members understand the culture and approaches of those in other countries, enhancing their professional skill set in the era of globalization of science as well as business.

Creation and promotion of international standards, brokering cooperative research, certain certification programs, and international standards for undergraduate curricula are opportunities that need our continued and renewed support, especially when new programs for science and engineering will be launched through US agencies such as the National Science Foundation. The Society’s Washington headquarters affords us a fantastic opportunity to organize international cooperation through the world’s embassies also located there. Meanwhile, the Society faces significant financial problems, many deriving from the overly centralized procedures of our parent IEEE. Some improvements have been made, but we must carefully progress toward a better management. If elected, I will use my experience to help modernize our management, straighten out our relations with the IEEE, and extend our international presence and cooperation with national professional societies to make real our status as “The World’s Computer Society.”

Biography. Michel Israel, an IEEE senior member, has served the Society for 25 years as VP for Technical Activities, Chair of the Central & Eastern European Initiative Committee, Treasurer, DATC chair, Secretary, Ombudsman, Chair of the European Activities Committee. He served on the Nomination, Audit, Award, and Membership committees and Conference and Tutorial boards.

Israel has been the coordinator for the French Association on IT. He was a member of the Accreditation Board for CS of the French Ministry of Education.

An Outstanding Professor, Israel, now the Scientific Counsellor of the French Embassy in Washington after Tokyo, was Dean of the Faculty of Sciences and chair of the CNRS CS lab at the University of Evry. He was the EU chair of a FIPSE EU-US exchange program, a visiting professor at the University of Galatasaray, Turkey, at the University of Toronto and is developing an American-France doctoral network.

Israel, a PhD in computer sciences from Paris 6 University, received different awards: Distinguished Service award for VP TAB and CEEIC Chair; Meritorious Service as DATC chair; Outstanding Contribution for the establishment of the first computer chapter in the former USSR.

He is a CS Golden Core member and received the IEEE Millennium medal.
Board of Governors nominees (13 nominees; vote for seven)

Alfredo Benso  
*Position statement.*

“Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson

This is the spirit I try to follow, from teaching to sailing, and that I will maintain if elected to the Board. We must be innovative in the technology we support and in the services we provide. If elected, it will be my goal to contribute in creating new paths to get back in touch with our members worldwide, helping them to share their knowledge and ideas by providing them with the services they need. I want them to remember the excitement of being a computer professional, and to keep considering the Computer Society as a supporter of the time, energy, and passion they dedicate to their profession.

Misquoting Spander: “The great thing about democracy is that it gives every voter a chance to do something smart.”

Here’s your chance…

*Biography.* Alfredo Benso was born in Italy in 1970. He studied at Politecnico di Torino, Italy, receiving a PhD in 1998. Since 2005, Benso has held a tenured associate professor position there in computer engineering. He currently teaches microprocessor systems and advanced programming techniques. Benso has coauthored more than 60 publications and has been involved in the organization of several Computer Society-sponsored conferences. Benso became a Computer Society volunteer in 1999 as chair of the Test Technology Committee. He served on several IEEE and Computer Society international committees and as a CAB member, Benso has traveled to 11 countries. Benso is a founding member and coordinator of the Distinguished Visitor Program Latin America. He has been a member of and contributor to several IEEE bodies such as IEEE GOLD, Ethics, and Member Conduct Committees. He has served as a member of the Chapter Activities Board as Region 9 representative, Distinguished Visitor Program Latin America coordinator, and PACE representative. As a CAB member, Benso has traveled to several IEEE and Computer Society international meetings as a representative of the Society.

Fernando H. Bouche  
*Position statement.*

The IEEE Computer Society strives to be the world’s leading society for computer professionals. We must continue to reach out to our international communities and address the needs of IT professionals and students. To achieve our vision, the Society must listen to what our customers tell us and we must respond decisively and positively.

As a senior volunteer leader in Region 9 for many years, I worked hard to increase the Computer Society’s membership and student chapter activities in Latin America. I also worked closely with volunteer leaders from other parts of the world to improve the value of our offerings and to ensure that we provide products that are relevant, affordable, and of technical value.

If elected, I will continue to work to increase our representation, membership, and participation worldwide and to address how we can best provide the services and products that the computer professionals of today and tomorrow need.

*Biography.* Fernando Bouche is the IT manager at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama and an adjunct professor at the Universidad Latina de Panamá. He received an MS in IT management from Universidad Latina de Panamá and a BS in systems engineering from Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá. As a student, he received the IEEE RAB Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award, among other recognitions from the IEEE. Bouche served as member of several IEEE bodies such as IEEE GOLD, Ethics, and Technical Council database task force. Currently, he is a member of the Electronic Products and Services, Conferences and Tutorials, and Technical Activities Boards. As a volunteer, Bouche has been honored with three “Outstanding Contribution Awards” and a Golden Core membership. He is also a senior member of the IEEE.

Bouche shares his time with his family and many other hobbies and interests, among which are sailing, surfing, and being a co-founder of Project Lisa (www.projectlisa.org), a nonprofit organization for reef restoration in the Mediterranean Sea.

Joseph R. Bumblis  
*Position statement.*

I have become increasingly sensitive to the loss of industry, practitioner, and government participation from Computer Society activities and leadership roles. I strongly believe the Computer Society must strive to regain its leadership role in industry and government engineering communities, becoming the society of choice for practicing software and systems engineers.

As a member of the Board of Governors, I wish to serve the Computer Society membership by creating value for our industry peers while maintaining the high quality of research offered by our academic constituency. I believe these goals can be accomplished by the current boards, technical committees, and governance committees through focused engagement of the practitioner community. If elected to the Board of Governors, I will work to make the Computer Society the central meeting place of industry professionals and academics from companies, governmental agencies, and universities.

*Biography.* Joe Bumblis is currently an IT project manager and systems architect at BAE Systems who is responsible for systems engineering architectures. Prior to BAE, Bumblis was an assistant professor at Purdue University. At Purdue, he was responsible for designing and teaching new courses in network infrastructures. He has more than 20 years of experience in the computer industry and has served as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Minnesota, the University of St. Thomas, and Argosy University. Bumblis received a BS in electrical engineering from Ohio University and an MS from the University of Minnesota. Bumblis earned a doctorate in business administration, specializing in IT, from Argosy University.

Bumblis, an IEEE senior member, has been an active Computer Society volunteer for 19 years. He has served as the Computer Communications Technical Committee chair, is currently vice chair of the Technical Activities Board, and is the TAB liaison to the Electronic Products and Services Board Web Development and Communities Committee. Bumblis represents TAB and the Conferences and Tutorials Board on the Computer Society Membership Committee and serves on the joint TAB/C&T ad hoc Conferences Committee. He remains the TAB Online Communities Committee chair and contributes to IEEE-USA position statements.
I have been involved in many Society activities that have taught me about the needs and aspirations of professionals around the globe. I intend to bring this experience to the Board of Governors to enhance the Society’s rejuvenation and its evolution toward serving all professionals with undisputed excellence.

Biography. André Ivanov, who holds a PhD from McGill University, currently chairs the Computer Society Test Technology Council and is a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of British Columbia. He has published widely and is a holder of several patents on test and reliability of integrated circuits and systems. Ivanov has served on the steering, program, or organizing committees of several international events sponsored by the Computer Society. He is currently serving on the steering committee of the International Test Conference.

Hai Jin

Position statement. I am interested in serving you as a member of the IEEE Computer Society Board of Governors, and I seek your vote in this regard. I have been involved with computer architecture, parallel and distributed processing, and network storage-related research and education over the past two decades as student, educator, researcher, and volunteer and have seen its amazing growth into today’s technology. Being a candidate from the Asia-Pacific region, especially from a country containing one-quarter of the world’s population, I will promote the IEEE Computer Society in this region, especially by expanding curricular support to vast numbers of students, attracting more young researchers and practitioners to be Society members, and fostering collaboration between researchers from this region and those in other regions of the world. Please feel free to contact me at hjin@hust.edu.cn or visit my homepage, http://grid.hust.edu.cn/hjin, if you have any further questions about my candidacy.

Biography. Hai Jin is a professor of computer science and engineering at the Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China. He is now Dean of the School of Computer Science and Technology at HUST. Jin received a PhD in computer engineering from HUST in 1994. In 1996, he was awarded a German Academic Exchange Service fellowship to visit the Technical University of Chemnitz in Germany. Jin worked at the University of Hong Kong between 1998 and 2000 and as a visiting scholar at the University of Southern California between 1999 and 2000. He was awarded the Excellent Youth Award from the National Science Foundation of China in 2001. Jin is the chief scientist of ChinaGrid, the largest grid computing project in China. Jin is a senior member of the IEEE and a member of the ACM. He has coauthored eight books and published more than 200 research papers. His research interests include computer architecture, cluster computing and grid computing, peer-to-peer computing, network storage, and network security.

Jin is a member of the steering committee of the IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Cluster Computing and the Grid, the IFIP International Conference on Network and Parallel Computing, and the International Conference on Grid and Cooperative Computing.

Phillip A. Laplante

Position statement. The Computer Society faces significant challenges from competition, rapid changes in industry, global geopolitical realities, and internal pressures from the IEEE. In order to meet these challenges we need to continue to aggressively align our programmatic offerings by ensuring that our publications and other products are more relevant to both academic and professional audiences. We also need to continue to find linkages between print products, conference activities, certifications, coursework, and other deliverables by expanding and mining our extensive database of authors, reviewers, conference and course attendees, and readers. In addition, the Computer Society can only move forward with the understanding and cooperation of the IEEE. I intend to leverage my experience and relationships with the IEEE and influential members in other societies to help further the cause of the Computer Society.

Biography. Phillip A. Laplante holds a PhD in computer science from Stevens Institute of Technology and is a professor of software engineering at Pennsylvania State University’s Great Valley School of Graduate Professional Studies, where he conducts research in software engineering and teaches graduate courses to working IT and software engineering professionals. He is also the chief technology officer for the Eastern Technology Council, a regional advocacy organization, and is a licensed professional electrical engineer in Pennsylvania.

Laplante has served the Computer Society as a member of the Publications Board, chair of the Conference Publishing Operations Committee, member of the Press Operations Committee, and member of the editorial board for IT Professional. For the last 20 years, he has also served on many IEEE committees including the IEEE Press editorial board, Continuing Professional Education Committee, Periodicals Review Committee, the Magazines Committee (as chair), and most recently, as chair of the Periodicals Committee.

Laplante is a senior member of the IEEE and was elected a Fellow of the International Society for Optical Engineering for his contributions to real-time imaging research. He also received the IEEE Educational Activities Meritorious Service Award for his ongoing contributions to and innovations in continuing engineering education.

André Ivanov

Position statement. The IEEE and the Computer Society benefit from an unsurpassed worldwide reputation. However, with the current technological, business, social, and political trends, to not only maintain but also grow this reputation further, the Society needs to rapidly and effectively modernize its offerings and services. These have to be supported and deployed with viable business models that are adaptive and responsive to specific needs and capabilities of the different constituent communities. New activities and models of operation that revive existing membership and, more importantly, attract new membership and volunteers, especially in emerging technologies and emerging countries, are vital to the Society’s success.

Gérard Medioni
Position statement.
The environment, including the way we organize conferences, publish and access results, has drastically changed over the past few years, and we need to take a fresh look at our practices. I have organized a number of conferences, both as program chair and as general chair, and served on the IEEE Conferences and Tutorials Board. In 2001, I introduced a major change to our annual meeting, transforming it from a conference into a week-long event, with workshops and tutorials before and after, all available through a passport registration. The response from the community has been enthusiastic. I hope to leverage this acquired experience as a member of the Board of Governors.

Biography. Gérard Medioni received the Diplôme d’Ingénieur from ENST, Paris in 1977 and an MS and PhD from the University of Southern California in 1980 and 1983, respectively. He has been at USC since then, and is currently professor of computer science and electrical engineering, chair of the Computer Science Department, codirector of the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Systems, and codirector of the USC Games Institute. Medioni has made significant contributions to the field of computer vision. He has published three books, more than 50 journal papers, and 150 conference articles, and is the recipient of eight international patents. Medioni is associate editor of the Image and Vision Computing Journal, the Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis Journal, and the International Journal of Image and Video Processing. Medioni served as program cochair of both the 1991 IEEE CVPR Conference and the 1995 IEEE Symposium on Computer Vision. He also cochaired the 1997 IEEE CVPR Conference, the 1998 ICPR Conference, the 2001 IEEE CVPR Conference, and the 2007 IEEE CVPR Conference. He is a Fellow of IAPR, a Fellow of the IEEE, and a Fellow of the AAAI.

Iitaru Mimura
Position statement. I am honored to be nominated to serve on the IEEE Computer Society Board of Governors. I believe that the IEEE Computer Society is the leading international organization of computer professionals. The IEEE Computer Society can use its body of professional experience and intellectual property to promote a huge, worldwide computer-related market, especially in Region 10 (China, Southeast Asia, and Japan).

In recent years, I feel that technical contributions from industry to the Computer Society have become less than sufficient. Based on my industrial carrier of more than 20 years, human networks, and experience on the Board of Governors, I will make an effort to consolidate more feedback from industry and will try to build a bridge between industry and the Society. I have the time, the experience, and the enthusiasm to devote myself to realizing a brilliant era for the IEEE Computer Society. I ask for your support.

Biography. Itaru Mimura serves on the IEEE Computer Society Board of Governors (2005-2007). He was a member of the Audit Committee in 2006 and has contributed to several committees as a Region 10 representative since he was appointed to the Board. He received a BS and an MS in image science from Chiba University, Japan, in 1982 and 1984, respectively. He joined the Central Research Laboratory of Hitachi in 1984, where he worked on digital video compression/transmission technology and communication network equipment research for more than 20 years. Mimura was a research affiliate of the Media Laboratory at MIT from 1991 to 1992. Since 1998, he has led the next-generation IP router research team as a department manager. His research results have been adopted on Hitachi’s router products, which are widely deployed in Japan’s networks. His team earned notice in 2000 and 2001 for developing “One of the hundred most technologically significant new products of the year (R&D 100),” according to R&D Magazine. In October 2004, he joined AlaxaA Networks, a joint venture of NEC and Hitachi. Mimura is currently responsible for developing technology breakthroughs for next-generation IP networks, which support a service-rich information communication society.

Raghavan Muralidharan
Position statement. The IEEE Computer Society continues to face challenges in multiple areas such as finance, value for membership, relevance to industry professionals, competition, and declining membership. Industry, too, faces challenges of convergence of communications and computers, probably resulting in the eventual disappearance of conventional computers and software. Products are giving way to services on the Web and building upon newer technologies. These new developments need standards, best practices, and continuing education support. Our Society and industry are riding a wave of challenges and changes that compel us to invest more time and effort to ensure a smooth sail ahead. It is at this critical juncture that I seek your support to strengthen and transform our Society and to prepare for the days ahead. We will have to work together toward this goal in many areas, some of which are certification programs, conferences, membership development, standards for new technologies, and publications.

Biography. Raghavan Muralidharan has been an IEEE volunteer for 27 years and a computer and communications industry professional for 28 years. Muralidharan earned an undergraduate degree in electronics and telecommunication engineering from the College of Engineering in Trivandrum, India in 1977. From 1977 to 1979, he conducted postgraduate studies in computer-focused electrical engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, India. Muralidharan has played a major role in the development of the IEEE in India, especially over the past 12 years. His work with the IEEE Bombay Section has resulted in tremendous membership growth and the establishment of many student branches.

As chair of the IEEE India Council, Muralidharan propelled Region 10 to become the largest region in the IEEE in 2004. He works as technical vice president at Nayna Networks India in the areas of optical networking and fiber-to-the-x solutions. Previously, he was head of the computer and communications group at Tata Electric’s research and development labs.

Muralidharan’s IEEE activities include:
Jon G. Rokne
Position statement. I believe that we are in a period of discontinuities. Technological advances are revamping previous ways of conducting business and opening up new opportunities.

We should take advantage of the opportunities presented by the technological advances by making the Computer Society a truly international organization. This would require a concerted effort in attracting new members outside North America, as well as encouraging communications with content of interest to the international community. The use of fast electronic communications would enable the society to accomplish this.

One of the first action items that I would propose would be to establish a forum for exchanging innovative ideas. I would encourage experimentation based on these ideas with the expectation that some of the experiments could lead to transformations that would enable to the Society to move with the times.

The board should also concentrate on strategic issues and leave the day-to-day details to the staff.

Biography. Jon Rokne, currently vice president of publications for the IEEE Computer Society, is a professor of computer science at the University of Calgary. He obtained a PhD in mathematics from the University of Calgary, where he chaired the Computer Science Department from 1989 to 1996. He has a working knowledge of Norwegian, German, French, and English.

In the Computer Society, Rokne has been a member at large of the Publications Board, chaired the Transactions Operations Committee, and chaired the ad hoc committee for ReadyNotes, in addition to serving on several other subcommittees. A Golden Core member, he is also currently a member of the Publications Board.

Rokne is a member of the IEEE Publication Services and Products Board and the Technical Activities Board Periodicals Committee. He also chairs the subcommittee on publications conduct, which deals with all IEEE plagiarism cases. He has been elected PSPB member at large for 2008-2010 and is a candidate for vice president of the PSPB.

Rokne has published extensively in mathematics, including three jointly authored books. In computer science, he has focused on computer graphics and physically and biologically based computer simulations. He published the jointly authored computer science book Light Interaction with Plants. In 2003, he organized the Pacific Graphics conference.

Christina M. Schober
Position statement. “The IEEE Computer Society’s vision is to be the leading provider of technical information, community services, and personalized services to the world’s computing professionals.” This can be accomplished by the continued involvement and enthusiasm of our student, affiliate, regular, senior, life, Gold, and Fellow members, as well as staff and volunteer leadership.

I have great respect for all the aspects of computing and its worldwide penetration into industry, schools, and homes. The diversity of our members and the wide breadth of computing technology is a challenge to providing value to each member. I will be dedicated as a Board of Governors member to having the enthusiasm to bring out new services and products, and a futuristic outlook on long-term planning and financial responsibility. I enthusiastically support continuing to offer Society products at their premier level of quality and working to increase our professional membership and prestige worldwide.

Biography. Christina M. Schober is an IEEE senior member and has been an active volunteer in the IEEE Computer Society since 1985. She currently serves as 2007 secretary and Executive Committee member on the Computer Society Board of Governors. Schober is vice president of finances for the IEEE Sensors Council.

Her IEEE volunteer work includes:

- IEEE Sensors Council: (2000-present, Executive Committee member 2004-present)

Schober is an IEEE Computer Society Golden Core member and in 1990 was named the IEEE Twin Cities Section Young Engineer of the Year. She is a Six Sigma Black Belt, a Honeywell product team leader for the Tactical Ring Laser Gyro in the sensors group, and holds five ring laser gyroscope-related patents. Schober received a BME and an MME from the University of Minnesota. She is married and has two children currently attending college.

Ann E.K. Sobel
Position statement. As we reflect on the Computer Society’s 60-year history, we should examine the composition of our membership throughout the years to identify the communities of members that we serve and to discover new communities that will attract large groups of potential members. Identifying these communities will direct us in how we might best serve each one, ultimately resulting in the support of all our current and future members. Such services should be assessed in light of the vast array of delivery options that current technologies provide. If we are unsuccessful in offering what any one community deems necessary or highly desirable, we could fail to sustain crucial subgroups within our membership. The Computer Society must therefore focus on identifying and providing the present and future needs of our communities so that we can meet our mission and maintain our vitality.

Biography. Ann Sobel has been involved in Society activities for many years, culminating with her service as a member of the IEEE-CS/ACM Curriculum Oversight Committee and as chair of the Certified Software Development Professional Training Committee. Sobel became a member of the Educational Activities Board, where she contributed to the creation of the CSDP examination. Her main contribution as an EAB member was her work on the Computing Curricula: Software Engineering Volume, serving as Body of Knowledge chair and later as the Steering Committee cochair. Sobel continues to serve on the EAB Executive, Professional Practices, and Awards Committees.

Sobel began her career as a research associate at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, New York. She then became an associate professor in computer science at Ohio’s Miami University. Her research interests include software engineering education and formal specification notations.

Sobel holds a PhD in computer science from the Ohio State University. She has received a Computer Society Outstanding Contribution Award and an ACM Certificate of Recognition for her work on the first IEEE Computer Society/ACM software engineering undergraduate curriculum guidelines. She has also received numerous awards from Miami University for leadership initiatives and breaking gender barriers.
Jeffrey M. Voas

**Position statement.** The Computer Society counts the most members and boasts the best-read publications within the IEEE, a proud accomplishment. However, because of how the IEEE is financially organized, smaller societies view us as the “800-lb. gorilla.” The IEEE Technical Activities Board, which ultimately controls percentages of revenue returned to societies from publications, employs a distribution algorithm that negatively impacts the Computer Society. I, as a voting member of TAB from 2003 to 2005 witnessed this first hand. Consequently, we still face rapidly shrinking cash reserves. My goal is to help elevate Computer Society leaders, both volunteers and staff, to better positions within the current TAB hierarchy. A better-represented Computer Society will no longer be viewed as a “cash cow” target. Admittedly, the Society still requires immediate internal belt tightening. I believe that I grasp the overall issues and that the Computer Society can forge new win-win alignments with other societies.

**Biography.** Jeffrey Voas is director of systems assurance and a technical fellow at Science Applications International Corporation. Before joining SAIC, Voas cofounded Cigital (www.cigital.com). Voas has been active in the software engineering research community for more than 15 years. He has served on numerous journal and magazine editorial boards. He was 2003-2005 president of the IEEE Reliability Society and has coauthored two books published by John Wiley & Sons. Voas is currently associate editor in chief of *IT Professional* magazine and serves on the advisory board of *IEEE Software* magazine, where he was an associate editor in chief from 1999-2003.

Voas received an undergraduate degree in computer engineering from Tulane University in 1985 and received an MS and PhD in computer science from the College of William and Mary in 1987 and 1990, respectively. Voas also performed two years of postdoctoral work for the National Research Council at the NASA Langley Research Center between 1990 and 1992.