IEEE Division V Delegate/Director Candidates

The Computer Society (CS) is represented at IEEE by the IEEE Division V delegate/director and the IEEE Division VIII delegate/director. Division delegate/directors serve multiple roles: they are voting members of the IEEE Assembly, Board of Directors, and Technical Activities Board. Division delegate/directors are elected in alternate years for a one-year term as a director-elect and a two-year term as a director. Decisions made by the IEEE Board of Directors impact the CS and its members/volunteers.

To inform CS members about the IEEE delegate/director-elect candidates, we are reprinting candidate responses to questions posed by IEEE to delegate/director candidates. We encourage all members to participate in this important election.

The questions and IEEE Division V delegate/director candidates’ responses (limited to 100 words each) are provided here. We hope that this information will help you make your decision for the IEEE annual election, which begins on 15 August 2016 and ends on 3 October 2016 (1:00 pm EDT USA/17:00 UTC time). We encourage all members to participate in this important ballot process. We also remind and encourage you to cast your votes for the IEEE CS election by noon EDT on Monday, 26 September 2016.

—Jean-Luc Gaudiot
IEEE Computer Society President-Elect

**IEEE DIVISION V DELEGATE/DIRECTOR CANDIDATES**

**SOREL REISMAN**
Sorel Reisman is managing director of the international higher-education consortium MERLOT at the California State University (CSU) Office of the Chancellor, and a professor of information systems at CSU Fullerton. He has held senior management positions at IBM (Canada/US), Toshiba (US), and EMI (UK). He has presented/published more than 90 articles, is an IEEE Senior Member, a Computer Society Golden Core member, a member of Eta Kappa Nu, and is serving a second term on the board of the Open Education Consortium. He serves on a number of IEEE and non-IEEE journal editorial boards. Reisman received a PhD in computer applications from the University of Toronto. He was appointed a Fulbright Specialist in 2014.

**JOHN W. WALZ**
John Walz retired from Lucent Technologies/AT&T with more than 20 years of management/coaching experience, with positions in hardware and software engineering, quality planning and auditing, standards development and implementation, and strategic planning. Walz has coauthored three books and is a contributor to the Computer Society (CS) ReadyNotes, industry webinar programs, and IEEE 730:2015. An IEEE Senior Member, Walz was the 2012 CS president. He served as vice president of both CS Conference and Standards Boards, and held leadership positions in industry and professional organizations. Walz is a Golden Core member and was the recipient of the Distinguished Service and Meritorious Service Award. He received an MS in electrical engineering from Ohio State University.
QUESTION 1
What do you believe are the major issues facing IEEE?

Reisman
The issues facing IEEE today are primarily related to its somehow continuing to be relevant to a professional membership that is completely unlike the one upon which the organization was founded. Members and potential members are very diverse, reside in cultures that are unlike the US culture that dominates IEEE strategies, and so unlike each other as well. How to develop new and exciting member benefits in cost effective manners is a huge challenge.

Walz
Membership and sustainability. Technical society members have fallen to 50 percent of IEEE members, whose numbers have flattened over time. The membership issue has started several initiatives. I am involved in resourcing chapter technical meetings with online recordings; another is attracting the industry practitioners into technical societies. Sustainability is threatened by indirect costs and number of staff trending upward faster than our subscription revenue growth. My financial efforts are resulting in better transparency of the costs, which will need volunteer leadership oversight.

QUESTION 2
What do you think is the number one goal for IEEE leadership?

Reisman
We have to reduce our infrastructure costs and stop taxing the Operating Units for unrealistic and unreasonable programs and projects. We must realign our resources toward developing programs that match the profiles of younger and future members of the Institute. We must find cost-effective delivery systems for those programs, and understand that there are many “buy” and not “make” tools that can do a much better job than we can to deploy those systems.

Walz
To attract technical member growth for societies, standards, and chapters. Senior volunteers seem far from the IEEE technologies and too occupied by our bureaucracy. We need to listen carefully to our diverse and global member communities to discover, articulate, and promote their member community value propositions. Most of these people attend our technical conferences and meetings as experts, lecturers, reviewers, student authors, established authors, researchers, educators, industry practitioners, technical managers, and students. Going forward, our leadership decision process needs to always answer the question: what have we done for you as the member?

QUESTION 3
What qualifies you for the job?

Reisman
For almost 30 years, I actively served in various IEEE leadership positions including as Computer Society president, IEEE’s largest society in both membership and budget, and on three boards (TAB, EAB, and PSPB). I’ve been involved in strategy development and operations, and have a working knowledge of publication and conference activities—our major revenue sources. I believe that I’ve made worthwhile contributions, furthering IEEE’s value to our profession.

With a career as both an industry practitioner and academic, I also understand our volunteer and professional needs. I will bring a practical view to address these needs.

Walz
My nine years of involvement with the IEEE Board meeting series has educated me on the various staff roles, policies, plans, strategies, finances, and leadership methods across the Institute. This experience revealed the diversity and strengths of our staff and volunteer leaders to provide valuable services to you. My experience as past president of the Computer Society and current division director, a member of TAB Finance, and chair of Audit has provided a strong knowledge of the fiduciary responsibilities of a director, and my contributions demonstrated business acumen, experience, and ability to exercise sound judgments to support IEEE objectives.