
Newsletter Editor: Naira Hovakimyan (naira.hovakimyan@ae.gatech.edu)

Chair of WiC: Fahmida Chowdhury (fnchowdh@louisiana.edu)

Database Coordinator: Dawn Roberson (robersondj@ieee.org)

Mailing List Coordinator: Dawn Tilbury (tilbury@umich.edu)

Advisors: Bozenna Pasik-Duncan (bozenna@math.ukans.edu)

Cheryl Schrader (schrader@utsa.edu)

Web Page: <http://voyager1.utsa.edu/~schrader/women-in-control/>

Web Team Coordinator: Dawn Roberson

Disclaimer: The newsletter will be posted on the web. Any material that people do not wish to appear on the web will be removed upon request.

In this Issue, May, 2001:

1. Editor's Note
 2. Message from Fahmida Chowdhury, Chair of WiC
 3. Question for WiC Group, from Linda Bushnell
 4. WiC Luncheon at ACC scheduled
-

1. Editor's Note

Dear colleagues,

About two months ago I received an upcoming conference announcement from an Austrian colleague, which I lost unfortunately in the result of my computer crash. (As it appeared some of the last e-mails were not on my recent backup.) I apologize for this and would ask the Austrian colleague to mail out the the announcement directly to the WiC group at women-in-control@umich.edu.

I would just remind, that the goal of this newsletter is to integrate more and more women in control theory/applications development and to keep everybody posted on events, so if you come across interesting articles, useful information on web, that you think might be useful for our community, please feel free to contribute. As well please don't forget about job openings in your schools, companies, new books, journals, software releases, conferences, workshops, etc. Just drop me a line following my references below:

Naira Hovakimyan
School of Aerospace Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
270 Ferst Drive, Atlanta, GA 30332-0150

e-mail: naira.hovakimyan@ae.gatech.edu
Phone: (404) 894 0355 office, Fax: (404) 894 2760

2. Message from Fahmida Chowdhury, Chair of WiC:

Greetings from far away! I am currently in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on a Fulbright Fellowship. I am teaching a graduate course in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology. I am also working on two research projects, one on biomedical signal processing and the other one on hourly load prediction for power systems.

This EEE department is where I started my academic career in 1981, after graduating from Moscow Power Engineering Institute. I taught here as a lecturer till 1983. Some of the professors from that time are still here. They are happy to see me. I am happy to see the positive changes in the department. When I left in 1983, they had only three labs - power/machinery, circuits, and instrumentation. Now they have added microwave, VLSI, DSP, high-voltage, and a few others. They moved to a big, new building - but the new building is also getting old now! In any case, the facilities are much better than they used to be. Almost all faculty members have computers at home, so do many of the students. The university has a number of computer labs. Of course, the computational facilities are poor compared to those in USA; but remember, this is a developing country, and resources are very limited. The students are very bright. It is very difficult to get admitted to this institution - the admission tests are extremely hard, and only the very best students can get in. Also, it is considered highly prestigious if you are fortunate enough (and accomplished enough) to get a faculty position in this university. The professors are all very talented, but salaries are low, so many of them opt to teach at some private universities to earn extra income. The number of women in the university is quite impressive - I see a lot of girls on campus. I am now collecting some statistical information on the participation of women in this technical university - when I get enough information, I'll send another posting. This department has an IEEE branch. I am investigating whether they want to open a CSS chapter.

Best wishes,

Fahmida Chowdhury

3. Question for WiC group, from Linda Bushnell Violet Haas wrote a paper describing her experiences as a grad student at MIT in the 1940s/50s. I think she gave it at an ACC, but it doesn't appear in any of the proceedings. Does anyone remember seeing such a paper? It was a memorable paper since she had some pretty pointed comments to make about her treatment during those years.

Thanks,

Linda

Reply to: Linda Bushnell, bushnell@ee.washington.edu

4. WiC luncheon at ACC

WiC luncheon in ACC will be held Wednesday, June 27, 11.30am-12.30pm in the McLean room, which is on the 2nd floor of the Crystal Gateway Marriott. There will be a poster on the conference bulletin board.

Naira Hovakimyan, Ph.D.
School of Aerospace Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
270 Ferst Drive, Atlanta, GA 30332-0150
e-mail: naira.hovakimyan@ae.gatech.edu
Phone: (404) 894 0355 office, (770) 432 8096 home
Fax: (404) 894 2760
<http://www.ae.gatech.edu/research/controls/people/naira>