PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES PROJECT REPORT FORM

SECTION/COUNCIL/AREA/CHAPTER: New Mexico Highlands University Student Branch REGION 6

PROJECT TITLE: IEEE New Mexico Highlands University Student Branch Awards

PROJECT MANAGER: Joseph Winkles

STARTING DATE: October 10, 1999 COMPLETION DATE: My 5, 2000

PROJECT LOCATION: IEEE New Mexico Highlands University, Los Alamos Section

Number of IEEE members who participated in or befitted from this project:
Our 25 members at the beginning of the academic year, as well as the 4 new members recruited during the year benefited from this project. Along with our IEEE members, there were well over 200 high school students (possible future IEEE members) who benefited as well.

PROJECT FINANCIAL REPORT:

		Funding Sources:	
Budgeted Cost	$ 1000.00	Regional PACE	$ 900.00
Actual Cost	$ 1403.88	Section	$ 300.00
Deficit	$ 403.88	Project Income	$ 0
		Branch	$ 103.88

If deficit, are you requesting additional Regional Professional Activities Funds? YES

Please pay $403.88 to Joseph Winkles or the Section Treasurer.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT RESULTS

Describe your professional activities project (refer to original Project Plan and Financing Request form). Include information such as the following: Were the project activities carried out as planned? Did they accomplish their intended objectives? What additional activities had to be undertaken? Was the project completed on schedule? If not, what caused the delay? What problems were encountered, and how were they resolved?

The 1999/2000 school year was very successful one for the IEEE branch at New Mexico Highlands University. The recognition for a large part of that success needs to be attributed to the PACE funding we received this school year which made a lot of our activities possible. Here is a list of those activities with brief descriptions of each.

1. Speaker – Ian Bernstien, a 16-year-old high school student, came on October 15th to talk to us about his role on the BEAM Robotics design team. He also talked about some of his international robotic competitions & brought some of his robot inventions for demonstration. You can find out more about Ian and BEAM Robotics at his website: www.beam-online.com.
2. Speaker – Bob Hollen, Robotics team leader at Los Alamos National Labs, came on October 29th and talked to us about the field of distributed robotics & his specific research at LANL.
3. Speaker – Dave Bowers, a graduate student from UNM, came on March 3rd to talk to us about his robotic arm project that autonomously recognizes & removes particular objects from an environment.
4. Speaker – Dr. Jon Clark, a former Engineering Professor at NMHU, came on November 19th and gave a talk about his research in the design of improved airfoils in turbine engines.
5. Speaker – Jeff Drake, a graduate student from NMSU, came on March 24th & gave us a presentation on the importance and uses of synchronization.
6. Speaker – Peregrine McGhee, an engineer at Los Alamos National Labs, was here on April 14th and gave a talk on some of the control systems he has designed and modified during his career as a control engineer.
7. Discovery Day – The IEEE along with one other engineering organization Highlands, SHPE, hosted this event for the local high school juniors & seniors. We gave workshops for them to attend and gave them tours of our labs & available research opportunities.
8. NMHU IEEE Scholarship – Our branch put together two $250 scholarships that awarded members for attendance, participation & recruitment that was based on a point system where points were earned throughout the academic school year. The winners of these awards were Catherine Rice & Natalie Salazar, two very dedicated IEEE'rs.

The objective of our PACE project was to increase our IEEE members' exposure to professionals in the field they are pursuing. We planned on approaching this goal fro m 3 directions First we wanted to bring more technical & professional speakers in to give us talks about some of their research and also any words of wisdom they might have about how we can better prepare ourselves to become successful engineers. Second, we hoped to find a few technical sites to tour. We tried to arrange a visit to Los Alamos National Labs to take a tour of some of the robotic systems that Bob Hollen had given us a presentation on. However, due to emphasis on heightened security, we were not able to take that tour. Third, we wanted to not only expand our members' kno9wledge of the technical & professional world, but we also wanted to increase the number of people gaining that knowledge. This was the purpose of the 2 scholarships we gave. The NMHU IEEE Branch would like to thank the PACE Committee for making the activities of this past school year possible.

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SUMMARY OF PROJECT RESULTS, continued

Use additional sheets as necessary

What advice would you give to other IEEE entities wishing to undertake similar projects?

I would highly recommend this type of project for any IEEE student branch. If a branch was going to undertake a project like this, I would strongly recommend starting off by holding a branch meeting & establishing a high set of goals that they want to accomplish once a project is finished. These goals must remain in focus throughout the course of the project & the branch should really strive to meet these goals. I would also STRONGLY encourage all branches to give out some form of scholarship to their members based on attendance, participation in activities, setting up speakers, recruitment effort, etc. We gave 2 scholarships this pat year, one to an "Outstanding Member" & one to an "Outstanding First-Time Member". These scholarships really gave our members more of an incentive to participate in & organize the various activities throughout the year. The reason for the scholarship only eligible for first-time members, were to draw more members into our branch. Because we knew that once we got them in, they would realize how much they actually gain from being a part of an organization such as IEEE. If you are interested in this, or know of a student branch that might be, contact me or the NMHU IEEE Student Branch and we can show you how we set up our point system & what we found works best.

SUBMITTED BY: _____ DATE: _____
Section PACE Project Manager

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE: _____
Regional PACE Coordinator