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Homepage for WiC <http://www.diiga.univpm.it/wic>

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## 1. Editorial

Dear Fellow Women in Control,

This newsletter summarizes recent contributions we have received. The goal of this newsletter is to integrate more women into control theory/applications development and to keep everyone posted on events. Please feel free to contribute information that you think might be useful for our community. This can include interesting articles, information from the web, job openings in your schools or companies, new books or journals, software releases, conferences, workshop or seminar announcements, invited session proposals, a call for papers, etc. Please send any contributions to us. Also, if you have any items that you would like to see discussed or things that you would like to see added or changed in the newsletter, then please feel free to share them with us.

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## 2. From Reviewer to Journal Associate Editor

Contributed by Fahmida N. Chowdhury

We all get invitations for reviewing papers from various journals and peer-reviewed conferences: sometimes we accept, sometimes we decline, and sometimes some of us don't even have the time to respond one way or another. I am sure everyone reading this article is familiar with this: so, what is my point?

My point is simple: in the grand scheme of things, being a reviewer is one of our responsibilities for being a part of the world of science and technology; in the sense of our own career advancement, being a reviewer can be very rewarding, in both short-term and long-term. Of course, reviewing a good paper is its own reward, while reviewing bad papers is a learning experience on "how not to write". But beyond that, once you have established yourself as a thorough, detail-oriented, in-depth and responsible reviewer, you may soon get an invitation to become an associate editor: initially for the conference editorial board, and after serving a few years and gaining editorial experience, for one of the journals. As senior people retire and make room for junior ones, you will move forward with increasing responsibilities in the service of your technical/professional community. You will become part of the decision-making system, and people will come to depend on your good judgment. Of course, when you are an associate editor or even an editor-in-chief, you will still be reviewing some papers.

For junior researchers/faculty members, being invited to review papers from prestigious journals and top-rated conferences is a validation of their professional standing and recognition, and typically an enhancement to their vitae; for senior people, it is a way to share their experience and knowledge to benefit their research community; for everyone, it can be a lot of fun, and can provide a sense of belonging. I submit that a sense of belonging is crucial to one's professional satisfaction.

Finally, here is the theorem (Theorem on Reviewers and Editors): All reviewers may not become associate editors and editors-in-chief, but all associate editors and editors-in-chief must have started as reviewers.

Anyone care to find a counter-example?

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### 3. IFAC Technical Committee on Control Education: New Chair

Contributed by Elena Zattoni

Bozenna Pasik-Duncan has recently been elected as the Chair of the IFAC Technical Committee on Control Education.

Bozenna Pasik-Duncan's scientific and educational endeavors and achievements have been highly recognized by the scientific community in a great number of occasions.

Just for the youngest member of "Women in Control", I would like to mention that Bozenna

is also the founder of this IEEE Control Systems Society Committee.

Her outstanding commitment and rare human qualities have made her a role model, and a dear friend as well, to most of us.

I am sure that everyone will be happy to join me in expressing to Bozena the most sincere congratulations for her recent, further success and in wishing her all the best for this new challenge.

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4. Board of Governors Election  
Contributed by Naira Hovakimyan

I encourage all of you to vote for Fahmida Chowdhury to be elected on BoG on behalf of WiC.

Fahmida's service to our community in various capacities over the years is worthy of this notable recognition.

I am sure that she will be very supportive of women and will defend our rights in various meetings as needed.

Fahmida's brief bio follows:

Fahmida N. Chowdhury is currently Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and W. Hansen Hall and Mary O. Hall Endowed Chair at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana. She was born in Bangladesh, and went to Moscow, Russia, after finishing 12-th grade education in Bangladesh in 1974. She received a joint B.Sc. + M.Sc. degree in electromechanical engineering (with High Honors) from Moscow Power Engineering Institute, Russia, in 1980, with a thesis written in Russian. She obtained her Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Louisiana State University, with a minor in mathematics, in 1988. She worked as a postdoctoral researcher in biophysical chemistry at Louisiana State University and taught

at Southern University, Baton Rouge, from 1989 to 1993. She joined Michigan Technological University

as a tenure-track assistant professor in 1993, and then moved to the University of Louisiana, Lafayette in 1997.

She spent two years (2005-2006) at the National Science Foundation as a program director (IPA, on rotation).

Dr. Chowdhury was a Fulbright Scholar in 2001, and a visiting professor at the Helsinki University of Technology

in the summer of 2004.

Professor Chowdhury is on the editorial boards of IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and IEEE Transactions

on Control Systems Technology. She served on the IEEE CSS Conference Editorial Board for nine years. She

chaired the CSS Women-in-Control Committee for two years and served as the editor of its electronic newsletter.

She has been on the program committees of many international conferences: IEEE Conference on Decision

and Control, IEEE Conference on Control Applications, IEEE International Symposium on Intelligent Control,

and American Control Conference. She is serving as Vice Chair for Tutorial and Special Sessions for 2007

Conference on Decision and Control. She is an elected member of the IEEE Computational Intelligence

Society's Administrative Committee (AdCom), and an appointed member of IEEE CSS Board of

Governors (BoG). Besides IEEE, she is also active in the American Institute for Aeronautics and Astronautics

(AIAA), where she belongs to the Digital Avionics Technical Committee, and is serving as the Student

Affairs Chair for the 2007 Digital Avionics Systems Conference.

Professor Chowdhury's research interests are in fault detection, system modeling and identification, estimation theory, neural networks, and applications to various practical systems including power systems

and biological systems. Besides technical research she is also interested in science policy, outreach to the

public, integration of research and education, and engineering education.

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## 5. Board of Governors Election

Contributed by Bozenna Pasik-Duncan

Please join me in voting for Fahmida for a member of the CSS BoG.

Fahmida is an important contributor to control community, an established educator and scholar.

She has been one of the strongest advocate for women in engineering, science and math.

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## 6. Semi-Annual WiC Meeting at ACC'07

Contributed by Linda Bushnell

Our semi-annual Women in Control meeting will be held at the 2007 ACC on

**Wednesday, July 11, 2007, 11:30am - 1:15pm, Marquis Ballroom Salon C**

at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Times Square, New York, NY USA.  
We hope that you can join us. There will be signs up at the conference near the registration desk.

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7. Invitation to the evening sessions and receptions sponsored by CSS, AACC, and IFAC Technical Committees on Control Education, at ACC'07

Contributed by Bozenna Pasik-Duncan,  
Chair of CSS, AACC, and IFAC Technical Committees on Control Education.

I invite each of you and all of you to the

**evening sessions and receptions on Wednesday and Thursday, at 6:00pm,**

sponsored by the three committees on Control Education.

I proudly announce that I have just been elected as the Chair of the IFAC Technical Committee on Control Education.

Details of the sessions will be posted and announced during our lunch on Wednesday.

See you in New York next week,

with my very best wishes - Bozenna

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8. Special Invitation for Women in Control at ACC'07

Contributed by Bozenna Pasik-Duncan,  
Chair of CSS, AACC, and IFAC Technical Committees on Control Education.

All women in control are kindly invited to the Early Evening Reception and the Semiannual Meeting of the CSS and AACC Technical Committees on Control Education with **Ginger Warfield**, the 2007 recipient of the AWM L. Hay Award, as a keynote speaker,

**at 5:45 pm, Thursday, July 12, at the ACC'07 in New York City.**

By talking about her contributions to education through her teaching, graduate student training

and mentoring, work on the didactics of mathematics, and outreach and collaborations with

K-16 communities, **Ginger Warfield** will be inspirational to many of us, in particular to young members of our community who are looking for new educational initiatives with a "broad impact", an important part of every NSF research proposal.

This session will help our Control Community to assist the 2007 President of the IEEE on her goals: "One of my goals as 2007 President is to foster programs and activities that promote greater visibility for the IEEE and our profession, not only to employers but also to a wide range of public", wrote Lean H. Jamieson in the President's column, in March 2007, Vol.31, No1 of the Institute.

*Further details on Virginia Warfield and the event and can be found in Newsletter #1, 2007*

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9. Endowed Engineering Chair Openings at the University of Akron  
Contributed by Linda Bushnell

a). The F. Theodore Harrington Endowed Professorship, Department of Mechanical Engineering. Preference will be given to candidates who have research experience or potential in the areas of bio-mechanics and biomedical applications.

b). The Robert Iredale Chair and Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. There is a strong desire for the person occupying this chair to have a background in biotechnology, biochemical engineering, biomaterials, or a related field.

c). The Margaret F. Donovan Endowed Chair for Women in Engineering, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. A key element of this search is that the person selected will actively participate in and serve as a role model in the activities of the College of Engineering's highly regarded Women in Engineering Program. While candidates from all areas of electrical and computer engineering will be considered, preference will be given to candidates in the areas of signal processing and sensors and actuators with special emphasis on those with bioengineering and biomedical applications.

If you are interested in those positions or would like to recommend possible candidates, please contact:

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End of Newsletter #2, 2007

July 6, 2007

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