

PRESIDENT'S POST

The past two years have been very exciting for ACES and its membership. I am pleased to report to you on several activities and accomplishments that have propelled our society to be of more value to its members.



- Membership fees have now been streamlined reduced and have become very reasonable at \$35.00 annually. This is lowest of many if not all of the technical societies. The conference registration fees have remained low with more technical and social events added.
- In an effort to increase membership services, conference proceedings and journal archives are available on CD for ACES members and nonmembers. The society is moving more and more towards complete electronic publications and services. We have enhanced membership communications and placed more information on the website.
- The conference committee is working hard to identify sites and groups who will agree to organize the conference for the next five years. Since our annual conference is the main source of funding, this long-range plan is very important to ensure the long-term viability of the society's finances. Now, the ACES annual conference venue can move around the country or even around the world allowing more groups to organize the conference and help increase the financial viability of the society.
- A new feature for the annual conference now is that authors of accepted papers will have the option to submit an extended version of their papers for peer review and possible publication in special issues of the ACES Journal. ***And most importantly,***
- It is with great pleasure that I inform you that the Applied Computational Electromagnetic Society Journal has officially been added to the *Science Citation Index Expanded*, the *Research Alert* as well as to *Current Contents/Engineering, Computing & Technology*. This indeed is a new and an important milestone for all of us at ACES. This will enhance the archival value of our Society's Journal and increase our circulation and referral to ACES Journal articles in the scientific community. This inclusion has officially started with the 2003 issues of the Journal. We are all proud of this accomplishment.

The Journal is a highly refereed publication and is published regularly three times annually (March, July and November) in addition to special issues. I encourage you to submit your articles for review and possible publication in the ACES Journal. It is possible that with increased interest that the Journal may become more frequent with additional regular issues. My most sincere thanks and congratulations to all who have led this effort to achieve this milestone; Andy Peterson, Atef Elsherbeni, Dick Adler, many others and certainly all of you who have been contributing to the Journal. You can visit the Journal Website at <http://aces.ee.olemiss.edu/acesjournal.asp>. All submissions and the review processes for the journal are done online and I am sure you will all want the ACES Journal to achieve its highest impact with your contributions and support.

Preparations for this year's ACES annual conference are in full swing. It will be held April 19-23, 2004. This year's conference will be held in Syracuse, New York. The conference venue is the Sheraton Hotel on the Campus of Syracuse University. The conference is our society's main event and its continued success is everyone's business. We look forward to the support of everyone who can help make the 2004 conference in Syracuse a great event. The conference this year features 160 presentations in addition to several tutorials and company exhibits. The technical and social programs promise to be exciting. This

year we will continue the feature started last year which would allow authors of accepted papers to have the option to submit an extended version of their papers for review and publication in special issues of the ACES Journal. This feature created three special issues of the Journal during the past year and will continue to give authors the chance to have their papers peer reviewed and possibly published in the ACES Journal.

The ACES annual conference is a highly influential outlet for promoting awareness of recent technical contributions to the advancement of computational electromagnetics. Attendance of ACES members as well as nonmembers from throughout the world is encouraged and welcomed. The Board of Directors invites every ACES member to participate and encourage their colleagues to submit and present papers at the annual conference and/or organize a session, tutorial or participate in the vendor exhibit.

The overall future of ACES is very bright and the society will continue to be valuable to its members. The key for us is to utilize the opportunities inherent in the dramatic changes in our world and our technology. Relevance to our members with products and services as well as choices will increase membership and enhance attendance at the annual symposium. We need to do more:

- The society seeks the efforts of its overseas BoD members from Europe and Asia to help in the creation of ACES chapters overseas and encourage basic and student membership. Now, the membership fees are very reasonable and attractive.
- The ACES web site has become an important tool in delivering membership services and publications. We look forward to its continued enhancements and increased full services such as membership renewals and publications. The ACES web site will be the main source for delivering almost all of the membership services as well as conferences, publications and administrative activities.
- We look forward to everyone's help in increasing the society membership to the level of 2000 members in the near future. This will be in concert with the quality and high level of our publications as well as our mission.

I will continue to promote ACES on all fronts and increase communication and cooperation with other organizations. We must all work together if we are to grow, prosper and reach our goals.

Please feel free to contact me with your comments and suggestions.

Osama Mohammed
President
Applied Computational Electromagnetic Society
Telephone: +1 305 348-3040
E-mail: mohammed@fiu.edu