

## President's Post

During the past two decades, computer modeling and numerical methods have matured as problem-solving tools in real-world electromagnetics applications. ACES was formally chartered and incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1986 with the second annual review of progress held at NPS in Monterey, CA. Now, 18 years later, ACES is an international, inter-disciplinary, professional society, with a wide range of activities and services. The interdisciplinary scope of ACES is pivotal to maintaining "cross-fertilization" between the high-frequency and low-frequency applications.

ACES activities and services have expanded to include canonical problem solution workshops and code user groups, the newsletter, the journal, the annual symposium in addition to the software exchange and software performance standards activities. At the symposia, short courses and software demonstrations are offered. The ACES Journal is administered by an international editorial board with members from around the world.

ACES is not immune to the changes most companies and institutions face in times of accelerating technological and social shifts. Electronic dissemination of information is changing our interface with the society members and is changing the way we will distribute our products and services. This represents an opportunity for us to increase the value of ACES membership in general as well as to organizational groups such as industry and government institutions. We need to understand what member value is today and what it should be in the future to ensure that we continue to serve industry and the Computational Electromagnetics Community.

With more of our information coming from the Internet, we need to offer a full range of electronic products and services. ACES needs to be the first source for its members to go for information. We must help the member identify the right information and then provide appropriate access to it. On this front, some good things for ACES have been achieved, which will have a lasting beneficial effect for ACES members. The realization of a professional quality ACES Web site "ACES Online" is a significant accomplishment. This site represents an excellent information source and home to some powerful electronic publishing and software tools. We thank our colleague Dr. Atef Elsherbeni for his leadership in accomplishing this project.

During this year's annual ACES symposium held last March in Monterey CA, the ACES board of directors approved the creation of the Member Communications Committee. Our colleague Dr. Vicente Rodriguez accepted the nomination of being the Chair of this Committee. The objective of this Committee is to keep the members informed about the society's plans and goals, in a timely manner through monthly communication. This activity will keep ACES members updated via electronic mail through ACES web site. In this way it is expected that a more frequent channel of communication will be opened between ACES members and the board of directors. In the near future, additional e-mail alerting service will be generated automatically to inform members about new titles or software of interest with direct link to the source on the ACES website.

We also need to improve our focus on industry and government agencies and increase the relevancy of ACES to these organizations. This can take many forms such as publications and products that give practical information. We could also focus on professional networking by

facilitating communications among practitioners in specialized technical areas in the applied electromagnetics field. Starting with upcoming ACES annual symposium to be held March 24-28, 2003 at NPS in Monterey, CA, panel sessions and invited paper sessions from industry will be organized. Also, the software exhibit will be expanded and the number of interactive presentations will be increased. Furthermore, social functions will be increased during the conference to give industrial participants and other attendees ample time for networking and discussions.

ACES also need to increase its continuing education focus. For industrial members and their managers, continuing education is very important to keep up to date and may be fill a need of acquiring professional development hours (PDH) required to maintaining licensure. ACES offer a number of short courses before and after the annual conference with a great deal of educational materials. Also, plenary presentations and record of panel sessions make valuable educational materials at our conferences. This material could be collected and presented online or in other format such as a CD and be made available as products. These continuing education initiatives, if implemented, will have the potential to be of major value to ACES members in the future and will help attract new members and industrial organizations.

The overall future of ACES is very bright and we can be valuable in our 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 will increase membership and enhance attendance at the annual symposium. 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 and prosper.

O. A. Mohammed  
President, ACES

## **Biographical Sketch of Osama A. Mohammed**

Dr. Osama A. Mohammed is the current president ACES since March 2002 and was ACES vice president last year. He has been on ACES BoD for the past three years. Dr. Mohammed has been a long time active member of ACES and its journal editorial board as well as a recipient of ACES service award. As president of ACES, he started new programs and activities to enhance the annual conference and membership services and make an effort to bring industry and government agencies into the ACES conference and its activities.

Dr. Mohammed is a Professor of electrical and computer engineering at Florida International University, Miami, Florida. He received his Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Virginia Tech., Blacksburg, Virginia in 1980 and 1983, respectively. He has many years of teaching, curriculum development, research and industrial consulting experience. He authored and co-authored more than 175 technical papers in the archival literature as well as in National and International Conference records. In addition, he has several book chapters, edited volumes, numerous technical and project reports and monographs to his credit. He specializes in Electromagnetic Field Computations in Nonlinear Devices, Design Optimization of Electromagnetic Devices, Artificial Intelligence Techniques and their Applications to Electromagnetic Systems.

He received many awards for excellence in research, teaching and service to the profession. Dr. Mohammed is a Fellow of IEEE. Professor Mohammed was the General Chairman of the 1993 COMPUMAG, October 31- November 4, 1993, and was Vice-Chairman of COMPUMAG-RIO, November 3-7, 1997. He was also the General Chairman of the 1996 IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Systems Applications to Power Systems (ISAP'96), Orlando, Florida, January 28-February 2, 1996 as well as the General Chairman of the 1994 IEEE Southeastcon, Miami, Florida, April 10-13, 1994. He also was a member of the technical program committee for the 1996 IEEE/CEFC conference, Okayama, Japan, and a member of the International Steering Committee for the ISEM conferences, and the 1997 (IEEE-IEMDC), Milwaukee, Wisconsin. May 18-21, 1997. Dr. Mohammed was the editorial board chairman for the 2000 IEEE/CEFC conference, June 4-7, 2000 and the editor of the associated issue of the IEEE Transactions on Magnetics. In addition, Professor Mohammed is an editor of the IEEE Transactions on Energy Conversion and currently serves on several other technical programs and editorial boards. Furthermore, he chaired sessions and programs in numerous National and International Conferences and has delivered numerous invited lectures and tutorials at scientific organizations worldwide.

Professor Mohammed serves on several IEEE committees and boards. He is the Chairman of the Miami Section of IEEE as well as the past chairman of the Florida Council of IEEE. He was a member of the IEEE/PES Governing Board (1992-1996) and he is a currently on the board as chairman of the constitution and bylaws committee chair. He currently serves as chairman, officer or as an active member on several IEEE society committees, sub-committees and technical working groups.