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The SunCoast Signal

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Florida West Coast Section (FWCS)

Please Check the Website
Often for **UPCOMING EVENTS**
(Front Page Right Column)

<https://r3.ieee.org/fwc/>

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PE Corner

Art Nordlinger, PE, Senior Member

Laws and Rules and New Continuing Education Reporting Requirements

The Florida Board of Professional Engineers audits a number of licensees after each renewal cycle to verify that they have, in fact, completed the required continuing education. The most frequent area of failure is that an engineer has taken a Laws and Rules course that is not approved by the FBPE. This is more often an issue for licensees who don't reside in Florida and are licensed here.

Chapter 471.017, Florida Statutes, Renewal, regarding continuing education states, "One hour must relate to this chapter and the rules adopted under this chapter." Chapter 61G15-22.010, Florida Administrative Code, Qualifying Activities for Laws and Rules Requirements, as a result requires, "Successful completion of a course of continuing education for laws and rules of the Board which must consist of a minimum of one (1) continuing education hour in laws and rules of the Board. Chapter 61G15-22.0105 then goes on to discuss the requirements for a Rules and Laws course and provider.

Beginning soon (if it's not already available), the Department of Business and Professional Regulation's portal, MyFloridaLicense.com, will have the facility for engineers to report their continuing education, including the required one hour of Florida Laws and Rules. All professional engineers licensed in Florida will be required to enter their continuing education, as do many other professions licensed by the DBPR.

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Next ExCom Meeting
Tuesday, April 4, 2023
Google Meet
Register with vTools

<https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/352344>

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When entering a Laws and Rules Course, it is my understanding that the licensee will only be able to select from a list of providers who are approved to supply these courses in Florida. This will, hopefully, reduce the incidence of licensees taking an unapproved Laws and Rules course.

It is suggested that licensees report their continuing education as they earn those hours, rather than wait until license renewal to enter the information. I also believe that you will not be able to renew your license until you have entered the required continuing education courses into the MyFloridaLicense portal. We'll see how that ends up working when renewal opens in November 2024. Note that entering your continuing education into the portal does not change the need to retain this information for two renewal cycles, as audits of continuing education compliance will continue after each renewal cycle. For now it is suggested that you sign on to you:

[MyFloridaLicense](#)

account to insure that it is active and that all of the information is up to date. And when it is available, enter your continuing education.

Whether you are a PE looking to attain required CEHs, or an engineer looking to learn something new or keep current with the latest trends in the profession, IEEE has seminars that will meet your needs. *Sign up now!*

THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL, published monthly by the Florida West Coast Section (FWCS) of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE). **Please Note that the SUNCOAST SIGNAL is sent each month to ACTIVE members of the IEEE Florida West Coast Section. So to continue receiving the SIGNAL please keep your membership Active, meaning, renew your membership when it becomes due.** Annual subscription is included in the IEEE membership dues. The opinions expressed, as well as the technical accuracy of authors, advertisers or speakers published in this newsletter are those of the individual authors, advertisers, and speakers. Therefore, no endorsement by the IEEE, its officers, or its members is made or implied. All material for THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL is due in electronic form by the end of day of the 1st Monday after the 1st Tuesday of the month, i.e. the ExCom meeting, preceding the issue month.

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IEEE SoutheastCon 2023

Engineering the Magic

Orlando, FL – April 13-16, 2023



IEEE SoutheastCon, the IEEE Southeastern US regional conference, will be Engineering the Magic in Orlando from April 13 to 16, 2023. We expect over 400 future electrical and computer engineering and computer science talent from Virginia to Florida to Alabama to attend and participate in multiple competitions such as a robotics, software, and circuit design. Also, over 300 faculty and graduate students will present technical papers in areas such as power systems, computing and communications, and artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

Anchor Sponsor - \$24,000

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Complementary conference registration for 4 people
Placement of 2 pieces of literature and 2 gifts in delegate bag
Full-page conference program ad
Website recognition
Awards banquet recognition and seating for 4

Platinum Sponsor - \$12,000

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(6' x 1.5' table with 2 chairs)
Complementary conference registration for 2 people
Placement of 1 piece of literature and 1 gift in delegate bag
Half-page conference program ad
Website recognition
Awards banquet recognition and seating for 2

Gold Sponsor - \$6,000

Exhibition space
(6' x 1.5' table with 2 chairs)
Complementary conference registration for 2 people
Placement of 1 piece of literature and 1 gift in delegate bag
Quarter-page conference program ad
Website recognition
Awards banquet recognition and seating for 2

Silver Sponsor - \$3,000

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Complementary conference registration for 2 people
Placement of 1 piece of literature and 1 gift in delegate bag
Eighth-page conference program ad
Website recognition
Awards banquet recognition and seating for 2

Exhibit Table \$1,500

Exhibition space (6' x 1.5' table with 2 chairs)
Complementary conference registration for 1 person
Website and conference program recognition
Awards banquet seating for 1

Additional sponsorship opportunities available

Sales Contact:

Joe Juisai - joe.juisai@ieee.org - +1-415-260-1980

<https://ieeesoutheastcon2023.org>





IEEE

Florida West Coast Section



Does Engineering Have Gender?

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023

Time: Webinar: 12:00PM – 1:00PM (EST/EDT)

Speaker: Hulya Kirkici, PhD., IEEE Fellow - Professor, University of South Alabama

Location: Online – meeting invitation will be emailed to attendees prior to seminar

Cost: Free

CEH Credits: No CEH's provided for this event.

RSVP: Online at: <https://events.vtools.ieee.org/event/register/350589>

Questions: Diana Aristizabal, dianaaristizabal@ieee.org

Abstract: This talk will explore trends in minority and underrepresented groups' academic presence, their contributions to the engineering field, and the impact of academic research on future engineers, scientists, and technology professionals. It is clear that engineering is a challenging profession, but it is a lot more challenging for some groups of the population than others. The engineering profession starts

early on, with education, then research, innovation, and finally products we use every day. There are many technologies we are accustomed to that are investigated by researchers at academic institutions, developed by industry, and driven by public policies and consumer use. In any of these, there's no mention if gender differences are reflected or whether minority groups' needs are considered

Biography: Hulya Kirkici is Professor and the Department Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of South Alabama. She received B.S. and M.S. in physics from Middle East Technical University, Turkey; and Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Polytechnic University (currently NYU), NY. Previously, Dr. Kirkici



was a Professor of electrical and computer engineering at Auburn University, visiting scholar / Faculty Fellow at the Air Force Research Laboratory – Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and visiting

scientist/engineer at NASA, Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL. Dr. Kirkici's research interests are electrical insulation, high-frequency dielectric breakdown, and repetitive pulsed power. She has published over 100 peer-reviewed journal and conference articles, and given plenary and invited talks nationally and internationally (Turkey, Japan, S. Korea, Australia, and China).

Dr. Kirkici is a Fellow of IEEE and recipient of the IEEE Eric O. Forster Distinguished Service Award, IEEE William G. Dunbar Award, and the IEEE Sol Schneider Award. Dr. Kirkici is a member of American Physical Society (APS), Sigma Xi Scientific Honor Society, Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society, and American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Dr. Kirkici served as the President of the Southeast ECE Department Heads Association (SECEDHA) (2020, 2021) and is the Secretary of the ECE Department Heads Association (ECEDHA) 2022-23 academic year. Dr. Kirkici is Governor-at-Large of the IEEE-HKN Board, and a member of the IEEE-HKN Bridge Magazine Editorial Board (2020 – present). She served as a member of the IEEE N&A Committee and was the IEEE Vice President – Publications (2019); President of IEEE DEIS (2009-2010), Vice President of IEEE Sensors Council (2014-2015), and has served on the IEEE Access Editorial Board (2014 – 2019), among other volunteer positions.

A Contributor to the Power Systems Protection and the Power Engineering Society

Interview with Miriam Sanders, an IEEE Senior Member by Ali Al Jali, a senior year Mechanical Engineering student at the University of South Florida

It was a pleasure for me to get to know senior member Miriam Sanders both on a professional and personal level, and it's an experience that I will cherish dearly. During our conversation, we touched on a range of interesting topics and shared insights that I believe are valuable to ambitious engineers like myself. The discussion was particularly memorable as Eng. Sanders shared her extensive and impressive career journey in the engineering field, which left a lasting impression on me that I won't soon forget.

A quick brief about senior member Miriam that everyone should know. Eng. Miriam is a seasoned engineer in the power utility industry with over 40 years of experience. Her career began as part-time drafting work at Duke Power during college, which led to a job in Florida with Westinghouse where she learned about protective relay systems and applied them to communication channels. Eng. Miriam Sanders has worked at ABB in different roles including research, manufacturing, and communications. She co-founded Pulsar Technologies and gained experience in setting up accounting, sales, quality, and customer service for a multi-million-dollar company. As she also became heavily involved in the IEEE/Power Engineering Society, eventually becoming the chair of the technical committee. Currently, Eng. Sanders is a senior instructor and researcher at Schweitzer Engineering Labs working on fiber optics and SONET technology-based communication products.

One of the most inspiring stories that changed Miriam's is when she decided to switch her major from math to electrical engineering, largely influenced by a friend she had met in a chemistry class. Her decision was further encouraged by her older brother, who believed that engineering was a good fit for her.

As many may agree that the usage of power line carrier technology for transmission line protection has remained a viable and dependable option. It is a specialized field in protective relays and communications, with usage predominantly limited to North America. Eng. Sanders claims that the technology has been crucial in ensuring the uninterrupted supply of power to millions of people in the US, making it essential to maintain a stable power supply, which is the backbone of society.

For years, senior member Sanders has been teaching fellow engineers in the power system protection field. Although she is not a professor in a college, she has instructed thousands of engineers and technicians on the subject of protecting the power system and communications used in the power system. Miriam says that "Teaching has proven to be a challenging experience that has made me realize just how much I didn't know about a subject until I had to teach it." Every time she delves deeply into the subject, she is hit with obscure questions that she never anticipated. Nevertheless, she has persevered and, in doing so, has improved her own understanding of the subject matter.

Through her instruction, Eng. Miriam has been able to help many engineers and technicians understand the intricacies of power system protection. It is a rewarding feeling to know that she has made a valuable contribution to the field and to the safety of power systems.

Throughout her career, Miriam Sanders has remained heavily involved in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a professional organization for individuals in the electrical and computer engineering fields. Miriam's journey with IEEE began during her student days when she served as the student chairman of the IEEE branch at her school.

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Engineer Miriam continued her involvement with IEEE throughout her career, citing the organization's ability to provide leadership experience and personal growth opportunities without threatening her paying job. Early on in her career, Miriam expressed her interest in becoming the technical chair of the Power System Relaying and Control (PSRC) committee to several individuals. After a few years, she achieved this goal, and it served as a springboard for other positions in IEEE, including the PES Technical Council, VP of Technical Activities, PES Governing Board, and eventually, the IEEE Division Director for Division VII.

Working with other volunteers in IEEE and its subsidiary, the Power and Energy Society

(PES), has been an encouraging and supportive experience for Eng. Sanders, who has made many colleagues and friends along the way. She credits their experience and contributions to IEEE and PES for her success and career advancement, stating that most, if not all, of her job changes have been made through contacts made in these organizations.

Miriam notes that her involvement with IEEE has been a valuable part of their professional journey, providing opportunities for personal and career growth, as well as the chance to meet many people she would not have otherwise encountered. She is grateful for the experience and contributions that made to IEEE and PES and acknowledges that she would not be where she is today without the support and opportunities provided by these organizations.

An Invitation for a Valuable Opportunity from Senior Members to Students and Upcoming Engineers

We would like to invite you to be interviewed by a student from the University of South Florida as part of the Student Interviews Project, where tens of students and upcoming engineers have interviewed Senior Members about their career backgrounds and

gotten the opportunity to learn from their journey in engineering. Those interviews are published in the IEEE FWCS Signal Newsletter and college campus.

If interested, please contact the Project Lead, Khalid Alosaylan at:

kaalosaylan@usf.edu

Senior Member Roundup

Saturday, March 25, 12:00 pm - 4:00pm

OnLine: <https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/349718>

Contact / Questions: andrew.seely@ieee.org hermann.amaya.us@ieee.org



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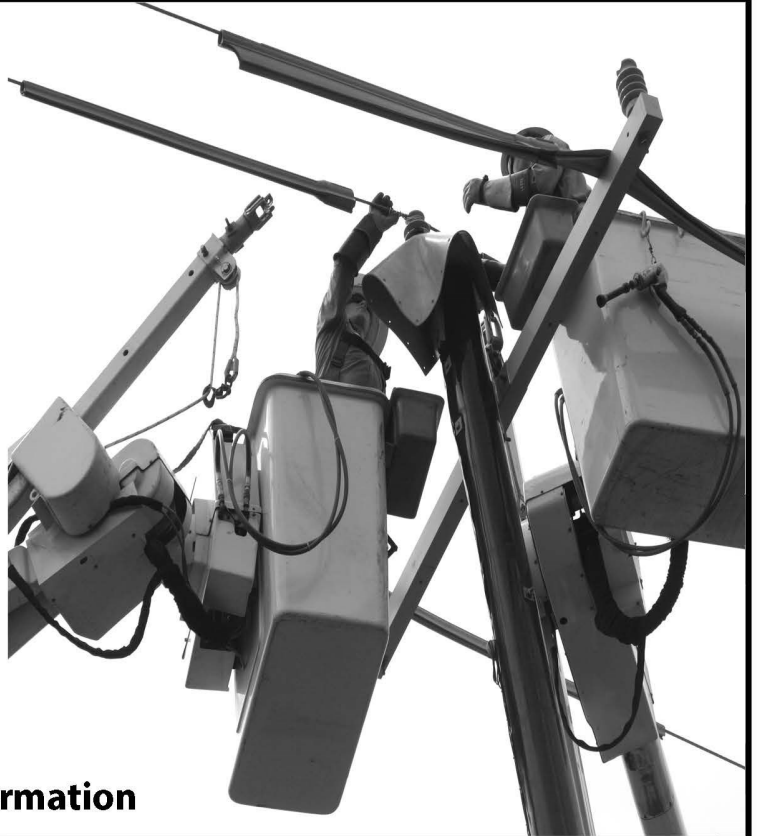
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PES/IAS ExCom

Thursday, April 27, 6:30 am – 7:30 am

Virtual Event

<https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/333497>

Contact/Questions: Robert Demelo, robert.demelo@ieee.org

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3/4 Page	\$110	\$143	\$530	\$663	\$925	\$1,110
Full Page	\$140	\$182	\$670	\$838	\$1,175	\$1,410
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April 2023 - Calendar of Events (For more information see "Inside the SunCoast Signal" → Page 1)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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		*FWCS ExCom →Page 1				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	*Signal Inputs Due End of Day					
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29
				*PES/IAS ExCom →Page 6	*Does Engineering Have a Gender? →Page 4	