



# INCOSE Chesapeake Chapter

International Council on Systems Engineering

## E-Newsletter

February 2012

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Wednesday, 15 February 2012

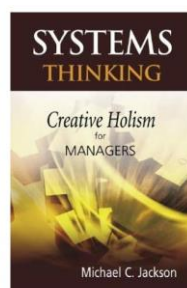
### [A Case Study: Assessing the Ballistic Missile Defense System's \(BMDS\) capabilities](#)

Clyde S. Smithson III – JHU/APL

**Presentation:** The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) is tasked every year to produce an assessment of the Ballistic Missile Defense System's (BMDS) capabilities. MDA verification and assessment activities produce a plan each year to, among other things, define System Performance Assessment activities supporting the evaluation of system capability and report results each year in a System Engineering Assessment Report. System Performance Assessment of the Operational BMDS means assessing the capability of the system in terms of metrics such as Probability of Engagement Success, Defended Area, Launch Area Denied, Operating Area, and others. This briefing discusses a more formalized framework and approach to the generation of assessments of BMDS capability.



**Speaker:** Mr. Smithson has spent the last 27 years performing system engineering, development, analysis, and assessment on the Ballistic Missile Defense System and military flight simulators. Mr. Smithson has performed simulation and analysis on operational, tactical, and strategic military systems ranging from Theater and National Missile Defense sensor and weapon systems, Command and Control centers, to related CONOPS, TTP, and Doctrine.



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This is the monthly newsletter for INCOSE Chesapeake, a local chapter of INCOSE International. We are a not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing a forum for professionals practicing the art and science of Systems Engineering in the Northern & Central Maryland & Southern Pennsylvania area.



### Mark your Calendars with these upcoming events:

**Date: Feb 7, 2012**

Time: 1 pm

[Patterns of Innovation at NASA: The Need to Move Beyond Stages and Gates](#)

Speaker: Zoe Szajnfarder, Ph.D.

**Date: Feb 25, 2012**

Time: 10 am - 2 pm

**Location:** [Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University](#); 11100 Johns Hopkins Rd Laurel MD 20723 (Main Entrance – Lobby 1)

**Meal:** Chicken breast with mushroom marsala sauce; Wild rice; Steamed Broccoli, served with garden salad, dressing, rolls and butter, dessert, including a small Fruit Plate, coffee, iced tea.

*Come out for a chance to win the door prize "Systems Thinking: Creative Holism for Managers" By Michael C. Jackson*

[>>Download the Meeting Flyer Here<<](#)

**Reservations:** Purchase a ticket to this event by Credit card via PayPal, go to our [>>Registration Page<<](#)

(Please Note: At registration we include an option for you to pay at the door. PLEASE REGISTER if you plan to join us for dinner so we can be sure we have enough food. Thanks for your consideration)

**Presentation ONLY: FREE**

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## Presidents POV



# A Chapter on the Move

It's only February and the Chesapeake Chapter has already been very busy for 2012! We kicked off our first monthly meeting of the New Year with a presentation on Gesture Recognition by Erik DeVito, the Chapter's Program Director. Several of our members attended the INCOSE IW from January 21 – 24th in Jacksonville, Florida. On January 26th, at the Chapter's Winter Celebration and Awards Banquet we honored Mike Pafford of JHU APL as the Systems Engineer of the Year for 2011. And there's a lot more ahead for 2012! Come out to our monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab in Columbia. Learn what's on the cutting edge of our systems engineering profession and currently on the minds of some of our areas' leading systems engineers. Regards, *Dr. Don York, CC President*, [don.york@incose.org](mailto:don.york@incose.org)

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[The value of the art and science of systems engineering & project management on product development projects](#)

Speaker: Ayman Nassar

**Wednesday, March 21, 2012**

## [Satellite Observations and Climate Modeling](#)

*Albert Arking, Johns Hopkins University.*

**March 19-22, 2012:**

[Conference on Systems Engineering Research \(CSER\)](#) in St. Louis

**April 30-May 02, 2012:**

[SETE/APCOSE 2012](#)

**May 14-16, 2012:** [1st Annual Systems Engineering in Washington DC \(SEDC 2012\)](#)

**July 9 -12, 2012:** [22nd Annual INCOSE International Symposium](#) in Rome

The Chesapeake Chapter is always looking for volunteers to speak at our upcoming meetings! Please contact our 2012 Programs Director, [Mr. Erik DeVito](#), if you would like the opportunity to speak or can recommend someone.

The Chesapeake Chapter of INCOSE is proud to recognize the following organizations for sponsoring our endeavors to expanding the understanding and appreciation of Systems Engineering in the local area:

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

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## Announcements

# Get involved with STEM

Anne Arundel County is holding their Public School Science & Engineering fair on Saturday, March 3rd 8-12:30. We are planning to offer judging & offering awards in our technical areas. Please contact Don Gantzer, Outreach Coordinator, if interested 410-956-1562 [[dongantzer@comcast.net](mailto:dongantzer@comcast.net)]. Other counties are also doing this. Please contact us if interested in others – dates will vary.

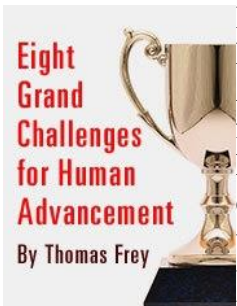
[>>Read more>>](#)

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## Feature Article from our Blog

# Predicting or Creating the Future?

By Paul Martin



In the Jan-Feb 2012 issue of [THE FUTURIST](#) is Thomas Frey's "Eight Grand Challenges for Human Advancement." He proposes several very science fiction things. All the challenges push past beyond our knowledge of physics. That's a good thing because I don't believe we're even close to understanding how the universe works. But what if they did come to pass? They would have some very far reaching consequences. Sure I'm skeptical (and mildly horrified) but I don't want to

make light of Thomas Frey's major premise that "if we change people's visions of the future, we change the way they make decisions, today." What's your vision of the future?

[>>Read more at our blog>>](#)

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The Johns Hopkins University

The advertisement for UMBC's Center for Systems Engineering Training features a photograph of a modern building with a curved facade and large windows. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout. At the top left, "UMBC Training Centers" is written. To the right, "CENTER FOR SYSTEMS ENGINEERING TRAINING" is displayed. Below the photo, the text reads "Certified Systems Engineering Professional (CSEP) Preparation offered live and online". At the bottom, a red banner contains the text "REGISTER TODAY!" in white, bold, uppercase letters.

UMBC  
Training Centers

CENTER FOR  
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING TRAINING

Certified Systems Engineering  
Professional (CSEP) Preparation  
offered live and online

**REGISTER TODAY!**

## Did You Miss Last Month? Gesture Recognition: A Disruptive Technology?



On January 18th, Don York introduced the speaker to an audience of over 60 attendees. Imagine our surprise as Erik DeVito showed us an X-Box 360 game where he turned himself into a walking, moving snow globe man that was able to bifurcate flying fruit with his bare hands. His movements on stage were perfectly duplicated by his avatar on screen, in real time, for a game called "Fruit Ninja." Quite impressive. From this auspicious beginning, Erik started to present the history and technology behind Gesture Recognition, from a 1919 Theremin to the highly successful 2010 release of the Microsoft Kinect.

[>>>Check out Erik's presentation as well as the various videos he showed us.>>](#)

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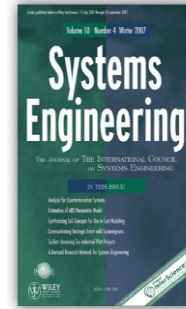
## INCOSE-CC Annual Awards Banquet



The Chesapeake Chapter held its Winter Celebration and Awards Banquet at the Crofton Country Club on January 26th. Chapter members and their guests were treated to a relaxing evening, delicious fare, and dancing to enjoyable music provided by a communications engineer and friend of the Chesapeake Chapter. The highlight of the evening was when Past President John Lewis presented [Mike Pafford with the Chapter's 2011 Systems Engineer of the Year award.](#)

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*Special Feature: Systems Engineering  
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Universities*



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### Newest Chapter Members

- Johnny Johnson *ITT*
- Rick Stone *IBM*
- Tim Huggins *Fascan International*
- Heidi Cotter *SAIC*
- Jeffrey Spilman *Booz Allen Hamilton*
- Fred Kunkler *The MITRE Corporation*
- Montini O'Neal
- Karl Snyder *The Kenjya Group, Inc.*
- Man-Bae Kim *Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems*

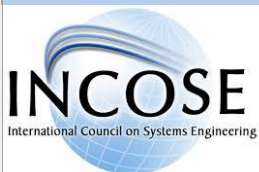
We welcome our latest new members. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings and tutorials.

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**This Newsletter is to serve our members and is open to all for contributions. Do you have an interesting idea for an article? A review of a new book related to engineering? [Let us know.](#) We'd love to hear about. It may wind up in a future issue of our Newsletter.**

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Keep up with the latest news and events. Find out about our new Board of Directors. Explore our extensive library of previous lectures from our Monthly Dinner Meetings. Learn of the Benefits of Joining INCOSE. Check out Systems Engineering education in the local area. All this and more awaits you at our [INCOSE Chesapeake Chapter Website.](#)

For any comments or suggestions about this newsletter please e-mail our [President, Don York](#) or our [Communications Officer, Paul Martin.](#) We value your feedback.

#### **Board of Director Officers, 2012**

- President: Dr. Don York
- Past President: Dr. John Lewis
- President Elect: Dr. William Ewald
- Treasurer: Mr. David Alldredge
- Secretary: Mr. Mark Kaczmarek

#### **Directors at Large**

- Communications: Mr. Paul Martin
- Programs: Mr. Erik DeVito
- Membership Committee: Ms. Janet Deery

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