



INCOSE Chesapeake Chapter

International Council on Systems Engineering

January 2015

E-Newsletter

- [Back Issues](#)
- [Forward to Friend](#)

President's Point of View

Lessons Learned and the Way Ahead



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I am honored to begin my service as the 2015 President of our Chesapeake INCOSE Chapter and am no stranger to the nature of the challenge. I have just attained the 4th year of service along the way to completing two non-consecutive presidential terms. While I am quite prepared to describe the many virtues of the organization that we proudly serve, I thought it more beneficial to focus briefly on the overall scope of our recent activities, what we have learned and what paths of opportunity lay ahead for us.

The Board of Directors (BOD) has worked hard over the past year to attract record attendances to our functions and embrace new initiatives. This was accomplished while honoring our commitment to follow INCOSE INTERNATIONAL's best practices and promote Systems Engineering thinking to the local learned communities including other engineering societies, colleges and pre-college youths. Equally important was the improvement of a financial and governance foundation that could support our desire to increase the scope and size of our programs and activities.

We revamped our activity templates, did mini-analysis of expenditure patterns and conducted a formal audit of the Chapter's financial records. None of this could have been done without the dedicated assistance of our Associate Directors. These individuals, serving at the invitation of the BOD, attended meetings and performed myriad invaluable services. Taken as a whole, their service has changed the landscape of our chapter and made possible a sense of optimism that many of us carry into the

In Vol. 6 Issue 1

- President's POV
- January 21, 2015
Dinner/Lecture
- February 18, 2015
Dinner/Lecture
- Upcoming Events

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.



The Chesapeake Chapter is always looking for volunteers to speak at our upcoming meetings! Please contact our 2014 Programs Director, [Dr. Alex Pavlak](#), if you would like the opportunity to speak or can recommend someone.

New Year. I think the BOD's recognition that they must attract and retain Associate Directors should be the first on our list of lessons learned in 2014.

At the end of the year, the President Elect prepares the Circle Awards Submission Sheet to document the Chapter's concrete achievements as measured against INCOSE INTERNATIONAL criteria. During January 2015, an INCOSE committee will evaluate and rank all the INCOSE Chapters and determine who will receive awards for outstanding performance.

2014 Chapter Award Submission Rev 2 Chesapeake Chapter			
Summary	Pt Cap	Claimed by Cha	Min Pts. for Gold
Section A Officer Training	500	500	300
Section B Chapter Planning	1,000	1,000	600
Section C Event Results	3,000	2,000	1,000
Section D Communications Results	1,000	1,000	1,000
Section E Membership Results	2,000	900	500
Section F Technical Results	1,000	1,000	500
Section G Outreach & Collaboration Results	2,000	1,600	500
Section H INCOSE Support Results	2,000	575	500
Section I Operations & Local Recognition Results	1,500	1,500	500
Section J Subjective	1,500	1,500	
Total	15,500	11,575	

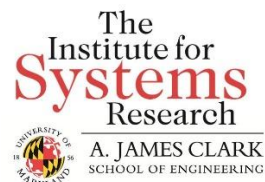
Chart 1. 2014 Chesapeake Chapter Circle Awards Submission.

Based on the scores, three levels of awards are made-Bronze, Silver and Gold. Chesapeake has routinely scored in the Gold category and during 2010 was awarded the "Most Improved Chapter" Plaque. There is only one more distinction that is higher-the President's Award. This is presented annually to the INCOSE Chapter judged the most successful. We aspire to win this award and addressed the Circle criteria in our 2014 Operations Planning. See our claimed points in Chart 1.

Briefly, the Circle award submission consists of 56 activities that are considered within scope of an INCOSE Chapter. A point system is described for accomplishing various elements of each activity. To validate claims, documentation must be submitted. For example, to validate the delivery of 12 newsletters a year, copies of the newsletters must be submitted. This might sound straightforward until I mention that this year Chesapeake submitted 156 items of proof. In spite of the size of this task, we believe that the effort made to attain a high score validates our success in performing our mission and promoting mutual support and respect in our local business and government community. Sort of like an annual ISO 9000 quality review.

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



Based on our Circle Submission for 2014, I would offer further lessons (that I may have) learned:

- Lesson 2. Reinforce past success. Our SEP Reception set a record for attendance and for the first time had speakers from Government and INCOSE INTERNATIONAL. We have been doing this Reception since 2010 and could have accepted the status quo as good enough.
- Lesson 3. Embrace new ideas. Video Teleconferencing and Streaming INTERNET video have moved from early adopters to must have-services. We now must make the interface with college campus groups and members who are distant from the meeting venue. The meeting as we know it and the metrics of success associated with attendance numbers may have to be reexamined.
- Lesson 4. The Chapter is necessarily a partner with the industries that employ Systems Engineers. The maintenance of this mutual relationship is an ongoing task. The process of saying Thank You may make your meetings longer but it's important to the recipients.
- Lesson 5. Certification Matters. It affects everyone associated with the process of training and those gaining the necessary experience and skills to qualify. Our chapter leads in the number of SEPS and we should be benefiting from these members' knowledge, leadership qualities and industry savvy.

After looking at the past, what lies ahead for the Chesapeake Chapter?

- We are a volunteer non-profit organization that with the help of our industry and academic partners offers needed services to our membership and often to non-members in related technical fields. We should create an unambiguous open door to other professionals and vigorously encourage system thinking across disciplines.
- I think that we must grow our professional offerings in the areas of training, certification and employment assistance.
- I offer that the newsletter is an underrated means of relating to our members and the larger technical community. Brief articles on relevant subjects as well as short book reports are always welcome to the readers and are a means of sharing new ideas. The absence of copy in a chapter of our size can reflect badly on our profession.
- Our ESEPs and CSEPs must in general be seen in technical as well as elected leadership roles if certification is to maintain its credibility.
- Last, we must demonstrate the value of certification as an integral part of being a professional SE and take responsibility for keeping the training materials relevant and accurate.



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. It may wind up in a future issue of our Newsletter.

[Return to top.](#)

If you have read this far-Thanks! If not, you will be hearing much of it from others. Please consider making a resolution to play a part in influencing the Chapter's 2015 direction and participate in the areas that benefit you.

Best Wishes for a Rewarding New Year.

George Anderson - INCOSE Chesapeake Chapter President

[Return to top](#)

21 January, 2015 (6:00pm - 8:00pm): The Evolution of SE Standards and Practices - ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288 Based Harmonization



*Garry Roedler, Lockheed
Martin Fellow*

Presentation: Over the past decade, there are several key resources that have come to the forefront as the basis of knowledge, requirements and guidance for systems engineering. These resources include ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288, System Life Cycle Processes; the INCOSE Systems Engineering Handbook; the Defense Acquisition Guide, Chapter 4; EIA 632, Engineering of a System; and recently the development of the Systems Engineering Body of Knowledge (SEBoK). For the user of these resources, higher value would be

obtained if they were consistent in terminology and concepts, and easily able to support concurrent usage. The challenge is that the resources come from a number of different sources. This presentation will examine actions that have been taken or are planned to continue to evolve and harmonize this set.

Click here for more details:(www.incose-cc.org)

Go to www.incose-cc.org/registration/ to register

Parsons Auditorium, Bldg 1
Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
11100 Johns Hopkins Road
Laurel, MD

[Map and Directions](#)

[Return to top](#)

Upcoming Events and Announcements

- **January 21, 2015: The Evolution of SE Standards and Practices - ISO/IEC/IEEE 15288 Based Harmonization** Garry Roedler, Lockheed Martin Fellow
- **February 18, 2015: TBD**
- **Interested in Jobs Networking? Look [here](#)**



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, George Anderson](#) or our [Communications Director, Pat Williams](#). We value your feedback.

Board of Director Officers, 2015

- President: Mr. George Anderson
- Past President: Mr. Erik DeVito
- President Elect: Mr. John Boccio
- Treasurer: Mr. Kent DeJong
- Secretary: Mr. Mark Kaczmarek

Directors at Large

- Communications: Mr. Pat Williams
- Programs: Mr. Jeffrey Banks
- Membership Committee: Mr. Bob Lecorchick

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