

# IEEE SIGHT

Special Interest Group on  
Humanitarian Technology

## NEWSLETTER

August 2017



### Note from the Chair

IEEE SIGHT was an integral part of the IEEE Sections Congress held in Sydney 11-13 August 2017! There were 1250 attendees from 165 countries that participated in the conference and exhibition. SC2017 had 50 exhibitors and 200 speakers. Sections Congress delegates made 15 recommendations, including some that resonate with SIGHT objectives.

**Recommendation 7:** Create an IEEE training and mentorship program for members who want to translate their ideas into sustainable businesses.

**Recommendation 11:** Identify technologies useful for prevention and relief of natural disasters and educate community leaders on the operation and maintenance of those technologies. Identify opportunities for the development of low-cost technologies.

**Recommendation 12:** Develop a knowledge base (best-practice guides, success stories, protocols) of solutions to common problems worldwide based on the knowledge of different entities within IEEE. The final product would be shared with public institutions through the sections.

We in the SIGHT community will certainly take these recommendations seriously and apply them to our work

We were present at the Humanitarian Activities and Philanthropic Pavilion together with IEEE Foundation, EPICS, Smart Village, MOVE and HAC. We got over 250 pledges from people for their time, talent and treasure to advance IEEE's humanitarian and philanthropic activities. The HA&P committee will sort the pledges and direct those with interest in SIGHT for follow up.

Congratulations to all who participated, helped plan our presence at SC17, gave talks and presented in panels to our IEEE MGA community.

Read on for news about your fellow SIGHTs around the world. And thank you for everything that you do!

*Timothy Lee*  
*Chair, IEEE SIGHT Steering Committee*

## Featured Stories

[Photo Gallery: SIGHT at IEEE Sections Congress 2017](#)



These are the people at the Humanitarian and Philanthropic Opportunities Pavilion at IEEE Sections Congress 2017 in Sydney, Australia, 12-13 August.

[See more at SIGHT's Facebook page](#)

## SIGHT's First "Train the Trainers" Session Was a Success



SIGHT hosted our first Train the Trainer Session on August 10th at IEEE Australia New Zealand Young Professional and Student Congress (ANZSCON) in Sydney, Australia. The 20 participants from SIGHTs and IEEE chapters around the world engaged in an exciting round of brainstorming and problem solving. A special thanks to the attendees.

[See more at SIGHT's Facebook page](#)



## IEEE SIGHT Karachi - How Mentors Empower Volunteers

A culture of mentorship is shaping volunteer work at SIGHT Karachi. The SIGHT will soon announce a "Board of Mentors" to steer projects toward greater impact and to serve as a case-study for those who wish to emulate. The SIGHT also plans a three-month fellowship program for

undergraduate students starting in early November, 2017. This is a look at their experience so far.

[Read more at sight.ieee.org](http://sight.ieee.org)



## Humans of IEEE SIGHT: Kartik Kulkarni, Former Chair of the SIGHT Steering Committee

"I believe that IEEE is undergoing a renaissance in that, across the organization, there is an increasing desire to contribute to global development efforts leveraging technology expertise." - Kartik Kulkarni

Kartik Kulkarni guided IEEE SIGHT as the Global Steering Committee Chair in the organization's earliest years from its founding in 2013 until December 2016. He shared his motivations for

joining SIGHT and suggestions for its future in this interview.

[Read more at sight.ieee.org](http://sight.ieee.org)



## Winners announced in the SS12 Coding and Making Challenge

The SS12 Coding and Making Challenge brought students in India and Bangladesh together to develop technological solutions to problems afflicting people in their communities. Winning projects include computer-assisted writing tools

for the physically disabled, a nose-tracking cursor and "color" for blind people. The event was organized by Madras IEEE Education Society, Project Possibility and REAL Breakthrough, and hosted in partnership with different IEEE sections.

[Read more at sight.ieee.org](http://sight.ieee.org)



## SIGHT EI Salvador Installed a Solar PV System in a Rural Academic Center

Volunteers with SIGHT EI Salvador installed a solar PV system at the Amún Shéa Global Development Center in the rural municipality of Perquín on the country's northeastern border with Honduras. The system powers an automatic irrigation system for a greenhouse and benefits students and community members. See photos on [SIGHT EI Salvador's Facebook page](#).

[Read more at ieee.org](http://ieee.org) (Spanish): [Grupo SIGHT EI Salvador instala sistema fotovoltaico en comunidad de Perquán](#)

[Practical Tools for Impact Design - Fusion 360](#)





If you are looking for ways to integrate sustainable design strategies into your product modeling and simulation work, this recorded webinar is for you. Learn about accessible, online resources that can help you design for energy efficiency, integrate 'green' materials, and simulate your product's performance to achieve minimal environmental impact.

In this recorded webinar, we explore Autodesk's Fusion 360, an integrated concept-to-production toolset that combines industrial and mechanical design, simulation, collaboration, and machining in a single cloud-based platform that works on both Mac and PC.

Get inspired through case studies of Autodesk Foundation grantees practicing impact design, get insiders' tips and tricks for modeling your products and see how to get free access to Fusion 360 for your team.



## Want More? Visit SIGHT's Site!

IEEE SIGHT's Web site is live. Visit to find case studies, an interactive map of SIGHTs worldwide, testimonials, a blog, calendar and more. To read more stories, see our **Blog**. And see SIGHT **In The News**.

[sight.ieee.org](http://sight.ieee.org)

## Get Involved - Find Resources

### Become a SIGHT Member

Membership is free and open to all individuals who want to engage in sustainable development. Your membership benefits include the monthly SIGHT

### Find a SIGHT

Professional and University SIGHT groups around the globe are partnering with communities and local organizations to leverage for sustainable development. **Find a Group**

newsletter, as well as SIGHT announcements.

### **SIGHT Membership**

## **Become a Community Partner**

We are in search of committed community partners with a distinct technology challenge who want to access engineering and technical resources. Requests from prospective community partners are reviewed monthly and paired with local SIGHT groups if appropriate.

**[Submit request](#)**

## **Start a SIGHT**

If a SIGHT group does not exist in your area, click below to access the SIGHT Toolkit, a custom resource for those who wish to create a new SIGHT for their community or understand what is involved in creating a new SIGHT.


**[Start a SIGHT](#)**

## **Connect With Us**

Please let us know what you would like to read about in upcoming SIGHT newsletters. Send your suggestions and ideas to **[sight@ieee.org](mailto:sight@ieee.org)**.

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