

2018 Memorandum of Understanding between The New Hampshire High Tech Council (The Council) and the New Hampshire Section of IEEE (IEEE NH)

IEEE NH and the Council share a commitment to the continued expansion of high technology industry and applications in New Hampshire. The Council engages the corporations and organizations building the tech-economy; IEEE NH engages the technology professionals. The purpose of our collaboration is to deepen our connection, grow the NH technology ecosystem and expand connections and opportunities for industry, education and professionals.

IEEE NH is the local component of IEEE, a 501(c)3 organization that has the most cited publications in US Patents for many years running (see <http://is.gd/IEEEPubs>), develops and maintains a wide range of standards including WiFi, the POSIX (Unix/Linux) operating system, and recently the international work on ethics for artificial intelligence. (<http://is.gd/Alethics>). IEEE sponsors 3000+ conferences worldwide through technical societies ranging from computing, robotics, and cyber security to power generation, batteries, telecommunications, and bio-tech. IEEE NH (<http://ieee-nh.org/>) is the local organization with over 1400 members and 16 sub-groups for: computing, communications, signal processing, microwave, power & energy, robotics, medicine and biology, women in engineering, young professionals, consultants, students, and life members. Student branches exist at NH community colleges, UNH, and Dartmouth. These groups host seminars on a range of topics with both local and selected international “distinguished lecturers.” Participation in IEEE activities helps develop essential soft skills such as leadership, communications, and teamwork. The exposure to the diverse competencies of other IEEE members facilitates networking, innovation, and multidisciplinary awareness.

The Council (<https://nhhtc.org/>) is creating a vibrant ecosystem for technology companies that want to launch, grow, or relocate in New Hampshire. The Council is committed to expanding the tech-driven economy by building partnerships, enhancing workforce skills and knowledge, and shaping public policy. Founded in 1983, the Council has been the voice of technology and innovation in the State of New Hampshire for well over 30 years, helping drive NH’s economy by encouraging research and technology-based industrial development. Council members span from entrepreneurs and startups to the largest tech companies in New Hampshire and those that provide important services to the tech sector.

Common areas of interest with the Council include:

- STEM education – encouraging, supporting, and providing pre-college programs.
- Developing and maintaining technical skills of our professionals
- Keeping and expanding high tech job opportunities in NH

Actions we can take:

- IEEE NH to become a complementary member of the Council for 2018
- Cross promotion of events and activities:
 - Invite individuals from our respective organizations to participate in each other’s programs at “member rates;” support student engagement where practical at no cost.

- Encourage IEEE NH members to sign up for Council e-Blast newsletter and Council members to sign up for the IEEE NH newsletter.
- Communicate and where appropriate share sponsorship of STEM related activities.
- Build a stronger 'presence for NH tech and professionals' in the state.
- Collaborate to help build our tech community competencies with speakers, seminars, sponsorship for IEEE Distinguished Visitors, panel participation, professional skills development, and other activities.
- Survey NH IEEE members to get insight on New Hampshire tech opportunities
- Encourage tech internship opportunities for students (working with StayWorkPlay.org)
- Involve each other in activities of common interest.

Agreed:

Edward Nelson date: 12/14/2017 Matt Cookson date: 12/14/17
 Edward Nelson, 2017 Chair NH IEEE Section Matt Cookson
 For NHHTC
Katherine Reagan date: 12/14/2017
 Katherine Reagan, 2018 Chair NH IEEE Section

It is expected that this MOU will be updated and renewed as appropriate in future years.

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Annex – examples of areas of common activity and interest:

- IEEE-NH provides pre-college grants each year for this (and has more qualified requests than we have funding.); we also participate in TECHfest and other NH based pre-college events, teacher in-service training. As well as presentations for school groups.
- The Council supports the Tech Ambassador Week, engaging its Women in Technology program
- IEEE-NH is active in developing and maintaining technical skills of our professionals through local seminars, participation in NH Professional Engineering development day, collaboration with NH colleges, and nationally hosted webinars, online continuing education, etc.
- The Council is a member of ARMI and is collaborating with the ARMI program (<https://www.armiusa.org/>) in Manchester, including a conference this spring.
- The Council hosts a set of software related communities with multiple meetings/seminars every month in both Portsmouth and Manchester.
- Members of both organizations are active/connected to NH colleges in various ways which can help us improve relevant programs, connect schools with potential adjuncts and advisory board members, and help schools to deliver basic and continuing education to meet the needs of our tech professionals.