



MESSAGE FROM THE IEEE PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2015 IEEE President Howard Michel at the World Internet Conference in China

2015 was a year of advances, both for IEEE as an organization, and for our global community of technical professionals. It was a year hallmarked by the expansion of IEEE's existing relationships with the international business and governmental communities, as well as the broadening of IEEE's influence, impact, and reach in countries and regions around the world as diverse as Africa, China, India, and the European Union.

We began the year with a commitment to shaping the IEEE of the future – and demonstrated this by focusing the Board on a vision for IEEE in 2030 and examining ways in which IEEE can evolve today in order to best meet the needs of technical professionals in the years ahead. Many of the advances made this year were

driven by this enhanced focus on our long-term future including Board approval of proposed revisions to the IEEE Constitution aimed at creating a nimble, flexible, forward-looking organization.

During the year, IEEE made substantial updates to its policy around patents required to implement IEEE standards. After rigorous debate, the Board concluded that these updates give companies greater assurance that they can fairly license patents that can potentially be essential to the implementation of IEEE standards. These advancements received global, in-depth attention by governments, standards development organizations, corporations, and the media.

Targeted industry engagement efforts in 2015 also served to enhance IEEE's global footprint with particular emphasis on technology leaders in Germany, China, Japan, and the United States. We continued the expansion of our office in Bangalore, India, particularly in the areas of IT and finance. We ended 2015 by approving an international presence in Vienna, Austria, and Shenzhen, China.

Other noteworthy work accomplished during 2015 includes:

- The launch of IEEE Collabratec™, a new collaboration space and suite of productivity tools that enable our global community to better collaborate, innovate, and move the leading edge of technology forward.
- The debut of the N3XT™ Summit, a one-day global event convening the technical entrepreneur community.
- The development and growth of the IEEE Women in Engineering's International Leadership Conference, which is rapidly becoming one of the flagship events for women in technology.
- A global expansion of IEEE's Internet Governance Initiative through efforts in the European Union, India, and China, culminating in IEEE's key role in China's World Internet Conference in December 2015.
- The expansion of public policy work within the European Union, which included policy-focused summits throughout the year on topics of significance to Europe's technology and governance communities.
- The finalization and implementation of agreements between the IEEE Standards Association and the Bureau of Industry Standards in India; the Pakistan Engineering Council; and the Zambia Bureau of Standards, among other standards development organizations.

- The continued growth of IEEE's technical communities and Future Directions initiatives, particularly in the areas of Smart Cities, Smart Grid, and the Internet of Things.

In addition to all of these achievements—and among many more—IEEE expanded its roster of world-class journals and Open Access offerings, created the IEEE Technology and Management Society, and added content from the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers to the nearly four million documents available through the IEEE Xplore® digital library.

Efforts to advance IEEE and raise awareness of the engineering profession were undertaken by many individuals and groups within our global community. Our success in 2015 was made possible through the vision, dedication, and hard work of our members, our volunteers, and our professional staff. We thank you for your outstanding support and look forward to taking IEEE to even greater heights in the years to come.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Howard E. Michel".

Howard E. Michel
2015 IEEE President
and CEO



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. J. Prendergast".

E. James Prendergast
IEEE Executive Director
and COO