ISA Birmingham Section Kick-Off Meeting Report

The ISA Birmingham Section held the first meeting of the new section year on **Tuesday, September 10, 2019**. This was a general get acquainted night with special reports from the section leadership on exciting plans for the coming months. The topics and outlines will include the scheduled technical speakers, a new meeting location and times, a plant visit, honors and awards details, and a preview of the three day short course for next spring.

President, Meg Moore, and Program Chair, Mark Isbell, gave vital information that will be useful in the coming months. Yao Wang, Patrick Joseph, and Jim Key gave a report on the UAB Job Fair and the numbers of students who signed up as interested in a UAB Student Section of ISA Birmingham. Also, the section is seeking recommendations for honors and awards recognition, and solicits your inputs.
Eric Ray, Delane Ponder, Patrick Joseph, and Beth Clarkin seem to be happy with the food and service at Logan’s Roadhouse. There were several suggestions for section activities, with ideas for future projects to support the ISA Birmingham Vision and Mission.

ISA Birmingham Section President Meg Moore, and Program Chair, Mark Isbell, outlined the plans for the coming year, including the technical meetings, honors and awards dinner, plant visit, and the 50th Annual “Fundamentals of Industrial Automation, Instrumentation and Controls” training class.
The only thing better than the food was the outstanding company, and Yao Wang was happy to join with Jim Key to inform Chris Sorensen and Larry Wells about the wonderful crowd of students that was attracted to the UAB Job Fair.
Mark Your Calendar:

➢ ISA Birmingham Section Technical Meeting: Tuesday, October 8, 2019, 4:00 PM, W. G. Yates Company
  Topic: “Lithium Ion Battery Technology”
  Speaker: Mr. Steven Boyles – Critical Power Systems Manager Schneider Electric

➢ Engineering Council of Birmingham (ECOB) Fall Social “Networking Event”: Tuesday, October 15, 2019
  Good People Brewing – 114 14th Street S, Birmingham, AL
  4:30 PM – 7:30 PM
  All Society members invited
  NOTE: ECOB will provide hors d’ourves and snacks
  Attendees responsible for beverage tab

➢ ISA Birmingham Section Technical Meeting: Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 4:00 PM, W. G. Yates Company, Topic TBD.

➢ ISA Birmingham Section Christmas Party: Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Home of John and Heather Cover, 2104 Fox Valley Circle, Birmingham, AL 35216

➢ ISA Birmingham Section Technical Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 4:00 PM, W. G. Yates Company, Topic TBD.

➢ Engineering Council of Birmingham Dinner: February 18, 2020 Harbert Center – Birmingham, AL

➢ 50th Annual Short Course: May 5 – 7, 2020
  Revere Control Systems Birmingham, AL

➢ Honors and Awards Dinner: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 – Location to be Announced.

Anyone with suggestions as to program topics and presentations, should contact Mark Isbell at misbell@wgyates.com, with ideas and suggestions.
UAB Job Fair

Each year, the school of engineering at the University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB) hosts a Job and Employment Fair for all the students. The participants are exposed to many elements and companies that will employ engineers as they graduate from the university. This year’s event was held on Tuesday, September 9, 2019, and the International Society of Automation (ISA) Birmingham Section had an exhibit to demonstrate and show what was in the future for engineering graduates in the field of automation, instrumentation and process control.

Yao Wang, the ISA Birmingham Section Student Coordinator, arranged for the exhibit, which was conducted by Patrick Joseph and Jim Key on campus at UAB. The focus was to see what the interest level would be to establish and charter an ISA Student Section at UAB.

A large group of students dropped by the exhibit and expressed a lot of interest in the displays of electronic transmitters, control devices, and the programmable logic controller operations. Over 30 students signed up as interested in the ISA Birmingham Student Section, and an
orientation and formation meeting is planned for UAB on Monday, September 23, 2019, starting at 4:00 PM. This will be a Pizza Party with information on ISA Student Sections, leadership opportunities, benefits for the student members, and networking into the employment in the automation field of work.

This type of activity fits into the goals and objectives of the ISA Birmingham Section, specifically #5.

- **Promote automation, control and instrumentation as a field of work for students.**

The section leadership is committed to moving forward in setting up this student section, developing the leadership, and providing mentors and speakers for the technical meetings.

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**Dilbert Funnies**

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**ISA Birmingham Leaders 2019 – 2020**
Visit the ISA Birmingham web site:  www.isa.org/birmingham [isa.org]

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Matt’s –
WORD FOR THE DAY:

Schadenfreude

Part of speech: noun
Origin: German

1
Pleasure taken from the misfortune of others

2
A desire to see others suffer

Technical Brain Teaser
Which of the following Boolean statements (using the notation “+” means “OR” and “•” means “AND”) describes the operation of the logic circuit shown in the following diagram?

(A) \[ M = A + (B \cdot C \cdot D) \]
(B) \[ M = A + B + (C \cdot D) \]
(C) \[ M = A \cdot (B + (C \cdot D)) \]
(D) \[ M = A + (B \cdot (C + D)) \]
The correct answer is (D). This Boolean statement means that M is activated when A or (B and (C or D)) are closed. This is correct.

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