

# Introducing the COPE Website

Anisha M. Apte

With this “COPE Corner” column, we are happy to introduce you to the Committee on Promoting Equality (COPE) website. It is currently set up and fully functional and can be accessed at <http://aps-cope.org>. More resources will be added to the site in the weeks to come. The COPE Mission Statement as established within its members is published on the website:

*We believe that promotion of technology growth can help remove a number of existing inequalities in gender, race, and geographical location. The development of technology together with trade has helped equalize wealth around the world. The most notable of these are the industrialization of the Nordic countries, and Japan. Most recently, technology-based economy has led to the industrialization of China, and closely on the heel, the development of India.*

*We hope that with rapid growth in technology, economic development will spread to Africa as well as South America. We live in a world that grows more than enough food to feed us, and has the ability to manufacture more goods than ever. With tremendous*

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

As the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S) Committee on Promoting Equality (COPE) makes progress, it gives us immense pleasure to bring this initiative to your attention via the “COPE Corner” column in *IEEE Antennas and Propagation Magazine*.



Anisha M. Apte

## The development of technology together with trade has helped equalize wealth around the world.

*improvement in communication technologies, knowledge can be disseminated rapidly through Internet, and wealth can be shared through our new transportation capabilities.*

*Traditionally, war was necessary due to the innate instinct of humans to hog and raid for natural resources. With abundance supply of food and goods, and our ability to transport them, such conflicts can be avoided. Also, one of our greatest God's gifts is our human brain. With proper education, one can acquire knowledge with our*

*brains, and use the knowledge to elevate our standards of living by producing goods that can be traded for food. This is vindicated by countries which are strapped for natural resource, such as the Nordic countries and Japan where they now trade high-tech goods for food. Moreover, brain work is gender and race neutral creating opportunity for women and men of different races to work together.*

*The activities of COPE, established under the umbrella of the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S) will help to fulfil our goals. We plan on a three-prong approach to remedy inequality problems globally. First, we will establish a network of IEEE Chapters to help with*

knowledge dissemination. Second, we will participate in the IEEE Smart Village Initiative to help with knowledge transfer through the transfer of knowhows that will help the developing world. Third, we will emphasize and promote STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education, around the world. Lastly, we need to be a good steward of the planet Earth to live symbiotically with our environment.

With the clarity of its mission, COPE committee members have been busy with ongoing presentations for various projects that are requesting funding to accomplish the goals as defined by the COPE agenda. In previous columns, we have showcased some of the projects that were approved by the COPE committee. The members of the COPE committee can be found at <http://aps-cope.org/committee.php>.

A few more projects are currently given consideration for funding during the year 2022. One of the proposed projects is hosted by Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU), New Jersey, under the IEEE North Jersey Section and aims to develop algorithms for early detection of the melanoma skin cancer to reduce the possibility of its severe consequences, which may sometimes be fatal.

Skin cancer is a significant problem for public health, and it can affect anyone, regardless of skin color, gender, and age. Furthermore, it is a leading cause of death worldwide. In the United States, more than 100,000 new patients were reported in 2020. The deadliest and most severe form of skin cancer is called melanoma.

Most melanoma cases are due to skin exposure to natural and artificial ultraviolet light. Its radiation destroys the DNA of skin cells. Furthermore, melanoma skin cancer is one of the leading health problems throughout the world, and the vast majority of skin cancer deaths are from melanoma. Melanoma is curable in up to 99% of cases if it is detected early and treated before it spreads to the lymph nodes.

## In previous columns, we have showcased some of the projects that were approved by the COPE committee.

In this presentation, the speaker, Prof. Avimanyou Vatsa, discussed the possible early detection method using electronics and different algorithms. To make an efficient, effective, and accurate early-stage melanoma identification and classification, deep neural network-based algorithms are used.

To support the mission and the vision of IEEE—advancing technology for the benefit of humanity—the FDU’s IEEE Student Branch Chapter jointly collaborated with IEEE North Jersey Section AP/Microwave Theory and Techniques (MTT) Joint Chapter, IEEE North Jersey Section Special Interest Group of Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT), IEEE AP-S COPE, and IEEE AP-S SIGHT. The project proposal addresses the diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) engagement of local high school students in the training and STEM initiatives in underserved communities, scaling, and sharing with other IEEE Chapters worldwide. The outcome of this project will satisfy the AP-S COPE mission, specifically, training undergraduate students and preparing them as ambassadors for training the next generation of high school students. This will create a long-term impact and motivate local students in serving members and the community in which we live. Finally, it also leverages the possibility of challenging and fair service opportunities, for better health care and medical technology by using antenna and other engineering technology for low-cost medical solutions.

### IEEE AP-S COPE AND SIGHT PROJECTS: EARLY DETECTION OF MELANOMA SKIN CANCER

The AP-S COPE project panel session was chaired by Dr. Ajay K. Poddar, chair of the AP-S Chapter Activity Committee

(CAC), cochair of AP-S COPE, chair of the IEEE North Jersey Section, and chair of the IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee Inter-Society Industrial Partnership Working Group. Dr. Avimanyou Vatsa, treasurer of

the IEEE North Jersey Section, presented the COPE project proposals. Figure 1 is a screenshot of the panelists and the speaker, Prof. Avimanyou Vatsa from FDU, during the presentation of the proposed project. The panelists were Dr. Ajay Poddar, chair of the IEEE AP-S CAC, and chair of the IEEE North Jersey Section; Dr. Jawad Siddiqui, chair of the IEEE AP-S SIGHT and AP-S COPE member; Dr. Malaya Tripathy, IEEE AP-S R10 CAC member; Dr. Anisha Apte, IEEE AP-S Administrative Committee member, editor of the AP-S “COPE Corner” column, and vice chair of the IEEE NJ AP/MTT Chapter; and Dr. Alfredo Tan, chair of the IEEE Signal Processing Society IEEE North Jersey Section and director of the Gildart Haase School of Computer Sciences and Engineering at FDU.

### THE GIRL SCOUTS PROJECT

The Girl Scouts project is progressing well in the North Jersey Section. Craig Polk, who is the IEEE point of contact for this project, has posted a video invitation at <https://lnkd.in/d8XA57rA>: “Invitation to take 5 minutes to inspire a student in STEM.” IEEE NJ pre-University is collecting 5-min videos of people telling a ‘STEM Story’. For more details, email [craig.polk@ieee.org](mailto:craig.polk@ieee.org).”

### RECENTLY HELD EVENT

#### IEEE DTMES: 7–9 FEBRUARY 2022, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

The Design and Technology of Modern Electronic Systems (DTMES) is established with an intention of creating and boosting research in the areas of electronic design for devices, chips, packages, and systems in Ethiopia and the rest of Africa. Despite the huge potential of the region, there

has been few or close to no annual IEEE activities in the region. In the past two decades, the region has produced numerous numbers of electrical and computer engineering graduates that have been introduced into the system following the expansion of existing universities across the continent. Unfortunately, these engineers do not have access to the worldwide pool of engineers and companies, while at the same time the international community cannot benefit from their considerable potential. DTMES is determined to bridge this gap by providing the much-needed interaction between the two. Thus, DTMES served as the flagship event in the region and in Africa. Figure 2 shows the homepage of DTMES as presented on the COPE website.

In addition, DTMES also aims to become a meaningful backup to the digital technology assisted economic growth strategy being implemented in the region. This makes perfect sense when taking into account that electronic devices and packaging are actually the backbone of today's digital technology systems. DTMES is sponsored by the IEEE Electronic Packaging Society. For more details, please visit the AP-S COPE website <http://aps-cope.org/events.php>.

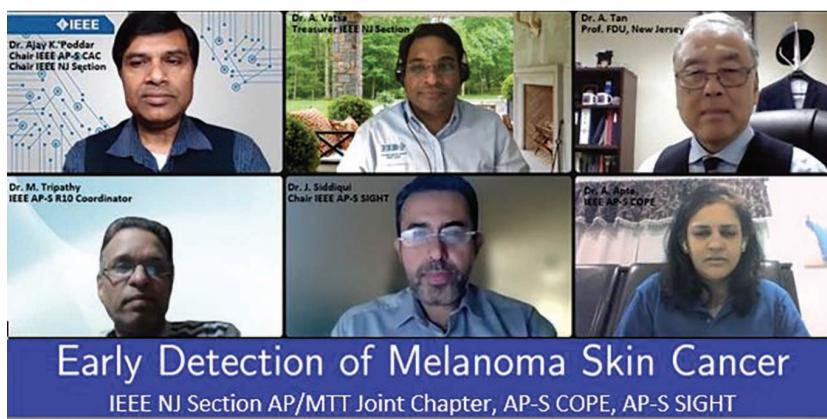
**TRANSDISCIPLINARY PARTNERSHIP  
FRAMEWORK FOR COPE AND  
HUMANITARIAN SERVICES IN  
THE NEW REALITY**

The pandemic and unrelenting systemic health crisis have impacted social ecosystems and underlying business activities and supply chains. These sustained systemic shocks caused by a series of new COVID-19 variants have led to a new normal, with an increased consumer online usage trend, which may reshape social ecosystems. The biggest hit was witnessed by underserved and deprived communities. Therefore, it is the need of the hour to explore a transdisciplinary partnership to look for new methodologies to talk about the much-needed DEI in all stages of IEEE professional activities. IEEE AP-S CAC Chair Dr. Ajay Poddar and CAC members are actively

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engaged in organizing a series of webinars on the transdisciplinary structure encompassing interrelated ecologies, focusing on humanitarian activities,

with the convergence of professional networks, including engagement with local government and communities for achieving long-term sustainable goals. This arrangement during the pandemic in 2021 triggered virtual events involving global Sections and Chapters, industries, and local communities, and supported telehealth and pandemic response planning, collaboration with IEEE smart village, and rural underserved communities' initiatives.



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January 14, 2022

**FIGURE 1.** A screenshot showing the panelists and presenter of the project to the COPE committee members.



**FIGURE 2.** The homepage of the DTMES conference that was held in Ethiopia.

## NEWS

Previously published “COPE Corner” columns in *IEEE Antenna and Propagation Magazine* can be found on the website at <http://aps-cope.org/news.php>.

## AP-S COPE: FUNDING REQUEST DEADLINE

AP-S COPE aims to fund projects that provide good use of IEEE expertise exhibiting strong technological component, with clear engagement with the community, indicating that the proposed solution is both desired and feasible. Established relationships, ideally documented, with stakeholders who will be involved in the project, and implementation with a clear, detailed, and credible project assessment matrix, project implementation plan, and budget are all important. The team should demonstrate combined

experience to credibly execute the project, identify and address potential risks, and show that the project will have real, tangible impact. If a proposal is missing the mark on two or more of these areas, it might not be ready for funding. The funding request deadline is 30 June 2022.

### AREAS OF FOCUS

AP-S COPE is prioritizing immediate impact on poverty mitigation and inequality reduction in the following project areas:

- upgrading of marginalized populations
- STEM education for marginalized populations
- information and communications technology for underserved populations
- sustainable power sources for underserved populations

- water, sanitation, and hygiene upgrading for underserved populations.

Projects must be successfully completed and submitted to AP-S through final reporting indicating the status of the project and utilization of funds at the end of each calendar year. Expense vouchers should be submitted as supporting documents for an audit. A spreadsheet titled “APS COPE Project Budget Template 2021” should be submitted during application and an expense report should be submitted on completion of the project. Fund utilization should be clearly indicated. Each AP-S Chapter/Joint Chapter/Student Branch Chapter may submit multiple proposals. Proposals are subject to review and scrutiny, and the total project funding will not exceed US\$3,000 for any calendar year.



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## MEETINGS & SYMPOSIA (continued from page 58)

### IEEE INTERNATIONAL GEOSCIENCE AND REMOTE SENSING SYMPOSIUM (IGARSS 2022)

17–22 July 2022, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. HYBRID SYMPOSIUM. Contact: General symposium information: email: [info@igarss2022.org](mailto:info@igarss2022.org); Registration: email: [registration@igarss2022.org](mailto:registration@igarss2022.org); Summer School: email: [summerschool@igarss2022.org](mailto:summerschool@igarss2022.org). <http://www.igarss2022.org>.

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ELECTROMAGNETICS IN ADVANCED APPLICATIONS (ICEAA 2022)—IEEE-APS TOPICAL CONFERENCE ON ANTENNAS AND PROPAGATION IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS (IEEE APWC 2022)

5–9 September 2022, Cape Town, South Africa. Contacts: Roberto D. Graglia, chair of organizing committee, DET-Politecnico di Torino, Torino, Italy, email: [roberto.graglia@polito.it](mailto:roberto.graglia@polito.it); Piergiorgio L.E. Uslenghi, chair of scientific committee, ECE-University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, United States, email: [uslenghi@uic.edu](mailto:uslenghi@uic.edu); Matthys M. Botha, chair of local organizing committee, DEEE-Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa, email: [mmbbotha@sun.ac.za](mailto:mmbbotha@sun.ac.za). <http://www.iceaa-offshore.org>.

### ANTENNA MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM (AMTA 2022)

9–14 October 2022, Denver, Colorado, United States. <http://www.amta2022.org>.

### 59th ANNUAL AOC INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM AND CONVENTION

25–27 October 2022, Washington, District of Columbia, United States. Amy Belicev, Association of Old Crows, 1555 King Street, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314, United States. +1 703 549 1600; email: [belicev@crows.org](mailto:belicev@crows.org). <http://www.crows.org>.

### IEEE GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE (IEEE GLOBECOM 2022)

4–8 December 2022, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (Papers: 15 April 2022). HYBRID CONFERENCE. Conference information: email: [j.le@comsoc.org](mailto:j.le@comsoc.org). <http://globecom2022.ieee-globecom.org/>.

