

Minutes of Meeting

Report on “vTools Training, IEEE Funding & Benefits”

Meeting Title: vTools Training, IEEE Funding & Benefits

Date: 24/03/2026

Time: 6:30 PM

Platform: Google Meet

Meeting Link: <https://meet.google.com/udf-keyi-wui>

Number of Participants: 119

The administrative session titled “vTools Training, IEEE Funding & Benefits” was conducted online on 24th March 2026 from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM.

Session Proceedings

The session began with a warm welcome note delivered by Vivin Chandrra Paasam (SSR), followed by an introduction of the speakers.

The session was attended by 119 students and faculty members. The speakers for the event were Dr. Yarlagadda Padma Sai, SAC Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section, and Mr. M. Sai Prashanth, Member Engagement Committee Chair, IEEE Hyderabad Section. The session was hosted by the IEEE Hyderabad Section Students’ Activities Committee.

The webinar provided valuable insights into IEEE vTools reporting and the various funding opportunities available for Student Branches (SBs). It was highlighted that improper reporting and lack of planning are among the major reasons why many Student Branches fail to receive rebates and awards.

The speakers emphasized the importance of:

- Early event planning
- Accurate documentation
- Timely submission of reports
- Transparent funding proposals
- Proper coordination with section leaders and affinity groups

The session also addressed common funding challenges faced during the previous year and clarified that improved systems are now in place to ensure smoother grant disbursement.

Participants were encouraged to apply for funding well in advance to maximize the chances of approval.

Overall, the session equipped participants with the knowledge required to improve both administrative efficiency and financial support for IEEE activities.

Key Takeaways from the Meeting

1. IEEE vTools is the official platform for event creation and reporting and is mandatory for all IEEE activities.
2. Student Branch performance is evaluated based on events recorded in vTools.
3. Events must be created before conducting the activity, and reports must be submitted within the specified timeline.
4. Proper documentation should include:
 - Attendance details of IEEE and non-IEEE members
 - Speaker details
 - Event photographs
 - Event summary
5. Missing or delayed reports can lead to:

- Loss of funding opportunities
 - Ineligibility for rebates and awards
6. Funding and rebate distribution systems have been improved to resolve issues faced by Student Branches in previous years.
 7. Funding applications should be submitted at least 3–4 months in advance, with a minimum processing period of 45 days.
 8. Providing clear and complete details in proposals increases the chances of receiving maximum funding.

Types of Funding Discussed

SPAx Funding

- Initial funding support for Student Branch events.

Young Professionals (YP) Funding

- Supports local activities and meetups
- Requires timeline-based application
- YP Chair endorsement is often needed
- Five funding cycles are available annually

IEEE YP Mentoring Meet

- Funding support up to USD 1,500

Major IEEE Funding Opportunities

- IEEE R10 SAC Initiatives
- IEEE HT Tech4Good: Funding up to USD 5,000 for humanitarian projects
- AI for Good Hackathons: Funding up to USD 25,000
- IEEE IES SYP Congress Travel Grants: Up to USD 2,000
- Student Paper Travel Assistance
- IEEE WIE Funding and Travel Grants
- IEEE Startup Grants for Student Branch initiatives
- IEEE RAS Soft Robotics Diversity Grants: Up to USD 1,000
- IEEE ICC 2026 Research Pitch Grants
- IEEE CASS Pre-Doctoral Grants and Seasonal Schools
- IEEE GRSS Microsoft Grants
- IEEE ComSoc Summer School

The speakers also mentioned that high-value proposals under select IEEE programs can receive funding up to USD 40,000.

Important Recommendations

- Apply for funding early in the year to avoid competition within the same section.
- Coordinate with the Young Professionals Chair for endorsements and guidance.
- Establish affinity groups in institutions to increase activity and funding opportunities.
- Maintain proper leadership transition to avoid inactive Student Branches.

Interactive Session / Q&A Highlights

Participants raised queries regarding membership requirements, vTools issues, and funding procedures. The speakers clarified that basic IEEE membership is sufficient, and additional society memberships can be added if required.

Questions related to uploading advisors in vTools and the funding application process were also addressed. Participants were advised to approach the Young Professionals Chair for guidance and endorsements to improve the chances of funding approval. Relevant IEEE resource links were also shared for future reference.

Vote of Thanks

Towards the end of the session, feedback was collected from participants through a feedback form. Finally, a vote of thanks was proposed by Ms. Y. Rama Deekshitha, acknowledging the efforts of the speakers, participants, and the organizing team.

Important Links

<https://students.ieee.org/student-opportunities/professional-awareness/spax-events/>
<https://events.vtools.ieee.org/>
<https://mm.yp.ieee.org/>
<https://yp.ieee.org/volunteers/event-funding/>
<https://sac.ieeer10.org/ieee-region-10-student-summit-2026/>
<https://ieeegt.org/programs/tech4good/>
<https://ieeegt.org/get-involved/funding-opportunities/htb-events/>
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSxxs2_O2htrCq1KQXIM8Rjn4qo0dBN_DHFigsIZytkuHDARdg/viewform
<https://www.ieee-ies.org/membership/syp/travel>
<https://www.ieee-ies.org/membership/syp/project-and-grants-for-s-yp>
<https://syp.computer.org/scholarships-outreach-initiative/>
<https://www.comsoc.org/engagement-community/chapters/chapter-resources/chapter-funding#student>
<https://www.comsoc.org/engagement-community/distinguished-lecturers>

The Membership and Student Activities Committee of the SMCS is pleased to offer funding opportunities for Chapters and Student Branch Chapters to support local programming, encourage volunteerism, and promote society involvement.

Two types of grants are available:

Start-up Grant (up to \$500): Available once to newly formed Chapters and Student Branch Chapters, within 12 months of their formation. Requests are accepted at any time and approved automatically.

Initiative Grant (up to \$2,000): Awarded competitively to support chapter activities and initiatives planned for 2026.

Eligible Chapters can apply for funding to support workshops, industry talks, outreach programs, design competitions, and more.

Proposals can be submitted twice a year:

April 15, 2026 – Submission deadline #1

June 15, 2026 – Submission deadline #2

Submit your proposal here: <https://forms.gle/ro56tNTD9SPjNbbv8>

<https://ieee-itss.org/2025/12/call-for-2026-new-initiatives-proposals/>

<https://www.ieee-ras.org/ras-chapters/support-for-chapters/>

<https://wie.ieee.org/affinity-groups/funding/>

<https://wie.ieee.org/grants-scholarships/travel-grants/>

<https://ieee-cas.org/award/student-awards/ieee-cass-pre-doctoral-grants>

<https://www.grss-ieee.org/community/groups-initiatives/idea/professional-development-microgrants/>

<https://signalprocessingsociety.org/community-involvement/organize-local-initiatives>

<https://students.ieee.org/student-opportunities/sac-awards-programs/>

PHOTO GALLERY





Online Session on

Vtools Training, IEEE Funding & Benefits

24th March 2026 @6.30 to 8 pm



Dr. Varlagadda Padma Sai
CHAIR, STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
IEEE HYDERABAD SECTION



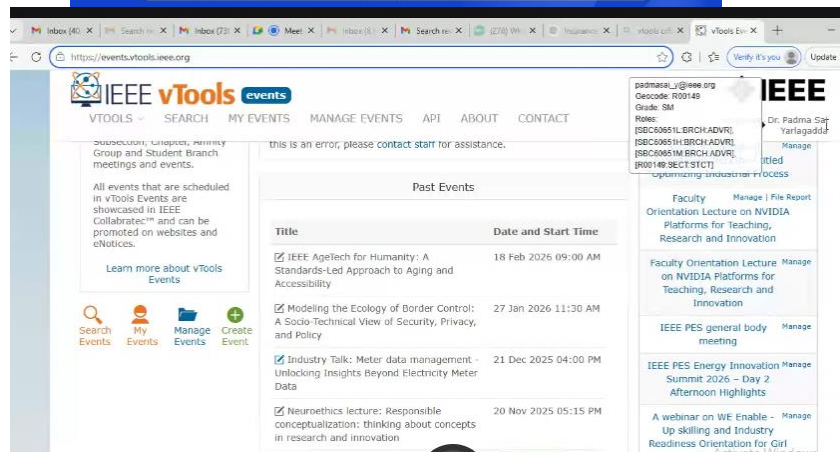
Mr. M. Sai Prashanth
CHAIR, MEMBER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE,
IEEE HYDERABAD SECTION

VIVIN : 9182183950
DIGVIAJY: 6300307202

REGISTER NOW



sac@ieeehyd.org ieeehyd.org ieee-sac-hyd-section IEEEHYDSAC IEEE Hyderabad SAC



IEEE vTools events

VTOLS SEARCH MY EVENTS MANAGE EVENTS API ABOUT CONTACT

Subscriptions, Unsubscribe, Meeting Group and Student Branch meetings and events.

All events that are scheduled in vTools Events are showcased in IEEE Collaborate™ and can be promoted on websites and eNotices.

Learn more about vTools Events

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Past Events

Title	Date and Start Time
☒ IEEE AgeTech for Humanity: A Standards-Led Approach to Aging and Accessibility	18 Feb 2026 09:00 AM
☒ Modeling the Ecology of border Control: A Socio-Technical View of Security, Privacy, and Policy	27 Jan 2026 11:30 AM
☒ Industry Talk: Meter data management - Unlocking Insights Beyond Electricity Meter Data	21 Dec 2025 04:00 PM
☒ Neuroethics lecture: Responsible conceptualization: thinking about concepts in research and innovation	20 Nov 2025 05:15 PM

padma_sai@ieee.org
Oscode: T00149
Grade: SM
Roles:
(SBC00651M BRCH ADVRL)
(SBC00651M BRCH ADVRL)
(SBC00651M BRCH ADVRL)
(R00149 SECT STCT)
-sign-in using an authorized process

Dr. Padma Sai Varlagadda

Faculty Orientation Lecture on NVIDIA Platforms for Teaching, Research and Innovation

Faculty Orientation Lecture on NVIDIA Platforms for Teaching, Research and Innovation

IEEE PES general body meeting

IEEE PES Energy Innovation Summit 2026 - Day 2 Afternoon Highlights

A webinar on WE Enable - Up skilling and Industry Readiness Orientation for Girl

Host Organizational Unit * ?
R00149 - Hyderabad Section

Host Contact Email * ?
padmasai_y@ieee.org

Host Options
☐ Registration Notify Immediately

Search ? Geounits ? Technical ? Special ?

Select organizational unit from the list.
Enter a name or Geocode/SPO ID and press Enter to search, or click a tab to browse a list.
If you do not see the organizational unit listed, please contact vTools staff for further assistance.

R00149 - Hyderabad Section
SBC60651H - VNR Vignana Jyothi Inst Of Eng & Tech,E25
SBC60651L - VNR Vignana Jyothi Inst Of Eng & Tech,IE13
SBC60651M - VNR Vignana Jyothi Inst Of Eng & Tech,SIT30

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32°C
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ENG
IN

MALLELLU SAI PRASHANTH (Presenting, annotating)

7:41 PM | udf-keyi-wui

MALLELLU SAI PRASHANTH (Presenting, annotating)

7:39 PM | udf-keyi-wui

IEEE ICC 2025 International Conference on Communications
24-28 May 2025 // Chicago, Stanford, UK
Connected World for Sustainable Future

IEEE ComSoc

RESEARCH PITCH COLLABORATION
CALL FOR PROPOSALS IS NOW OPEN
Deadline for submission is 2 March

OVERVIEW
Are you an academic, researcher and communications technology? Or you are an industry professional? Or you are a student? This is your opportunity to:

- Share visionary research challenges with practical potential
- Attract industrial interest for collaboration and sponsorship
- Get feedback from technical leaders in the communications sector
- Build long-term partnerships that translate research into solutions

Submit your proposal today for a chance to present your compelling idea to ComSoc's esteemed Innovation Scouts.

COMUNICATIONS HISTORY
KEYNOTES
INTER-ACADEMY INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP
WORKSHOPS
TUTORIALS
INDUSTRY PANELS
FOUR MINUTE THESES (4MT) COMPETITION
PRE-UNIVERSITY STEM EDUCATION
WICE SESSION
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM
RESEARCH PITCH COLLABORATION SESSION
IEEE ICC 2025 SUMMER SCHOOL

ComSoc MECON MECHANICAL ENGINEERING COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY

START-UP AND INITIATIVE GRANTS

AVAILABLE GRANTS:

- Start-up Grant - Up to \$5000 for newly formed Co-ops
- Initiative Grant - Up to \$20000 for ongoing activities

DEADLINES:

- April 15, 2025
- June 15, 2025

APPLY NOW

