



IEEE Council on Electronic Design Automation

***The IEEE CEDA Tunisia Chapter***

Since its creation in March 2009, the Tunisia CEDA Chapter has been very active. Many high-level events have been organized, including lectures and tutorials from academia and industry, technical support of events (one conference, one workshop, and two special sessions), training support, and the organization of visits.

The most important activities in 2012 included the following:

- Organization of the “Engineering Applications of Optimization Techniques” contest;
- Formation of the first CEDA student chapter;
- Technical sponsorship of the 7th International Conference on Design & Technology of Integrated Systems in Nanoscale Era (DTIS 2012);
- Organization of a visit to an electrical power plant (gas turbine of STEG/Thyna); and
- Creation of two innovative programs: Success-Story Seminars and Junior Lectures.

Success-Story Seminars show students real-life examples of how their colleagues have succeeded in doing something exceptional, such as creating their own industrial project or winning a prestigious award. These seminars are meant to motivate students and encourage them to make a unique contribution in their field.

The first seminar was held on 25 April 2012. Chiheb Bouattour (ARTS Company) presented first Tunisian Touch Pad (ARTS’ T216). The second seminar was organized both on 14 November 2012 and 21 November 2012. Chokri Abdelmoula presented “A Novel FPGA-Based Architectural Design.”

Junior Lectures were proposed to meet two goals. First, when students attend a lecture given by a senior lecturer such as an invited professor, they typically understand only very little of the lecture. Such lecturers often focus on the visiting professor’s own novel research, and stu-

dents generally lack some basic details required to fully understand what is being presented.

A Junior Lecture (one given by a PhD student), on the other hand, will have a different effect. Junior lecturers introduce their research activities by presenting the state of the art and then giving details about their work. In such cases, the audience better understands what is being presented, and the lecture gives them beneficial information that is helpful in their formation.

Second, Junior Lectures provide an excellent opportunity for PhD students to prepare for presenting and discussing their doctoral dissertations. It also gives them practice in speaking before an audience, which will be helpful when they present the results of their work at conferences and workshops. In fact, these Junior Lectures are typically given in English.

The first Junior Lecture, “Application of the Meta-heuristics to the Design of Analog Circuits,” was organized on 1 May 2012. It was presented by Amin Sallem and Mouna Kotti (both PhD students).

Please visit <http://sites.ieee.org/tunisia-ceda> for further details. We’d be very happy to receive your feedback.

*Mourad Fakhfakh (Tunisia Chapter Chair)*

***Upcoming CEDA Award Nominations***

Nominations are being accepted for the following awards, with the deadlines indicated in the table below.

| Award Name                            | Nomination Deadline |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| IEEE CEDA Distinguished Service Award | 15 March 2013       |
| IEEE CEDA Early Career Award          | 15 April 2013       |

For more information, please visit [www.c-ceda.org](http://www.c-ceda.org).

## ***SLIP 2013 Workshop Seeks Technical Contributions***

The 15th ACM/IEEE Workshop on System Level Interconnect Prediction (SLIP) will be held 2-6 June 2013 in Austin, Texas, colocated with this year's Design Automation Conference (DAC). The general scope of the workshop is the design, analysis, prediction, and optimization of interconnect and communication fabrics in electronic systems.

The SLIP program and organizing committees invite original contributions to the workshop, including papers, tutorials, panels, special sessions, and posters. Papers based on novel ideas and contributions to the advancement of the field are welcome. Accepted papers will be published in the IEEE and ACM digital libraries.

The special focus of this year's workshop will be optical interconnects. Papers on this topic are highly encouraged. Select papers will be invited to participate in a special section or special issue in a leading IEEE or ACM journal or magazine.

Technical topics include (but are not limited to)

- interconnect prediction and optimization at various IC design stages;
- interconnect design challenges and system-level design for FPGAs and networks on chips;
- design, analysis, and optimization of power and clock networks;
- interconnect reliability;
- interconnect topologies and fabrics of multi- and many-core architectures;
- design-for-manufacturing and yield techniques for interconnects;
- high-speed chip-to-chip interconnect design;
- design and analysis of chip-package interfaces;
- power consumption of interconnects;
- 3D interconnect design and prediction;

- emerging interconnect technologies;
- applications of interconnects to social, genetic, and biological systems; and
- co-optimization of interconnect technology and chip design.

Important deadlines are as follows:

- **Abstract Registration:** 10 March 2013
- **Paper Submission:** 15 March 2013
- **Author Notification:** 15 April 2013
- **Final Version Upload:** 1 May 2013

The full call for papers for this workshop is available at <http://www.sliponline.org/SLIP2013CFP.pdf>.

## ***Papers in IEEE Embedded Systems Letters***

The top-five accessed articles from *IEEE Embedded Systems Letters* in January 2013 were as follows:

- "[Design and Implementation of a Virtual Platform of Solid-State Disks](#)" Y.-C. Lee et al.
- "[Guest Editorial Special Section on Memory Architectures and Organization](#)," C. J. Xue and N. Dutt
- "[A Novel Soft Error Detection and Correction Circuit for Embedded Reconfigurable Systems](#)," Q. Zhao et al.
- "[Wireless Sensor Networks for Pilgrims Tracking](#)," M. Mohandes et al.
- "[A Custom FPGA Processor for Physical Model Ordinary Differential Equation Solving](#)," C. Huang, F. Vahid and T. Givargis

| <b>Upcoming Conferences</b><br>(David Atienza, david.atienza@epfl.ch) |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <a href="#">NOCS</a>  | Tempe, Arizona, 21-24 April 2013 |
| <a href="#">GLSVLSI</a>   | Paris, France, 2-4 May 2013      |
| <a href="#">DAC</a>   | Austin, Texas, 2-6 June 2013     |

**IEEE Embedded Systems Letters is open for submissions. Visit [mc.manuscriptcentral.com/les-ieee](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/les-ieee).**

### **IEEE COUNCIL ON ELECTRONIC DESIGN AUTOMATION**

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