Boston Section

Supporting students, working engineers and retirees through professional development, education and resources.

THE Reflector

ISSUE #12
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EDITORIAL BY
MAIRA MARQUES SAMARY
BOSTON SECTION CHAIR

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IEEE Boston Section

ieeeboston.org

IEEE Advancing Technology for Humanity

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ANNOUNCING

IEEE International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Data Analytics

2025 ICAD

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Maira Marques Samary

2024 - A Changing Year

By Maira Marques Samary, IEEE Boston Section Chair

How are we already in December? Like many of our readers, I find myself baffled. My to-do list still has far fewer crossed-out items than I imagined, and the year has flown by. How did that happen? When we are young, time seems to crawl, but after hitting the 30s, it feels like it speeds up.

This year, I've had the privilege of serving as the Boston Section chair. We've accomplished a lot together, with 103 diverse events under our belt, including technical, non-technical, and professional gatherings. We also hosted outstanding conferences and saw a significant transition as our long-time business manager, Robert Alongi (Bob), passed the baton to Trina Lorigan in May. Bob, who has been with us for 30 years, is a pillar of our community. His knowledge and expertise cannot easily be replaced, and he'll continue working with us for a while to ensure a smooth handover. Trina, our new business manager, is an incredible addition to the team, bringing years of experience and fresh perspectives to the Section.

At the end of last year, we put out a major call for volunteers, and the response was heartening. Many new faces joined us, ushering in a new generation of ideas and initiatives. One such initiative is ICAD—the IEEE International Conference on AI and Data Analytics—which will debut on June 24, 2025. This conference will focus on the applications of AI and key verticals that influence technology and innovation. A dedicated team of volunteers is hard at work, and their efforts are nothing short of remarkable.

Beyond ICAD, other exciting projects are in the pipeline, including new courses and tutorials in the AI/ML domain and discussions around nuclear fusion and energy. Additionally, we're thrilled to announce the revival of the Boston Section Awards Ceremony—a special gathering to honor and celebrate the contributions of our incredible volunteers.

This year, Boston had the honor of hosting VICS (Vision Innovation Challenge Summit), IEEE's most prestigious awards event. The highlight was the presentation of the IEEE Medal of Honor to Robert E. Kahn for his pioneering technical and leadership contributions to packet communication technologies and the foundations of the internet. The summit offered a packed program featuring some of the brightest minds in the world, culminating in a dazzling red-carpet ceremony reminiscent of the Oscars. The IEEE-MGA team did an extraordinary job organizing this event.

IEEE is a volunteer-driven organization, where balancing IEEE responsibilities with day jobs and family commitments is no small feat. The pandemic dealt a significant blow to participation and volunteerism, but we're finally returning to pre-pandemic levels of engagement. However, we still face a challenge: connecting with the younger generation of graduates and students. Their modes of communication and interaction differ from ours, and bridging this gap requires fresh initiatives. IEEE's strength lies in its ability to bring people and knowledge together, but how do we remain relevant to all generations? How do we make IEEE appealing and valuable to younger audiences while preserving its legacy and mission?

This is the question I pose to myself and to all of you. How can we ensure that IEEE remains a vibrant, inclusive, and forward-thinking community for years to come?

Coming Soon!

2025 Courses

https://ieeeboston.org/courses/

IEEE
Advancing Technology for Humanity

2025 IEEE International Conference on Artificial Intelligence & Data Analytics

June 24, 2025
Greater Boston, MA, USA

CALL FOR PAPERS

Submission Deadline: February 6, 2025
Notification of Acceptance: March 6, 2025
Publication-Ready Submission: March 20, 2025

More information and submissions:
IEEE-ICAD.org

ICAD 2025 invites submissions of original research papers and will include oral and poster sessions, a student paper contest, tutorials given by experts in AI topics and special sessions. This new conference will emphasize the applications of AI and key AI verticals that impact technology applications and innovations. The conference aims to provide an experience that prepares you to learn about new research and breakthroughs in AI, gain valuable insights, grow your network and get inspired by the brightest minds working in the multi-faceted field.

We invite authors to submit original papers on topics including, but not limited to:

Track 1: Foundations of AI & Data Analytics	Track 2: AI in Industry & Enterprise Applications	Track 3: Advanced AI Techniques & Emerging Trends	Track 4: Responsible AI & Ethics
• Machine Learning Fundamentals • Deep Learning Techniques • Natural Language Processing • Computer Vision • Reinforcement Learning • Unsupervised Learning • Time Series Analysis • Predictive Modeling	• AI for Business Intelligence and Analytics • AI in Finance and FinTech • AI for Supply Chain and Logistics • AI in Customer Service and Experience • AI in Manufacturing and Industry 4.0 • AI for Climate Change and Environmental Sciences • AI in Materials • Science and Engineering	• Explainable AI (XAI) and Interpretable Machine Learning • Generative AI and Creative Applications • Quantum AI and Quantum Machine Learning • Neuromorphic Computing and Brain-inspired AI • Edge AI and Federated Learning • AI Security and Privacy • Adversarial Machine Learning • LLM and AI Agents	• AI Governance and Regulation • Ethical AI and Fairness in Machine Learning • Privacy-Preserving AI • AI for Cybersecurity • Human-Robot Interaction and Collaboration • AI in Healthcare • Robotics and Assistive Technologies • AI Bias and Mitigation Strategies

Submission Guidelines

All paper submissions must be in IEEE dual-column format and must be 6 pages (minimum) to 8 pages (maximum) in length including figures, tables & references and must be submitted in PDF format via the Conference Management Tool. The paper must comply with the specifications at ieee-icad.org.

Technical Program Chair: Rhiddiben Shah, shahriddhi717@gmail.com
Conference Chair: Shankar Krishnan, shanky.krish06@gmail.com

IEEE Advancing Technology for Humanity

2025 ICAD

IEEE Boston Section

Boston Consultants Network – 6:30PM, Tuesday, December 3

Consulting 301 - FDA Medical Device Regulatory Process - How A Consultant Helps Your Company

This is a Virtual-only event on Zoom. Link will be sent to registrants. Open to the public.

More details and free registration can be found at https://bostonconsultants.org/event-5655491

Networking from 6:30PM - 7 PM.
Meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

Presenter: David Connor

The FDA medical device regulatory process will be discussed. You do not have to be familiar with the FDA regulatory process to get benefit from this meeting. This is an overview of the regulatory process and how a consultant will add value, whether you need to implement a regulatory process or have an existing process. Come find out more about the process and where consultants have helped identify mistakes that often occur in this complicated process.

No Prior Knowledge Needed - You do not need to know anything about the regulatory process in order to understand this talk. You do not need to be a consultant. Anyone that wants to gain knowledge about this process should come.

Major Topics Include:
1. What is the FDA regulatory process
-An explanation of the Quality System Regulations (QSR)

2. Understanding Medical Device Risk:
-Class I, II, and II medical devices
-Application of the QSR depends on product risk

3. Major elements of the QSR
-A matrix showing the six major elements of the QSR

4. The 510(k) Premarket Notification:
-Used by the FDA to determine whether a medical device is substantially equivalent to a previously approved device.

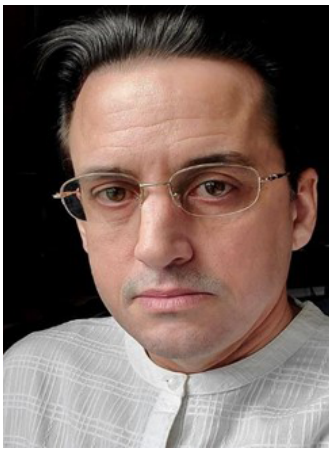
5. Common Medical Device Processes Related to Engineering
-ISO 9001 design process
-FMEA, FMEDA, FMEPA: Failure mode analysis as part of the risk analysis process
-Design History File (DHF)
-Corrective Action and Preventive Action (CAPA)
-IEC 62304 Medical Device Software -Software life cycle processes

6. When to Implement a QSR
-Before starting the design process to mitigate risk, adhere to regulatory compliance standards, and ensure efficient development

7. QSR Implementation Strategies
-The system needs to be compliant with FDA rules

8. Areas for Opportunity for CNET Consultants
-Setup of purchased QSR documentation to meet specific operating process of the customer, particularly in the area of design process.
-Direct electrical, mechanical, optical consulting for elements of the device (with understanding of the product risk)
- Mistakes that often occur in the regulatory process

David Connor is a seasoned IEEE product consultant with over three decades experience in product development for domestic and international markets. As president of Striper Solutions LLC, he specializes in product regulatory compliance, guiding businesses through the complexities of regulatory standards and providing solutions for critical EMC and safety product issues.



David Connor

IEEE Boston/Providence/New Hampshire Reliability Chapter – 5:00PM, Wednesday, December 11

Radiation Effects In Electronics: Brief Overview And History

Year-End Technical Meeting & Dinner Honoring Past Chairs

This meeting was originally scheduled for June 26, 2024 but had to be rescheduled. Please re-register to attend this event.

This is an in-person and virtual event on Zoom. Link will be sent to registrants.

Lincoln Laboratory, 244 Wood St, Lexington, MA
Building: Main Cafeteria
Contact Event Host: James P. (Jay) Yakura, Chair

More details and free registration can be found at https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/420285

This is our year-end technical meeting and dinner honoring our past Chapter Chairs. We will begin with a brief overview of radiation effects in electronics, and their effect on reliability. Then we will cover the history of the discovery and our growing awareness of them, with special attention paid to the place of the Harvard Cyclotron Laboratory (HCL)/Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Rad Test program in that history. We will then look at what factors made HCL so prominent in the early work of understanding these effects, and why the re-purposing of equipment built at HCL for the MGH program was particularly useful in electronics reliability testing. Finally, we will finish with a few words on the future of the MGH test program.
Location: active parts of the modulation process, allowing for efficient, extreme instantaneous radiated signal bandwidths from electrically small apertures. Additionally, the co-design of electrically small antennas with parametric pumping networks for broadband, low-noise receive applications will be presented.

Speaker: Ethan Cascio,
Burr Proton Therapy Center at MGH

Ethan Cascio

Ethan Cascio joined the staff of the Harvard Cyclotron Laboratory (HCL) in 1985 after receiving his BA in Physics from Reed college. Over the next 17 years at HCL he worked on both the joint project to develop proton therapy in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and the radiation effects testing program at HCL. He eventually became Operations Manager of the lab and primarily responsible for the radiation effects program.

When Harvard closed HCL in 2002 following the transfer of the clinical treatment programs to the newly built Northeast Proton Therapy Center at MGH (later re-named the Burr Proton Therapy Center) he moved with the project over to MGH and became the Radiation Test Program Manager at the Burr center. At the Burr Center he established and continues to run the radiation test program, as well as provides clinical physics and engineering support for the proton therapy program. He is the author and co-author of numerous papers on the subjects of proton therapy, dosimetry, radiation effects in electronics and proton beamline design and instrumentation systems involving time-varying media.

IEEE Reliability Society

Power & Energy Society Boston Chapter – 6:00PM, Tuesday, December 10

Utility-Scale Photovoltaic End-of-Life Management

Time: Presentation starts at 6:00 pm
Location: Online only via MS Teams; no in-person gathering

Speaker: Dwight Clark, CHMM, General Manager at Solar eWaste Solutions, R2 and WEEE Standards Consultant

RSVP on our website and join with
Meeting ID: 251 786 276 639, Passcode: AVG6Up

With the increasing number of solar modules reaching the end of their operational life, it is essential to establish recycling systems that can handle the high volume while adhering to environmental and regulatory standards. This presentation will explore developing and implementing a comprehensive recycling system for utility-scale PV modules, addressing key considerations such as regulatory compliance, hazardous waste classification, and material recovery rates. By examining current technologies and processes, including limitations in existing systems for bifacial and thin-film modules, we will highlight the need for more effective recycling solutions to meet the demand of large-scale solar decommissioning projects. This talk will also discuss critical due diligence practices in downstream partner selection, waste handling, storage, and transportation to minimize environmental impact and long-term liability under RCRA and CERCLA regulations. I will explore the need for optimizing material purity, including silicon and glass recovery, to increase the economic and environmental viability of solar module recycling at a utility-scale.

Dwight Clark

Speaker: Dwight Clark, Solar eWaste Solutions

Dwight Clark, CHMM, is the founder of Solar E-Waste Solutions, a veteran and employee-owned recycling company focused on the solar recycling market, with the specific intent of increasing the potential revenue that can be recovered from the reclamation of metals, glass, silicon, and other valuable constituents from modules through good engineering and science.
Dwight has a background in Environmental Engineering and certification as a Hazardous Materials Manager, and executive operation experience where he designed operational processes for a panel recycling company. Dwight has consulted on R2 Certification and WEEE Standards, as well as operational efficiency, environmental health and safety, and materials processing for various businesses. His career also includes permitting and closing several RCRA Hazardous Waste Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities, serving as a Nuclear Engineer in the US Navy, and being a National Board Member of the Academy of Hazardous Materials.

Free and Open to the Public; RSVP is appreciated.
Visit our web page to RSVP and for further details – **IEEE PES Boston**

For any questions regarding this presentation or any IEEE PES Boston Technical Meetings, please contact:
PES Boston Technical Meetings Chair: Chris Sweeny (christopher.sweeny@1898andco.com)

IEEE PES
Power & Energy Society®

The Microzone: IEEE Microsystems Boston Chapter's Podcast Achieves Global Reach

In September 2023, the IEEE Microsystems Boston Chapter launched an engaging podcast channel, The Microzone, which has since captivated listeners in over 23 countries. The podcast serves as a dynamic platform for interactive discussions with some of the most prominent leaders in the field of microsystems technology.
The Microzone has featured a remarkable lineup of guests based in the Boston area, including distinguished laureates, IEEE Fellows, and entrepreneurs. Notable participants include Emeritus Professor Stephen Senturia (MIT), Professor Federico Capasso (Harvard University), Professor Robert Langer (MIT), Professor Venkatesh Narayanamurti (Harvard), Professor Evelyn Hu (Harvard), Dr. Baoxing Chen (Analog Devices, Inc.), Professor Jesus del Alamo (MIT), Dr. Matt Straayer (Infineon), Dr. Amy Duwel (STR Corp.), Professor Charles Sodini (MIT), Professor Eugene Fitzgerald (MIT), Matthew Crowley, Dr. Helen Kim (MIT Lincoln Labs), Stephen Bart (TDK InvenSense), and Dr. Aleks Franz (Analog Devices Inc.).
These distinguished leaders have shared anecdotes from their professional journeys and offered invaluable insights into emerging trends and innovations shaping the future of microsystems technology.

With its inspiring content and global appeal, The Microzone is fast becoming a cornerstone for knowledge exchange within the microsystems community. If you have guest speaker suggestions or are interested in collaborating, please send an email to the Microzone podcast hosts, Dr. Adarsh Ravi or Allison Lemus at ieee.microsystems.boston@gmail.com

Find the podcast on *Spotify* at:

https://open.spotify.com/show/6FTRKpJltJ7YHIOu8lwLzf

Consumer Technology Society
Call for Volunteers!

We are currently looking for volunteers who would be interested in pushing forward the mission of the Consumer Technology (CT-S), Boston Chapter. The chapter is looking for volunteers to help organize chapter meetings and help meet the needs of the local CT-S member needs.

The Boston Section is organizing chapters into groups of similar technical interest areas to pool their resources for easier and better chapter collaboration in planning the chapter events.

If you have interest in volunteering for a chapter leadership position or are interested in learning more about what these volunteer positions may entail, please send an email to Karen Safina in the IEEE Boston Section office at, ieee-bostonsection@gmail.com

Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society
Call for Volunteers!

We are currently looking for volunteers who would be interested in pushing forward the mission of the Engineering in Medicine & Biology Society (EMBS), Boston Chapter. The EMBS - Boston Chapter was recently approved and we're looking to make a significant impact in the area of Biomedicine, Bioengineering, and Biotechnology in the region. The chapter is looking for volunteers to help organize chapter meetings and help meet the needs of the local EMBS members.

The Boston Section is organizing chapters into groups of similar technical interest areas to pool their resources for easier and better chapter collaboration in planning the chapter events.

If you have interest in volunteering for a chapter leadership position or are interested in learning more about what these volunteer positions may entail, please send an email to Karen Safina in the IEEE Boston Section office at, ieee-bostonsection@gmail.com.

Aseem Singh, Marie Tupaj, Co-Chairs, Boston EMBS Chapter

IEEE Boston Section Online Courses:

(Students have 180 day access to all online, self-paced courses)

Electronic Reliability Tutorial Series
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/electronic-reliability/

Introduction to Embedded Linux Part I
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/introduction-to-embedded-linux-part-i-el201-online-course/

Embedded Linux Optimization - Tools and Techniques
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/embedded-linux-optimization-tools-techniques-line-course/

Embedded Linux Board Support Packages and Device Drivers
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/embedded-linux-bsps-device-drivers-line-course/

Software Development for Medical Device Manufacturers
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/software-development-medical-device-manufacturers-line-course/

Fundamental Mathematics Concepts Relating to Electromagnetics
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/fundamental-mathematics-concepts-relating-electromagnetics-line-course/

Reliability Engineering for the Business World
Full course description and registration at ,
http://ieeeboston.org/reliability-engineering-business-world-line-course/

Design Thinking for Today's Technical Work
http://ieeeboston.org/design-thinking-technical-work-line-course/

Fundamentals of Real-Time Operating Systems
http://ieeeboston.org/fundamentals-of-real-time-operating-systems-rt201-on-line-course/

Reliability Tutorial Series: Electronic Failure Mechanisms
https://ieeeboston.org/event/ieee-ansys-reliability-tutorial-series-electronic-reliability/?instance_id=3635

Reliability Tutorial Series – Accelerated Life Testing for Electronics Reliability
https://ieeeboston.org/event/ieee-ansys-reliability-tutorial-series/?instance_id=3634

IEEE Video Series

A collaborative discussion panel featuring esteemed members from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers was convened in 2021 to produce educational video presentations that embrace IEEE's mission of advancing technology for humanity.

Among the programs they've produced include "Electric Vehicles: Fun Saving Our Planet", "Greener Power For More Electric Vehicles", "Overcoming Nuclear Fears To Achieve Net Zero CO2 By 2050" and "Achieving a Net Zero Carbon Future", "Green Energy's Economic Progress", and "Net-Zero CO2 with Nuclear, Hydrogen and Geothermal". Projects currently in production include the expansive topic of futurology, with a focus on increasing the efficiency and transformation of aging electrical power generating stations and infrastructure to accommodate nuclear power; reviewing the viability of alternative energy (such as geothermal, wind and solar); and focusing on 'cleaner' fossil fuels that are more environmentally-friendly to slow the rate of climate change.

These shows are produced and directed by Lennart E. Long, IEEE Senior Life Member from the Executive Committee and Past Chair of the Boston Section; Dr. Paul H Carr, BS, MS, MIT; PhD Brandeis U, IEEE Life Fellow; Dr. Ted Kochanski, SB (MIT), Ph.D (U.Texas, Austin), IEEE Global Education for Microelectronic Systems and former Boston Section Chair; and Dr. Ken Laker, B.E. (Manhattan College), M.S. and Ph.D. (New York University), IEEE Life Fellow and past President of IEEE.

The panel is moderated by five-time Boston/New England Emmy Award-winner and television personality and star of "The Folklorist," John Horrigan. These video programs with presentations and discussions can be accessed at the IEEE Boston Section video portal at https://vimeo.com/user18608275.

We are looking for any IEEE members that would like to appear on the program in the role of presenter or discussion expert. Simply reach out to Trina Lorigan at the Boston Section at ieeebostonsection@gmail.com.

Call for Articles

Now that the Reflector is all electronic, we are expanding the content of the publication. One of the new features we will be adding are technical, professional development, and general interest articles to our members and the local technology community. These will supplement the existing material already in our publication.

Technical submissions should be of reasonable technical depth and include graphics and, if needed, any supporting files. The length is flexible; however, a four to five page limit should be used as a guide. An appropriate guide may be a technical paper in a conference proceeding rather than one in an IEEE journal or transaction.

Professional development or general interest articles should have broad applicability to the engineering community and should not explicitly promote services for which a fee or payment is required. A maximum length of two to three pages would be best.

To ensure quality, technical submissions will be reviewed by the appropriate technical area(s). Professional/interest articles will be reviewed by the Publications Committee for suitability.The author will be notified of the reviewers' decision.

The Reflector is published the first of each month. The target submission deadline for the articles should be five weeks before the issue date (e.g. January 1st issue date; article submission is November 27). This will allow sufficient time for a thorough review and notification to the author.

We are excited about this new feature and hope you are eager to participate!

Submissions should be sent to;
ieeebostonsection@gmail.com

IEEE Boston Section Volunteers Wanted!

Are you passionate about technology and eager to contribute to the advancement of your field? The IEEE Boston Section is excited to announce a call for volunteers to join our dynamic team of professionals and enthusiasts. By becoming a volunteer, you'll have the opportunity to collaborate with like-minded individuals, develop new skills, and make a meaningful impact on the local technology community.

About IEEE Boston Section:

The IEEE Boston Section is a thriving community of engineers, researchers, students, and industry professionals dedicated to promoting technological innovation and knowledge sharing. Our section hosts a variety of events, workshops, seminars, and conferences throughout the year, providing members with opportunities to learn, network, and stay updated on the latest developments in their fields.

Volunteer Opportunities:

We are currently seeking volunteers to help on the following committees:

The Fellow and Awards Committee - activities include recommending qualified members of the Section for advancement to Fellow grade and for receipt of the various IEEE (IEEE/Region/MGA/Section) awards. Identifying and building a database of the various IEEE awards available for nomination and searching out qualified candidates, for preparing the necessary written recommendations, and for assembling all required supporting documentation and submit its recommendations directly to the appropriate IEEE body.
Time Commitment: Meets 4 times a year for 1 – 2 hours per meeting (virtual or in person)

Local Conferences Committee - activities include identifying timely topical areas for conference development. Identify champions of these conferences to run the identified conference organizing committees. The section local conference committee is not charged with organizing and executing individual conferences.
Time Commitment: Meets 4 times per year 1 – 2 hours per meeting (virtual or in person)

Professional Development & Education Committee - activities include identifying topics, speakers, and/or organizers for appropriate technical lecture series or seminars. The subject matter should be timely, of interest to a large segment of the membership, and well organized with regard to speakers and written subject matter.
Time Commitment: meets 4 times per year, 1 – 2 hours per meeting (virtual or in person)

The Membership Development Committee - activities include actively promoting membership in the IEEE and shall encourage members to advance to the highest grade of membership for which they are qualified. To these ends this committee shall include wide representation within the Section territory, shall maintain lists of prospects and members qualified for advancement, and shall provide information and assistance to preparing applications.
Time Commitment: meets 4 times per year, 1 – 2 hours per meeting (virtual or in person)

Student Activities Committee - activities include attracting a broad and diverse group of undergraduate and graduate students to IEEE and to engage them in activities that promote their own professional development as well as the ongoing growth of IEEE. The Student Activities Committee shall include among its members the IEEE Counselors at the universities, colleges, and technical institutes that lie within the Section territory. It shall be responsible for liaison with the Student Branches at these institutions and advise the Executive Committee on all other matters affecting the Student Members of the Section.
Time Commitment: meets 4 times per year, 1 – 2 hours per meeting (virtual or in person)

Young Professionals Affinity Group - activities include organizing programs, and initiatives aimed to address the needs of early-career professionals pursuing technology-related careers in engineering, business, management, marketing, and law. This committee is committed to helping young professionals evaluate their career goals, polish their professional image, and create the building blocks of a lifelong and diverse professional network.
Time Commitment: meets 4 times per year, 1 – 2 hours per meeting (virtual or in person)

Benefits of Volunteering:

Volunteering with IEEE Boston Section offers numerous benefits, including:

- Networking opportunities with professionals in your field.
- Skill development and enhancement through hands-on experience.
- Contribution to the local technology community and its growth.
- Access to cutting-edge information and discussions.

How to Get Involved:

If you're enthusiastic about technology and want to make a difference, we invite you to join us as a volunteer. To express your interest and learn more about specific roles, please visit our website and fill out the volunteer application form. Our team will get in touch with you to discuss opportunities that align with your interests and skills.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute to the IEEE Boston Section. Your dedication and passion are what drive the success of our community and its impact on the world of technology.

Volunteer Here!

https://ieeeboston.org/volunteer/