

Fred Mintzer, *President, IEEE Signal Processing Society*

Please Welcome BISP to the Family

We have a new Technical Committee in the IEEE Signal Processing Society, the Bio Imaging and Signal Processing Technical Committee (BISP TC). At its May meeting in Montreal, the IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS) Board of Governors formally approved the creation of this TC, its scope, its leadership, and its charter membership. Please join me in welcoming BISP to our TC family.

Prior to the creation of the BISP TC, the SPS had ten TCs and one technical standing committee. It would be hard to overstate the importance of the technical committees to the life of the Society, as they represent the interests of the various signal processing communities. Formally, they organize our workshops, manage the review of conference papers, schedule conference sessions, create award nominations, and recommend members as associate editors for the Society's publications. Informally, they recommend volunteers for many other leadership positions. The chairs of our TCs comprise the voting members of the Society's Technical Directions Committee that sets the Society's technical directions.

SPS was already a partner in *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, the IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI), and the Genomics Signal Processing and

Statistics Workshop (GENSIPS), so the need for a TC to provide support for this area was apparent. Perhaps more important than filling this need, the new BISP TC will promote, foster, and develop the SPS's involvement in biological imaging and signal processing. This should create new opportunities for our membership in this exciting new area.

Many in the signal processing community deserve our thanks for contributions that helped lead to the new TC. We have had many volunteers contribute to the leadership of *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, which is now an excellent and well-established publication. ISBI is a rather new conference, as ISBI'02 was the first IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging. Michael Unser was the general cochair of ISBI'02, Jeffrey Fessler was its technical program cochair, and the SPS staff contributed much to its organization. Richard Leahy was the general cochair of ISBI'04. Michael Unser will be BISP TC's first chair. A splendid ad hoc committee, led by Al Hero, defined and created BISP. Thanks to all of you and to your colleagues I have not named.

May 2004 also marked a significant event in the life of the Industrial DSP Technology Standing Committee. This committee proposed its first

workshop. This is a great step forward in the development of this committee into a full TC, with all its incumbent responsibilities. Congratulations to the leadership and membership of this committee.

It is apparent to me that the needs and interests of the signal processing community are constantly changing. We must be



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responsive to those changes if we are to maintain our position as the pre-eminent technical society for the signal processing community. The creation of a new TC is strong evidence of our willingness to make those changes. Thanks to our ten technical committees and our standing committee for their willingness to share the signal processing field with a new TC.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred Mintzer". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fred Mintzer
2004–2005 SPS President
f.mintzer@ieee.org