



President's Column

Honors and Awards Program of the Society

■ Madhu Gupta

One of the many roles of a professional society is to recognize the contributions of its members to the technical field, the profession, the Society, and the community at large. The IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) presents a number of awards annually and sponsors others jointly with other IEEE entities. Recognizing the achievements of microwave professionals, Society volunteers, and students of the discipline is one of the most gratifying among the numerous activities and functions in which the MTT-S and I as its president engage.

In giving out its various awards, the MTT-S has a number of goals and purposes. The first and foremost of these is to promote excellence by encouraging both the awardees and the potential awardees to continue to be productive and excel in their contributions to the discipline, the Society, and the profession. A second purpose is to enhance the image and prestige of the organization, its members, and the profession. Honoring those who have made specific technical contributions identifies the key contributions and contributors through the award citation; this can document the progress of the field for

historical purposes and puts on record the contributors who, in the judgment of their peers, should be credited with those achievements.

The Society-level awards given by the MTT-S range from those based on a single achievement or service to accomplishments made over a long period or an individual's lifetime. In addition, the annual best paper awards for each of the Society's publications are awarded on the basis of a single published paper or article. The Society's awards are as follows and are listed on the MTT-S Web page (<http://www.mtt.org/awards.html>):

- Society technical awards
- Elevation as Fellow of the IEEE
- Best paper awards
- Service recognitions
- Reviewers for journals and conference technical programs
- Student contest awards
- Student competitive grants.

The MTT-S also recognizes distinguished and meritorious work by its volunteers in service of the interests of the Society, its members, and activities. There are also specific awards for students, including student paper contests at the International Microwave Symposium, student design contests organized by the MTT-S technical committees, and video competitions and student chal-

lenges organized by the MTT-S Education Committee. In addition, the MTT-S also awards fellowships, scholarships, and travel grants to students (see <http://www.mtt.org/education.html>).

The IEEE has a number of medals, technical field awards, and recognition awards to recognize achievements in any discipline within the field of interest of the IEEE. Some of the IEEE technical field awards, such as the Electromagnetics Award, are restricted to areas that have a significant overlap with the MTT-S's field of interest. Details of the IEEE awards program can be found at <http://www.ieee.org/documents>.

I urge all readers to familiarize themselves with the MTT-S awards program through the Web sites mentioned and propose the names of those who they feel are qualified for those awards. For this assistance, I thank you on behalf of the profession and the MTT-S.



*Madhu Gupta
(m.gupta@ieee.org)
is the 2013 president
of the MTT-S.*