

PROPOSAL to Host the 2005 Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems (MWSCAS 2005) in Cincinnati, Ohio in August 2005

We propose to return the MWSCAS to its "roots" in 2005 by hosting it in Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati is a long-established midwestern city with a fascinating history, many amenities, and a growing technical presence. We will be able to provide a strong technical program, convenient reasonably-priced facilities, and many local and regional attractions.

Personnel: the conference organizers will be Prof. Hal Carter and Prof. Carla Purdy. members of the University of Cincinnati's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science (ECECS), In 2001 Prof. Carter was General Co-Chair of the 2001 MWSCAS, and Prof. Purdy was Publications Chair. Technical Program Chair will be Prof. Steve Bibyk of Ohio State University. Publications Chair will be Prof. Howard Fan of the University of Cincinnati (UC). Finance Chair will be Prof. Fred Beyette, also of UC. Local arrangements will be handled by Prof. Jim Hauser of Northern Kentudcky University. A partial list of the organizing committee also includes Prof. Ravi Kothari (UC), Dr. Rob Ewing (Wright Patterson Air Force Base), Prof. Hoda Abdel-Aty-Zohdy (Oakland University), Prof. Marty Emmert (Wright State University), and Prof. Jennifer Seitzer (University of Dayton). As with MWSCAS 2001, we also plan to draw on the technical and organizational expertise of other members of the Computer Engineering Research Consortium, which includes the Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright State University, the University of Dayton, Ohio State University, and Oakland University, as well as the University of Cincinnati. If this proposal is approved, we will begin to seek support and participation from our local IEEE chapters and from local industry.

Facilities: the main conference site will be the University of Cincinnati's Kingsgate Conference Center, a new facility with flexible meeting space, catering service, and 206 hotel rooms, adjacent to the University's medical campus. Kingsgate can provide lecture space and banquet facilities for up to 500 attendees. In addition, there are nine breakout rooms and two conference rooms (seating about 60 people) available. Typical university rates for a hotel room at this site are currently \$79--\$99 per night. An additional 177 rooms at a similar price are available at the nearby Vernon Manor Hotel. Additional hotels, with slightly lower rates, are located within about 5 miles of the conference site. Also, some University of Cincinnati dormitory rooms can be made available for students.

Technical Program: the technical program focus will include MEMS, optoelectronics, intelligent processing, biomedical applications, and other areas of interest to CAS members. The University of Cincinnati has especially strong research programs in MEMS and optoelectronics and a newly established Biomedical Engineering Department. Additional areas, such as mixed-signal design and low-power design, are the focus at CERC member schools such as Ohio State and Oakland University.

Conference Schedule: the conference will take place August 7-10, 2005, Sunday through Wednesday. Sunday will be devoted to tutorial sessions, and will be followed by

two and one half to three days of technical sessions and keynote addresses. As is traditional, there will be a student paper contest and a banquet during which the Myril B. Reed and student paper awards will be made.

Transportation: Cincinnati is centrally located and served by many major airlines, trains, and buses. Cincinnati is a Delta hub, and so direct flights from many overseas locations are also available. In addition, major highways include Interstates 71, 74, and 75.

Local attractions: the Cincinnati area is rich is cultural and recreational attractions, including the major league baseball team the Cincinnati Reds, the Cincinnati Art Museum, the Natural History Museum, the Contemporary Arts Center, the soon to open Underground Railway Museum, the Fire Museum, the Cincinnati Children's Museum, the Cincinnati History Museum, lovely public parks, river gorges and climbing opportunities in nearby northern Kentucky, Riverbend Music Center, the world-famous Cincinnati Zoo, near-by Newport Aquarium and Kings Island Amusement Park, and many restaurants in all price ranges, including the 5-star Maisonette and the famous Montgomery Inn Barbeque restaurant. Cincinnati is an Ohio River town with an exciting history, and it is still possible to enjoy an afternoon or evening ride on one of Cincinnati's historic river steamboats. This is one possibility for the MWSCAS main banquet location.

Budget: We propose an initial budget similar to that of MWSCAS 2001. If our proposal is accepted, we expect to obtain additional seed money from the University of Cincinnati's OBR Fund for Computing, which has provided funding for similar events recently. With the experience we have gained from hosting MWSCAS 2001, and by interacting with conference organizers in the next few years, we expect we will be able to come very close to meeting our budget targets. We would expect to draw about 300 attendees.