

TISP and STEM Outreach in Region 7

There are STEM outreach activities somewhere in Canada just about 52 weeks a year.

The easiest way to join the action is through our IEEE Canada Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) Committee, headed by Dirk Werle (dwerle@ca.inter.net). The majority of sections have TISP Groups. See <http://tisp.ieee.ca> for details.

Some section affinity groups organize STEM outreach events. In some instances, affinity groups and TISP committees jointly organize events. A recent example of this was at a teachers' "super conference" last month in

Vancouver; that section's TISP and WIE groups engaged with hundreds of attendees at their booth.

Collaboration with other professional associations has proved very successful for TISP volunteers in London, Peterborough, Ottawa and Canadian Atlantic sections.

The longest running STEM engagement in IEEE Canada is participation in the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario annual conference. Initiated by Hamilton Section member Dave Hepburn in the mid 2000s, he was subsequently joined by Patrick Finnigan of Toronto Section. Since formation of IEEE Canada's TISP



Photo: Mooney Sherman and Rossitza Marinova

Wind turbine design was the lesson plan at this teacher workshop organized by Northern Can. Section's Mooney Sherman and Rossitza Marinova.

Committee in 2008, the booth is now staffed by additional volunteers from London, Peterborough and Ottawa sections; workshops are also now part of the program.

Direct engagement with pre-university students is another aspect of R7 STEM activity. The University

of Manitoba's Summer Space Camp and Research Discovery Spring Camp for Indigenous High School Students introduce participants to life-changing career options.

Some specific section STEM initiatives will be explored in subsequent issues of this magazine. ■

