

Carleton University Student and IEEE Volunteer Wins Prestigious Award

Maimuna (Mona) Chawla is an IEEE student volunteer who was awarded a \$4,000 Excellence scholarship from the Canadian Millennium Scholarship Foundation. This 22 year-old scholar is a student at Carleton University.

The Canadian Millennium scholarship foundation was established in 1998 with an endowment of \$2.5 billion to help Canadian students pursue their post-secondary goals. The Excellence awards are a part of this foundation's regular endowments, given out as



in-course scholarships, specifically created for students who have not received other major awards and have demonstrated qualities that inspire others, on their campuses and in their communities. This is the second year the Excellence awards have been given out.

Just one of 15 Carleton students who were hand picked across Canada for the Excellence award, Chawla has been an executive member of the IEEE student branch for the past two years. This year, she acts as the Vice-Chairperson. "I am sure my involvement in the IEEE helped me win the scholarship," she says.

The IEEE club at Carleton is very active in student life and has 300 members, making it the second largest student chapter in all of Canada. They provide student services like computing and printing. They also take their club members to industrial site visits. The club is currently working with Microsoft's web design competition and have held pop and pizza nights for students to meet with Microsoft representatives and gain more information on the competition. Members of the club used the opportunity to give out their résumé's. In January, the IEEE club will host the Student Professional Awareness Conference The theme of this year's conference is Career Choices. At the event, students will meet people who already have jobs in the industry and use it as an opportunity to do more networking. Chawla has been very active in promoting these events. She also organized a design competition, where students improved on a classroom project, to be judged by professors. As well, she helped organize the 4th year info session, that is a job-fair, which over 200 students attended.

"I have developed a great sense of accomplishment during my time at Carleton," she says. One of her accomplishments has been to maintain her entrance scholarship valued at \$8,000 with an A average all through her career in Carleton's Engineering Faculty, the fifth largest of its kind in the country.

Newly elected Senior Members of IEEE Canada

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