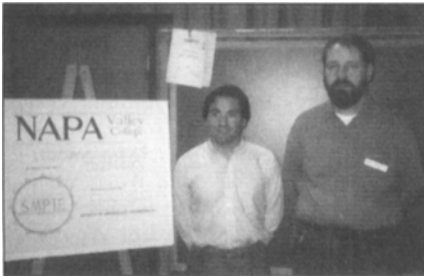


Section Meetings



Napa Valley College Student Chapter President Robert Maniaci, left, with the speaker at the August meeting, Charles Hintz.

Atlanta September 9, 1996

Robert DeLia, Fiber Options Inc., presented a tutorial on fiber-optic technology to an enthusiastic 20-member audience at the Norcross Marriott. He began by contrasting fiber optics to copper wire as a transmission medium, listing almost a dozen advantages that fiber has over conventional coax. He compared the characteristics and applications for single-mode fiber to multimode fiber, and presented different construction methods in which optical fibers are put in protective sheathing. DeLia explained how published losses for connectors and splices related to Fiber Option's experience in the field and demonstrated how to calculate optical power budgets. After discussing wavelengths and modulation schemes, DeLia turned to newer technologies, explaining the basics of wave division multiplexing. This technology allows multiple carriers to be used bi-directionally over a single fiber. He concluded by handing out a 50-page reference booklet to all in attendance. — Richard Perin (Secretary/Treasurer), Sony Electronics.

Detroit September 10, 1996

The September meeting was held jointly with the Detroit Section of the Audio Engineering Society at the studios of WKBD-TV in Southfield, Mich. The 43 members and guests that attended heard Jim Hilson, Dolby Laboratories, begin the program with an overview of his company, providing a history of Dolby processing, including noise-reduction and surround applications. He went on to explain the development of Dolby Surround for the home market and Dolby Pro Logic for theatrical use, and outlined some of the new uses for surround, including car audio, video games, and computer sound. Of particular interest to the broadcasters in the audience was the discussion of surround techniques for television sound, including



From left to right, Vince Slavin, Jim Harte, and Tom Hope judge entries for the 19th Annual Student Film Video Festival, held in Rochester in September.

the importance of having a good surround monitoring setup at the audio control point and placement of speakers at the monitoring location. With the advent of DVD, which will bring high-quality sound directly to the home, and the proliferation of surround-encoded programming, both network and syndicated, broadcasters must be aware of the marketplace and take steps to assure that they are delivering the best audio that they can. The program concluded with a question-and-answer session. — Frank Maynard (Secretary/Treasurer), WKBD-TV

Mashpee June 17, 1996

The meeting, held in the Mashpee Middle School library, began with student chair Jonathan Forsythe reading a letter from Massachusetts Senate President Thomas Birmingham, in which Birmingham congratulated the Mashpee students for being the first junior/senior high school section. After Secretary Thomas N. Holmes and Treasurer Christopher Maguire presented their reports, the Vice-Chairman of Computer Technology, Joshua I. Coffin, introduced the evening's first speaker. Steven Greelish, IMETRIX Co., gave a presentation on computer robotic cameras and underwater cameras, including the cameras developed by his company that were used to find the *Titanic*. He also discussed the technology that will be used in the newly built Mashpee High School. The evening's second speaker, John Brooks, Universal Studios, gave a slide/computer presentation about his company's planning and design of its new Jurassic Park ride. — Thomas N. Holmes (Secretary)

Napa Valley College August 21, 1996

San Francisco Chair Charles Hintz, KTVU-TV, addressed the audience of 35 students at the August meeting. He praised the college's telecommunications program, stating that all its graduates go directly to work at

paying jobs without having to work as low-pay or no-pay interns. He also explained that it takes a few years of experience at smaller stations before the graduates can get into major market stations. — Robert Maniaci (Chapter President)

Rochester September 10, 1996

The September meeting, sponsored by the Rochester SMPTE and Rochester Audio-Visual Association, was the 19th annual student film/video festival. One French high school exchange student and 11 college students were honored. First prize, second prize, and honorable mention winners were named in the following categories: animation, experimental, nonfiction, and fiction. The event was judged by Vincent Slavin, WETM-TV, Elmira, N.Y.; James P. Harte, freelance filmmaker; Thomas W. Hope, Hope Reports; Paul Kanerva, Eastman Kodak Co.; and Kathy Slavin, Slavin Productions. The winners were presented with certificates and prizes from Rochester Section Chair Walt Snyder, Eastman Kodak, and RAVA president Robert W. Barnes, retired. — Thomas W. Hope, Hope Reports

San Francisco August 22, 1996

More than 90 members and guests attended the August meeting at Dolby Laboratories. The subject, "Dolby Digital Sound on Film," was presented by SMPTE's Engineering Director, Motion Pictures, Ioan R. Allen, Dolby Laboratories, Inc. The first film clip was the opening credits of "The Ghost in the Shell" (Japan), using conventional Dolby SR. When the amazingly clear music in the clip was finished, Allen expressed the sentiment of the audience when he said, "That's about as good as it (analog audio) gets."

To demonstrate the need for even better sound, Allen ran an audio test from the film *Five Easy Pieces*. Under various conditions, the limitations of analog sound could be heard, especially those in dynamic range and channel separation. Next, using the Dolby Digital Sound-on-Film method, the clip was played again without picture. Then, along with the usual specifications, hardware arrangements, and technical talk, clips from *Mission Impossible* and *The Rock* were played. Music fidelity was demonstrated using the multilingual opening credits of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and the full dynamic range was demonstrated with a clip from *The Horseman on the Roof*. — Charles Hintz (Chairman), KTVU Partnership, Inc.