

Message from the President

Edward P. Hobson



Happy New Year! As I write this message, I am first very humbled to begin my term as President of your Society. I follow in a long line of distinguished former Presidents and hope that I will be able to serve with the wisdom and leadership exhibited by my predecessors. I thank you for your support in our recent election and ask for your continued support as the Society moves forward.

SMPTE and the SMPTE Foundation have exciting events, challenges, and opportunities ahead. We have seen an upturn in membership again, as the economy improves. This is a welcome sign as the Society depends on members and a growing membership to continue its important education and standards work. I pledge to work with you, your local managers, the Board of Governors, and Headquarters to improve member services during my term.

The SMPTE Foundation, under the leadership of Past President John Mason, has initiated its first outreach efforts and has awarded grants to three student chapters. The students have created programs to increase awareness of SMPTE and our work among the college and university community. Watch the *Journal* for additional information on this exciting project.

Our standards work continues on all fronts. Areas of note include Digital Cinema, Content Protection or Rights Management, and Compression. We will continue to update the membership on the work of the engineering teams in the *Journal*. Our standards writing teams always need the help of the expert members of the Society. If you would like to assist in this important work, please join the committees. Information is available at the engineering section of the website. You can also contact Mark Hyman at Headquarters, or by e-mail at mhyman@SMPTE.org.

An entire series of important events are in the works. The AMI Conference in association with VidTrans is occurring this month in Atlanta. In April, we will again sponsor and produce the D- Cinema Summit in association with NAB. We will also again be participating as a co-sponsor of IBC, where topics will include HD, Content Protection, New Distribution Systems, and D-Cinema. The Fall Conference returns to New York this autumn on November 9-12, 2005. And, of course, local Section managers have a full slate of interesting and informative meetings planned. Visit our website at www.smpte.org/sections_chapters/ to receive the latest information on local Section meetings. Also, be sure to update your contact data at the membership site at www.smpte.org/members_only/.

Finally, SMPTE will also be moving to new headquarters this year. Your Board of Governors has authorized Fred Motts, our Executive Director, to find new facilities. Our former headquarters were no longer suitable, so we have sold the building and will be moving to a new site. Watch this space for more news!

I look forward to meeting many of you personally during the coming year. Please feel free to write me at edward.hobson@ntc.com with your suggestions and comments on how we can continue to improve the Society.