Dr Boudreaux’s Guide to support Large Conferences

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VP Meetings and Conferences
The Wisdom of Dr. Boudreaux

• NEVER BE THE LAST SPEAKER OF THE DAY
What is a large Conference?

The size and complexity matters

T&D – 14,000 attendees and 800 exhibitors
  Long planning cycle
  Tutorials, Super Sessions, Student activities
  Opening Celebration, Transportation,
  Extra meetings and activities, Housing, etc.

General Meeting – 2400 to 3200 attendees
  shorter planning cycle, one/two hotels, many
  meetings, many other activities, very complex
Other conferences to consider

Smart Grid – Regional 800 to 1000 attendees
one hotel, very technically focused

• Non PES Meetings
  – Comsoc
  – Globecom
  – IEEE USA
  – Others
Dr. Boudreaux loved exams

• Self-examination of factors that conferences consider:
  – Venue needed
  – Housing availability
  – Meeting room availability
  – Local Bureau involvement
  – Industry Support
  – Travel access
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• Analyze your capabilities
• Know what you can handle and then groom your Chapter for that type of conference
• Possibly Future Conference Position on Local Chapter Board
Number One Resource

• Volunteers are the key......
  – For the local PES the more and varied support is a must
  – Large Conferences need experience on the LOC
  – Build that experience with any conference you can get
  – LOC is the key, Local industry support is very important, General Chair and Treasurer position are key followed by the Technical Chair.
Bottom Line

• Why do this?
  – Great experience and exposure for everyone who is involved
    • PES
    • Professionally
    • Socially
    • Local businesses and industries
  – Great Project Management experience
  – Recognition for the City and the region
  – Financially rewarding for the Local Chapter
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Get Involved

DON’T BECOME HERBERT

Don’t worry about Clarence!