Connecting Vietnam's Next Generation of Engineers with the Global IEEE Community

- 151 registered participants
- 5 sessions and 6 presentations
- 9 speakers representing 4 countries
- 4 senior IEEE elected leaders in attendance
- 1 strengthened IEEE & university partnership

On 29 July 2026, IEEE and Hanoi University of Science and Technology (HUST) hosted Pathways Forward: Tech, Talent & the Global IEEE Community, a free half-day program connecting engineering students, graduate researchers, and faculty in Vietnam with IEEE's global professional network.

Organized by IEEE Conferences, Events and Experiences in collaboration with HUST and the IEEE Vietnam Section, the program welcomed more than 150 participants, including HUST students and students from other local universities. The event featured IEEE's senior leadership, including 2026 IEEE President and CEO Mary Ellen Randall, 2026 IEEE President-Elect Jill Gostin, Vice President of IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Drew Lowery, Vice President-Elect for IEEE Technical Activities Prof. Aylin Yener, as well as IEEE Executive Director and COO Sophie Muirhead and IEEE Past-President Kathleen Kramer, who were also in attendance. Industry professionals and IEEE volunteers from Canada, Jamaica, and the United States also joined the program, bringing diverse perspectives and expertise while highlighting the global reach and resources of the IEEE community.

As a leading research university with strong international engagement, HUST provided an ideal setting for discussions on how emerging engineers can strengthen their skills, build professional networks, and connect with global opportunities.

The event opened with remarks from Prof. Vũ Văn Yêm, Vice President of HUST, who emphasized the university's commitment to developing engineers and researchers with strong technical expertise, creativity, integrity, a global perspective, and a sense of social responsibility.

IEEE President and CEO Mary Ellen Randall reinforced this shared vision, highlighting the important role Vietnam's engineers and scientists will play in shaping the future and reaffirming IEEE's commitment to supporting students, faculty, and researchers.

The program focused on the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to help engineers succeed in an increasingly connected world. Topics included engaging with IEEE's professional and technical communities, communicating technical ideas effectively, navigating the research publication process, applying engineering across disciplines, and developing lifelong professional skills.

Drew Lowery and Prof. Aylin Yener introduced participants to IEEE's global communities, student activities, and career development resources that support engineers throughout their professional journeys.

Alan Chong of the University of Toronto and the IEEE Professional Communication Society shared practical approaches for communicating technical ideas clearly, helping participants strengthen their presentation skills and better engage their audiences.

Dr. Vignesh Rajamani, Past President of the IEEE EMC Society and EMC Application Segment Manager at Rohde & Schwarz, guided attendees through the research publication process, covering topics such as developing strong research papers, evaluating sources, maintaining originality, using AI tools responsibly, and publishing through IEEE Xplore.

Dr. Sasha-Gay Wright, Head of Biomedical Engineering at The University of the West Indies, Mona, and an active leader within IEEE EMBS and IEEE Young Professionals, demonstrated how engineering can address real-world challenges through examples of student innovations, including an automated CPR device and a gesture-controlled prosthetic arm. She also shared strategies for building a research and professional profile over time, drawing on her experience supporting and engaging with the broader IEEE community.

The program concluded with remarks from IEEE President-Elect Jill Gostin, who encouraged attendees to take advantage of IEEE resources, seek mentorship, continue learning, and actively engage with the engineering community.

Feedback from HUST students and faculty highlighted the value of connecting directly with IEEE leaders and international experts. Participants shared that the program provided practical insights into academic and professional development while expanding their awareness of IEEE resources, mentorship opportunities, and pathways for global engagement. The event strengthened collaboration between IEEE and HUST while demonstrating IEEE's commitment to engaging local engineering communities through leadership engagement, professional development opportunities, and global connections that support meaningful social impact.

Pathways Forward: Tech, Talent & the Global IEEE Community was strategically co-located with IEEE Convene, creating opportunities for IEEE leaders already in attendance to seamlessly engage with the program and share their time, expertise, and perspectives with participants.