

I. Source

Chris Brantley is the Managing Director of IEEE USA. This is an informal summary of experiences he has had seeking to learn about gaps.

II. Credibility of Source

IEEE is a reliable source of information. This summary has no references hence there is no way to validate the summary of experience Chris has had over the years in this area. Difficult to gauge objectivity.

III. Summary of Content and Conclusions

Industry reps typically have not been specific about technology gaps, but frequently complain about a dearth of soft skills. The places where industry has been specific about technical gaps is in emerging and multidisciplinary fields or in fields that were once dormant but have been resurrected. Power and before that, nuclear, were mentioned as examples.

IV. Relevance to the Department of ECE

No immediate relevance wrt technical gaps. Re-affirmation of the importance of soft skills. Perspective appears to be credible but quite narrow. Chris seems to be unaware of MOOGs, big data, cybersecurity, IOT, smart power etc which have been brought to the attention of universities.

V. Recommendations for the Department or the IAB

Subject to validation by the Department, the recommendation to the IAB is that we need to be more specific about technical gaps.

VI. Contact Information

Verret@IEEE.org