

for such instruction in the participant's home institutions.

Dr. Baker's short course addressed the concerns of MIDAS industry members that a skills crisis will soon result from a shortage of a sufficient number of suitably trained engineering graduates with skills in integrated circuit design. The Undergraduate IC Festival initiative aimed to address this crisis. The festival program,

which also introduced students and faculty to analog IC design tools and multiproject wafer (MPW) fabrication through the MOSIS service, succeeded in

- raising awareness of IC-related careers among students already enrolled in engineering programs
- generating potential engineering students with direct experience in the flow of analog IC de-

sign from specification through tape out

- encouraging collaboration between students and teaching staff
- building name-recognition for MIDAS and an appreciation for IEEE-SSCS activities in Ireland.

—Jake Baker  
with Katherine Olstein

---

## SSCS Past-President and JSSC Editor-in-Chief Take a Hike

### *Breaking Away from the A-SSCC in Jeju, Korea*

Bernhard [Boser, past-president of IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society (SSCS)] brought up the idea. So we ventured out for a casual hike at about 8 in the morning, after stopping by a convenience store for a bottle of water, some bananas, apples and persimmons, and Jeju oranges.

Starting from "Seongpanak," the most popular entrance to the 9.6 km trail on the east side of Halla Mountain, it was a nice walk up, with Bernhard in the lead. Not too steep, actually, and we chatted about food, culture, integrated circuits, and stuff.

But things got tough after the halfway point, and I trailed Bernhard the rest of the way, mostly looking at his back! My initial thought was to not hike all the way up, but it was hard just to give up. You know, the engineer's ego or something.

As we approached the top, I was taking 20 steps and resting for a minute and taking 20 steps and resting for a minute; I must have sweated off several pounds, judging from the hand towel I had brought from the hotel, which was soaked.

All the while, Bernhard was happily chatting and walking up hill—the last quarter of the trail was especially steep—and I'm mostly listening because it was way too hard



**Bernhard at the summit of Halla Mountain, none the worse for wear.**

to talk and walk by then. He graciously stopped and waited whenever I paused, and, of course, we did

finally make it to the top. A big deal mostly for me since for Bernhard it was never in doubt!

At the summit the two of us enjoyed the scenery, ate our snacks, and hung out and came down the other trail to the "Gwaneumsa" gate. I estimate the whole trip took about 6.5 hours; I heard most do it in eight, just to explain why I was so dead by the time we got to the top.

Anyway, it was a lot of fun, despite the torture.

—Un-Ku Moon  
Oregon State University  
Editor-in-Chief

IEEE Journal on Solid-State Circuits

SSC



**"A picture of Un-Ku, showing him just before the peak. I can't see any sweat" says Bernhard. "The sweat is hidden because I had just wiped it off. But the wobbly legs are almost visible!" replies Un-Ku.**

Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MSSC.2011.2178312  
Date of publication: 14 February 2012