

## A Question of Balance

By: Thomas C. Champion, ICC Vice-chair  
NEETRAC—A Center of Georgia Tech

In the development of standards, the Insulated Conductors Committee must operate under the policies and procedures established by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Standards Association. Each attendee and officer of the organization is under a legal obligation to ensure that the standards development process complies with five essential principles. These principles are: (1) **Due Process** [use highly visible procedures], (2) **Openness** [interested parties can participate], (3) **Consensus** [defined percentage of votes is required to approve standards], (4) **Balance** [all interested parties are included in the process with no overwhelming influence by one party], and (5) **Right to Appeal** [process to request a hearing or reconsideration of standard requirements]. It is the responsibility and duty of each attendee to speak up and make their views known during standards development. If any of the essential principles of the organization are violated, each attendee also has a responsibility to pursue appropriate corrective action.