

## **United Kingdom and Ireland Section**

# **Steve Nightingale**

### **Getting Closer to Industry**

• Research to Industry (R2i)

R2i is now an annual event run jointly with the Microelectronics Society, the Manufacturing Research Council and the Universities of Sheffield and Loughborough. Researchers (including IEEE Students) give presentation on successful research outcomes to potential routes to market.

• Action for Industry

The UK and Ireland Section Industry Ambassador (SIA) has initiated this program for IEEE Region 8. The Region 8 Action for Industry (AfI) has a core team comprising 4 regional Industry Ambassadors. We are now widening the team to include the SIAs. The intention is to move the IEEE closer to industry, to restore the roots of the IEEE which were in industry and thereby improve the IEEE service to industry. The phase to identify the IEEE Senior Members and Fellows who are based in industry has been completed. In the next phase, we are selecting the Senior Members and Fellows who are actually working in Industry, making contact with them to start the process of developing a working relationship with each of their companies. Action for Industry is an Action undertaking by IEEE industry volunteers for IEEE Region 8.

### **Students and Young Professionals**

The 4th Student and Young Professionals Congress will be held at the University Kent in Canterbury between 9th and 11th October 2015. It is aimed mainly towards students, new graduates and young professionals of the United Kingdom and Ireland Section. The intention is to bring together young science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students and professionals. The theme of the congress is "Bridging the Gap". The organizing team is currently looking for speakers and sponsorship.

## **Section Vitality**

Outreach

The Section has been active with the Institute of Physics in arranging Outreach events to students. These are typically early evening talks given by industry practitioners to students from locals schools hosted by a local college.

Liaison with National Organizations

The development of relations with National Organisations in the UK and Ireland is continuing with the following goals:

- Short term goal list IEEE events on website of relevant IET Community Groups and vice versa.
- o Mid-term goal joint events between IEEE chapters and IET Technical Communities.
- Long term goal liaison roles for IEEE chapters and Technical Networks of National Institutions and other relevant Organizations.
- Professional Registration

The Section is investigating the level of interest in Professional Registration in the UK and Ireland through the IEEE.

• Women in Engineering (WIE)

The WIE Affinity Group has been revitalized with a new Chair, Vice-Chair and committee. The committee comprises a combination from industry and universities.

• Milestone Proposal

The Section is participating in the preparation of a Milestone proposal on Superconductivity applied to MRI systems between Oxford Instruments, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, UK and General Electric, Schenectady, NY, USA.

Collabratec

The Section has assisted the trial of Collabratec and initiated a London Group.

#### Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Co-operation with other Organizations
- The Section relies on close co-operation with National Organizations in the UK and Ireland and is developing these links. The IEEE proposal to demand payment from these organizations for co-sponsored activities will have a very detrimental effect not only on how the IEEE is perceived by these organizations, but also on our attempts to work more closely with industry.