

Czechoslovakia Section Matej Pacha

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to foster Industry Relations? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations? How are you going to continue to foster Industry Relations?

To highlight the major success, our section has established the first agreement (AfI MoU) with NXP Semiconductor and is continuing with extending common activities. Few more companies have been approached (EATON, Honeywell, etc.), more engagement is planned for 2018. More companies will be contacted based on the success stories experiences.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and Young Professionals? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better Attract and Support Future Members? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Attracting and Supporting Future Members? How are you going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals?

We are convinced that we attract future members by our activities and visibility. Therefore, we are working on new formats (such as "Industry talks" lectures or involvement in Educational activities) as well as continuing our successful activities (conferences, lectures, IEEE Day, student competitions). We don't have detailed analysis of our activities and the impact on our membership, however, the membership has grown since the last year. We will continue to support IEEE Student branches and YP activities, engaging them together.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality? How are you going to continue to foster Section Vitality?

Based on our experience, conferences and lectures are the very known, successful and popular activities. We have plans to start new activities, however, starting such activities is not well planned, which is a space for improvement. In these "new activity" cases, we are experiencing a challenge in going for the opportunity and missing available resources, since many resources are project-driven. We will establish a budget for such activities to be ready to go instantly to enable these activities and evaluate them in practice. These activities help to keep volunteers and members engaged as well as they attract new members.

What are your recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster IEEE in Africa? How does your Section support IEEE Activities in Africa?

Our members are engaged in the discussions regarding the Activities in Africa. However, further help directly from our Section was not discussed yet.

What services and which kind of support would you expect for Region 8 and/or your section out of the new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria? How has the existence of this office influenced your section since its inauguration last year?

Basically, we don't have many activities that would require the Vienna office involvement. However, it would be helpful when approaching industry: to have a serious meetings with people engaged in Standards and experience with Industrial and Professional organizations relationships. Another help would with visa invitation letters would be highly appreciated if official IEEE programs are being implemented, inviting speakers and guest from outside of Region 8.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

Our Section is still in it's 25th year of existence. We are also proud to recognize Dr. Norbert Herencsar, our outstanding volunteer awarded by the Signal Processing Society as well as by our Section. Outstanding volunteer award was also presented to Dr. Jan Sistek. One of our new initiatives is "Industry talks" - series of lectures on most recent topics delivered by Industry to students and young professionals.