

# Region 8 Student Activities Report

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# 1 General

## 1.1 Officers

- Chair: Eva Lang [eva.lang@ieee.org](mailto:eva.lang@ieee.org)
- Past Chair: Martin Bastiaans [m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org](mailto:m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org)
- Student Representative: Pablo Herrero [pablo.herrero@ieee.org](mailto:pablo.herrero@ieee.org)
- Student Branches: Amélie Anglade [amelie.anglade@ieee.org](mailto:amelie.anglade@ieee.org)
- Awards & Contests: Yasemin Baser [yasemin@ieee.org](mailto:yasemin@ieee.org)
- Student Paper Contest: Djordje Paunovic [g.paunovic@ieee.org](mailto:g.paunovic@ieee.org)
- Counsellor Programme: Saurabh Sinha [ssinha@ieee.org](mailto:ssinha@ieee.org)

## 1.2 Goals and Objectives

- Create more student membership benefits at all IEEE levels
- Develop student activities (including contests, awards and promotion programs)
- Foster Student Members' awareness of IEEE activities and existing benefits
- Support students' initiatives and inform other IEEE organizational units about them
- Represent student interests and voice student concerns
- Help with the formation of new Student Branches, Chapters, and Affinity Groups
- Help with communication between existing Branches, Chapters, and Affinity Groups
- Increase student membership and develop retention strategies
- Bring more fun to IEEE!

## 1.3 Membership

September 13, 2009: 14668 Student and Graduate Student Members (7465 StM, 7203 GSM) in 305 Student Branches

More than 1/4 of Region 8 membership is Student or Graduate Student Member.

## 1.4 New Student Branches and Student Branch Affinity Groups

### 1.4.1 New Student Branches

- Mamoun Private University of Science & Technology, Syria
- Michigan State University - Dubai, United Arab Emirates Section
- Univesite des Sciences et Tec de Lille, France Section
- Politechnic di Bari, Italy Section
- Jerusalem College of Engineering, Israel Section
- Arab Academy for Science - Cairo, Egypt Section
- Manipal University - Dubai, United Arab Emirates Section
- Taibah University, Western Saudi Arabia Section
- Ecole Nationale d'Ingenieurs de Sfax (ENIS), Tunisia Section
- Federal Polytechnic Nekede Owerri, Nigeria Section
- Cyprus International University, Turkey Section
- King Abdulaziz University, Western Saudi Arabia Section
- Al Ain Women's College, United Arab Emirates Section

- Umm Al Qura University, Western Saudi Arabia Section
- Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Spain Section
- Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia Section
- An-Najah National University in Palestine
- City University London, U.K. & Rep Of Ireland Section
- Fayoum University, Egypt Section

#### *1.4.2 New Student Branch Chapters*

- City University London Systems, Man, & Cybernetics Society Student Branch Chapter
- American University Of Sharjah, Computer Society Student Branch Chapter
- Budapest University Of Technology & Economics, Power & Energy Society Student Branch Chapter
- Tanta University Student Branch Chapter, Robotics & Automation Society Student Branch Chapter
- Abdelmalek Essaadi University Computer Society Student Branch Chapter, Morocco Section
- Ecole Nationale d'Ingenieurs de Sfax, Systems, Man, & Cybernetics Society Student Branch Chapter
- Bilkent University, Computer Society Student Branch Chapter

#### *1.4.3 New Women in Engineering Student Branch Affinity Groups*

- American University of Beirut Student Branch, Woman in Engineering Affinity Group
- Princess Sumaya University for Technology Student Branch, Woman in Engineering Affinity Group

## 2 Awards and Contests

Recognizing volunteers is a very good way to keep them involved and active. There are various awards on Region and global level available.

We ask the Section Chairs to nominate potential candidates and bring their names forward to the R8SAC.

### 2.1 General Awards for Active IEEE Student Members

#### 2.1.1 IEEE Student Enterprise Award

The IEEE Student Enterprise Award, with funding from corporate partners and individuals, was created by the IEEE to support Student Branch projects. Up to US\$ 1,500 in funding is available for project proposals developed by teams of IEEE Student Members from Student Branches established at over 1 400 universities and colleges around the world.

Deadline for the 2009 award: **15 November 2009**.

#### 2.1.2 IEEE MGA Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize annually, in each Region of the IEEE, the student most responsible for an extraordinary accomplishment associated with IEEE student activities. The value of a pattern of dedicated, ongoing service to a branch is certainly recognized. This award is designed to reward a particular event or product of IEEE activities.

The 2009 award goes to Zhijia Huang from the UK&RI Section.  
Deadline for 2010 award: **31 March 2010**

#### 2.1.3 IEEE Presidents' Change the World Competition

The award recognizes students who develop unique solutions to real-world problems using engineering, science, computing and leadership skills to benefit their community or humanity.

Two projects in Region 8 were recognized with Outstanding Student Humanitarian Prizes (US \$1,000)

- [Project Spread The Light - Provide Electricity in a Small Settlement](#)  
By Ifeanyi Orajaka, Chukwubuikem N. Umeche, Chuka Peter Franklin Eza, Onitsha, Nigeria
- [e.quinox - Bring Electricity to Rural Communities in Developing Countries](#)  
By Christopher Hopper, M. Mansoor Hamayun, Matthew Dayton, Laurent Van Houcke, Thomas Luth, Alexander McLaren, Alexander Rybka, Christopher Baker-Brian, London, United Kingdom

The 2010 Presidents' Change the World Competition opened on September 1 2009. Project submission deadline is **28 February 2010**. Nominations are to be sent directly to the IEEE Headquarters.

## 2.2 Student Branch Awards

### 2.2.1 IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award

This award recognizes annually the exemplary IEEE Student Branch operations in each region without any numerical limit. To qualify for the award, a branch must conform to IEEE Bylaws, have an active program and support IEEE goals.

The 2009 award winners within Region 8 are

- Bilkent University (Turkey),
- Middle East Technical University (Turkey) and
- Queen Mary University of London (UKRI).

One branch per Region enters the global competition. However, no results have been published until now.

Deadline: **31 January 2010**

### 2.2.2 Outstanding Branch Counselor and Advisor Recognition Programme

Aware of the unusual and dedicated efforts of Student Branch Counselors and Branch Chapter Advisors, the MGA and TA Boards sponsor a cash award to each of approximately ten outstanding Counselors and Advisors throughout the world. Winners will be those individuals who, through their work as Counselors and Advisors, exemplify the Institute's commitment to the educational, personal, professional, and technical development of students in IEEE related fields of interest.

2009 nominees from Region 8 are

- Prof. Dr. Michael Muhr, Student Branch Graz, Austria
- Dr. Ing. Simon Fabri, Student Branch University of Malta, Malta

The global results are yet to be announced by the MGA SAC.

Deadline for this annual award is **28 February**.

### 2.2.3 IEEE Darrel Chong Student Activity Award

This award serves to change the mind set of our student groups from being number-driven to become value-driven and acknowledge exemplary student activities around the world. The eventual goal is to improve the quality of the activities and foster knowledge sharing among students. Ultimately, the initiative is targeted at improving student membership growth. This will encourage and motivate students to continue to innovate and implement meaningful ideas.

Submissions are welcome throughout the entire year; decisions are made once a year during the MGA SC meeting. Activities submitted after 30 September will be judged the following year. No submissions have been received in 2009 until now.

Deadline: **ongoing**

#### *2.2.4 MGA Student Branch Membership Growth Award*

Each year a Student Branch in each region is recognized as having achieved the highest rate of growth. The greatest level of growth is based on a composite rating, considering the highest increase in membership and highest increase in new elections relative to other Student Branches in each Region.

The 2008 recipient was University of Jordan Student Branch in Jordan.

### **2.3 Contests**

#### *2.3.1 IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest*

Once each year, each Student Branch may hold and organize a local Student Paper Contest under its own responsibility. The winner(s) of each Branch Contest may compete for the Region 8 Contest, held within the Region limits. SPC is a traditional, long lasting student activity in Region 8. SPC was and is an important IEEE topic in many aspects.

The 2009 IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest received 13 papers from 11 Student Branches in 10 countries:

- Austria, Technical University of Graz
- Belgium, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Egypt, Cairo University
- Germany, University of Technology Ilmenau
- Iran, University of Tehran (3x)
- Israel, Technion, Israeli Institute of Technology, Haifa
- Netherlands, Eindhoven University of Technology
- Russia, Saint-Petersburg Electrotechnical University
- Slovenia, University of Ljubljana
- Slovenia, University of Maribor
- South Africa, University of Pretoria

The oral finals took place in Saint-Petersburg, Russia, on 19 May 2009, as part of EUROCON 2009 (18-23 May 2009).

The three winners were

- Ralph Hermans (Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands) Low-complexity model predictive control of electromagnetic actuators
- Bernhard Geiger (Technical University of Graz, Austria) Ranging in the IEEE 802.15.4a standard using energy detectors
- Jef Beerten (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium) Comparison of three-level torque hysteresis controllers for Direct Torque Control

The other two papers selected for the oral finals were

- Hossein Hajimirsadeghi (University of Tehran, Iran) A hybrid IWO/PSO algorithm for fast and global optimization
- Khaled S. Refaat (Cairo University, Egypt) The support vector machined kernel

The five jury members for the 2009 Student Paper Contest were

- Martin Bastiaans, Eindhoven, Netherlands (Chair)
- Carlos López-Barrio, Madrid, Spain
- Andrzej Pacut, Warsaw, Poland
- Djordje Paunovic, Belgrade, Serbia
- Irina Borisovna Vendik, Saint-Petersburg, Russia

SPC 2010 was announced immediately after the end of the 2009 Contest. The deadline for the 2010 IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest is **15 December 2009**. The oral finals will take place as part of MELECON 2010 in Malta, 26-28 April, 2010.

The SPC 2010 international jury:

- Prof. George Paunovic, Serbia - Chair, [g.paunovic@ieee.org](mailto:g.paunovic@ieee.org)
- Prof. Carlos Lopez-Barrio, Spain, [barrio@die.upm.es](mailto:barrio@die.upm.es)
- Prof. Andrzej Pacut, Poland, [a.pacut@ia.pw.edu.pl](mailto:a.pacut@ia.pw.edu.pl)
- Prof. Ali El-Mousa, Jordan, [elmousa@ju.edu.jo](mailto:elmousa@ju.edu.jo)
- Prof. Simon Fabri, Malta, [sgfabr@eng.um.edu.mt](mailto:sgfabr@eng.um.edu.mt)

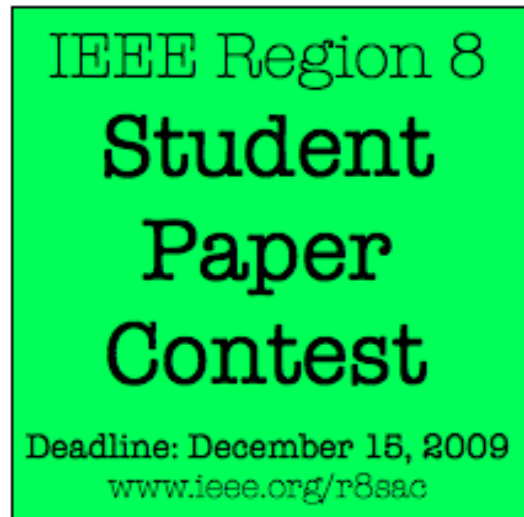
will select five papers for the oral finals and will decide about the three winners.

Within the this year SPC campaign up to now the following activities were realized:

- Beginning July SPC 2010 call with essential SPC data was sent to all R8 Student Branch (SB) chairs by email. In SAMIEEE base there are data about 284 Student Branches (SB) in R8, but considerable number of emails returned for various reasons. Same document was also sent to all SB counselors and the same comment about the correctness of email addresses also applies.
- SPC was and is announced within R8 Student Activity News (<http://ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/sac/cms/> )
- SPC is placed as a new direct link at R8 SAC page, as well as a new very visible SPC banner.
- All Region 8 IEEE student members got recently an email with information about various Student Activities, SPC being one of them.
- A short note about SPC was published in Region 8 August News.

Additional plans:

- An email about SPC will be sent to all R8 Section and Chapter Chairs, asking them to





support and co-organize SPC activities, especially connecting when possible local SPC contests with IEEE R8 Sections and Chapters IEEE conferences.

- Updated emails will be once again sent to SB Chairs and Advisers, kindly asking them to back-inform about their current activities or plans with regards to SPC 2010.
- Redesigning of SPC WEB page will be finished soon.
- There is also a general idea to develop a SPC WEB application for direct electronic uploading of student papers.

### *2.3.2 IEEE Xtreme 24 hour Programming Challenge*

130 teams participated in the 2008 challenge with 57 teams from Region 8. Seven teams from Region 8 made it to the top 10. Goal for 2009 is to double the number of participating teams on global scale.

The 2009 Contest will be held on **24 October 2009**. More information is available at <http://ieee.org/xtreme>

### *2.3.3 IEEE Student Branch Web Site Contest*

With 25 participating student branches around our region, the IEEE Website Contest 2009 was again a big event. As a result of the regional evaluations, the following student branch websites made it into the top 5:

- 1st place: [Bilkent University, Turkey](#)
- 2nd place: [Cairo University, Egypt](#)
- 3rd place: [Fatih University, Turkey](#)
- 4th place: [University of Southampton, UKRI](#)
- 5th place: [Alexandria University, Egypt](#)

The first three websites will also take place in the global contest. Results are yet to be announced.

Next deadline: **15 April 2010**

### *2.3.4 IEEE Region 8 Student Promotional Multimedia Contest*

As a pilot in 2009 the call for contribution has seen three submissions until now. There is no defined technology or software. The content of the promotional item must be constructed such that it will be applicable to most or all Student Branches in Region 8, and not just locally.

All received promotional items will be displayed on the R8 SAC web site. The winning branch will be awarded US\$ 500, second best US\$ 300, and third best US\$ 200. The action will be coordinated by members of R8 SAC. Results will be made a part of an electronic promotional package, which will be put on the R8 SAC web site for all branches to use.

### *2.3.5 IEEE Region 8 Ethics Competition*



The IEEE Ethics and Member Conduct Committee (EMCC) wants to raise the ethics awareness of IEEE members while they are still in school. To this end, the committee is launching the IEEE Student Ethics Competition, which is designed to provide student members with experience in applying ethical concepts to situations that might arise in the workplace. The competition also wants to increase the visibility of the IEEE Code of Ethics.

Congratulations to all award winners!

Information on these and other contests is available on R8 SAC web site (<http://ieee.org/r8sac>) as well as on the IEEE Students page (<http://ieee.org/students>).

## **3 Coordinating Student Branches**

### **3.1 Twin Student Branch Program**

The Twin Student Branch Program aims at creating links between Student Branches in different Sections of the Region 8. Like twin towns, pairs of Student Branches choose to be partners and exchange on a regular basis good tips, useful documents, projects, etc. They can also organise the same events the same day but in their respective cities, motivating each other and going through the same organisation schedule as each other.

The program has been launched in April 2009.

A full webpage on the Region SAC website is dedicated to this program: We publish on this page the “requests for twins” that we receive from Student Branches along with contact information of the Student Branches and their “level of experience” (new Student Branch or experienced Student Branch). The Student Branches can then find each other on this page and contact each other and if they decide to be twins notify us.

The program has been introduced to the Student Branches in an article in the Region 8 News in April 2009 and an email to all Student Branch Chairs in Region 8. We also advertise this program in all the local Student Branches event we are invited to.

So far 9 Student Branches coming from 7 Sections have registered for this program. We believe this number will be doubled by the end of 2009 and we expect to have a large amount of Student Branches joining this program during and after the Region 8 SBC 2010 (since it will be easier for Student Branch officers to meet and agree on a partnership than remotely).

We will measure the efficiency of this program through the twin student branches reporting and statistics (starting from 2010).

We also encourage student branches to use this program in conjunction with the Launch a new Student Branch initiative: a Student Branch can help a group of students in another university in another Section create their own Student Branch and then become Twins.

Both Student Branches can find an interest in this mentoring process: the new Student Branch finds support and advice, the experienced Student Branch is financially rewarded (through the Launch a new Student Branch initiative) and adds an international dimension to its activities (since the Twin is in another Section).

### **3.2 (Re-)Defining the Section Student Representative role and responsibilities**

Following the April Region 8 meeting in Venice during which we encouraged the Section Chairs to nominate a Section Student Representative (SSR), we have decided to clarify and redefine the role and responsibilities of the SSR for the benefits of Student Branches, Sections and SSRs themselves. We have been working on this project with a few SSRs in Region 8. This is still ongoing work and our results will be published in our next report.

### 3.3 Communication

#### 3.3.1 Upgrading the Region 8 SAC website

The Region 8 SAC website has been migrated from Joomla! 1.1. to Joomla! 1.5 in July 2009. This migration is a major one and as expected we ran into numerous technical problems, most of which are now solved (and we are working on the remaining technical issues).

We have also changed the look of the Region 8 SAC website. Check it out:

[www.ieee.org/r8sac](http://www.ieee.org/r8sac) !

The Student Paper Contest (SPC) webpage has been integrated to the Region 8 SAC website (previously hosted on Martin Bastiaan's website and linked from the Region 8 SAC website) and a SPC web banner has been created and is displayed in our website.

The following modifications and new components to our website are also in preparation:

- Search Engine Friendliness: a component allowing for easy-to-read URLs (and also easy-to-search-for) will be installed.
- The Data Warehouse Project: we are going to add a Wiki where all the Student Branches officers will be able to post useful Student Branches documents (in several languages) questions, best practices, solutions, etc. For this project we plan to work in collaboration with the Region 8 GOLD committee.
- A full and automatically updated list of Student Branches in Region 8 will be accessible from the website (running a script on the SAMIEEE database).
- More banners on upcoming regional and global IEEE events will be added to the website.
- An uploading system will be added to the SPC webpage to allow for direct upload of the papers.

#### 3.3.2 Communicate more on the Region 8 Student Branches activities

Our idea: let everybody know about what the Region 8 Student Branches do.

In addition to the short articles and announcements sent to us by the Student Branches we also try to add any information about events they organise we have heard of.

A new webpage on the Region 8 SAC website called "it happens in Region 8!" has been created. It features past and ongoing activities of the Region 8 Student Branches. For now it is a list of short articles on one webpage we are thinking of creating a "Featured member" or "Featured Student Branch" box appearing on the side and randomly displaying these articles.

We have increased the number of "News" published (on the home page of the R8 SAC website): any upcoming event organised by the Region 8 Student Branches is featured on this News page. We also post there any IEEE or IEEE's partners event (e.g. the 9th BME International 24-hour Programming Contest supported by EESTEC) that might be of interest to the Region 8 Student Branches.

#### 3.3.3 New series of R8 News articles on Student Branch Management:

We have decided to write a series of articles for Student Branch officers in the Region 8 News (one per issue). We called it "Student Branch Cookbook" and it will focus on practical and useful tips for student branch officers. The first article of this series will be published in the November 2009 issue of the Region 8 News and will be on Student Branch fund-raising.

#### *3.4.4 Emailing*

The SAC team has started to send out monthly email newsletters focusing on different membership benefits and announcing upcoming events and deadlines.

Personalized Emails were sent to all IEEE Student and Graduate Student Members in Region 8 informing them about current programs and awards.

## **4 Ongoing Programs and Activities**

### **4.1 Membership campaigns**

Since September/October (which is also the start of the academic year) is the best time of the year to join the IEEE, R8 SAC and participating Student Branches continue to organize membership campaigns in these months. In December/January our focus changes to retention. In April/June, joining as a Student Member for the second half of the year is beneficial, which is something that Student Branches can use in their membership campaigns.

### **4.2 Launch a new Student Branch initiative**

A pilot project in 2005, it appeared extremely successful and was continued in 2006 and 2007. The project, which needs the cooperation with Section Student Representatives and Section Student Activities Chairs, will be continued in 2008. A branch (or group of branches) that helps a new branch to be established, will receive an amount of \$ 200: \$ 100 when the new Branch has been established, and the additional \$ 100 when the new Branch has completed its first year of operation.

### **4.3 Waking up dormant Student Branches project**

This is a slow, but successful project of contacting last-known Branch officers and Counselors (or other IEEE Members) at the Branch location in an effort to reactivate inactive Branches. On Region 8 initiative, RAB SAC passed an action item to develop a knowledge tool for helping SAC and the Branches keep continuity of previous activities. A 'wake up kit' is being prepared to be sent to Section Chairs, Section Student Activities Chairs, Student Branch officers and Counselors.

### **4.4 Student Branch support**

R8 SAC supports its Student Branches with seed money for their major activities. This is a successful program with increasingly more requests than we can handle. Only those activities may qualify for financial support, in which more than one Student Branch is involved and/or from which more than one Student Branch will benefit. R8 SAC expects the Section to support the activity with at least the same amount of money.

### **4.5 Section's welcome to graduating Student Members**

Section Chairs are invited to welcome recent graduates into the Section as voting members and possible new volunteers. We strongly believe that such a personal contact at the Section level is very important for retention.

The program piloted in Region 8 and is now a joint SAC-GOLD initiative called STEP (Student Transition and Elevation Partnership).

#### **4.6 Student professional activities**

SPAC/SPAV support. Student Professional Awareness Conference/Venture support funds are available.

Region 8 Workshops. Workshops on Leadership skills and Project management are successfully organized throughout the Region, and are attended by many IEEE Student Members.

#### **4.7 Students at IEEE technical conferences**

Region 8 Voluntary Contribution Fund. Not just intended for students, the fund helps also needy students to attend technical conferences (limit \$ 1000 per person in a lifetime).

Organization of IEEE student events at technical conferences. Students organizing such events may receive a travel grant to the conference.

#### **4.8 Help needy volunteers project**

R8 SAC runs a project for subsidizing 50% of the IEEE student membership dues for needy volunteers. This program is very successful and has a low financial impact. We are currently developing new ideas for subsidizing IEEE student dues for needy Members at the global IEEE level.

#### **4.9 Counselor support program**

Section Chairs are requested to remind their Student Activities Chairpersons and Student Representatives to remind each student branch to ensure that every SB in a given section benefits from the guidance of SB Counsellor, and helps us to keep our Counsellor list updated.

On Region 8 initiative there will be a first ever conference call for Student Branch Counsellors on operational issues, SB officer roles and expectations, SAMIEEE training and further useful tools for easing the Counsellor's job.

Section Chairs are requested to take note of the Counsellor programme Website:  
[www.ieee.org/r8sac](http://www.ieee.org/r8sac) -- click on "Counsellor Programme"

## 5 Student Activities on Section and Cross-Section level

Sectional student branch congresses should also be supported in some way by the section. These events add a motivation plus to branches and highly prepared volunteers which can increase not only the number of student events in your sections, but also the membership. In addition, it is suggested the section officers attend the event or some part of them, and use it as a look-up for future section volunteers. Regional SAC will only fund this events if and only if the section also provides some funding.

In addition leadership training has been lectured there, where the students are encouraged to think about new member benefits that they could suit them but still don't exist. These will be compiled and forwarded to global SAC.

### 5.1 Technical Conferences

#### 5.1.1 Student Booth in Technical Conferences in Region 8

But not the big ones like EUROCON or IMS, where a student booth usually exists. We need to have these also in little conferences 100-200 people that take place in R8 and are typically R8 wide. This gives also the opportunity of the SB at the venue (if any) to show off a little. Many Graduate Students attend these events who are not yet IEEE members. In addition, students can help in the organization of these events as they have the necessary experience and skills.

### 5.2 National Branch Congresses (April - October 2009)

#### 5.2.1 The First IEEE Middle East Student Branch Congress

Organized by IEEE- Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT) Student Branch, in partnership with IEEE- Texas A&M University at Qatar Student Branch, and hosted at Princess Sumaya University For Technology (PSUT) on May 11-14 2009, the ME-SBC in Jordan was a unique opportunity for IEEE volunteers from more than 100 different student branches in more than 10 different Sections in Region 8, to socialize and interact, develop their soft skills, enhance their insight into technology, discuss the common obstacles faced by their branches in the region and get equipped to tackle them in the upcoming year.

The First IEEE ME-SBC included the following major events:

1. The Volunteers Enrichment Program (VEP)
2. The Delegation of Aspiration (DOA) Contest
3. The IEEE 125th Anniversary Celebration Gala Dinner
4. The ME-SBC Award Ceremony
5. The Middle East Job Fair

#### 5.2.2 Turkish National Student Branch and GOLD Congress

The 7th IEEE Turkey Section Student Branches and GOLD Congress took place internationally on 7-11 August 2009 in Izmir Institute of Technology Campus with 200



participants from 29 student branches of IEEE Turkey Section and 5 students from Princess Sumaya University of Technology (Jordan).

The Congress saw technical lectures, professional management sessions as well as social events.

### *5.2.3 Iberian Student Branch Congress*

At this congress, there will be around 20 Iberian Student Branches, represented by more than 60 delegates, that get together to share experiences, develop new skills, socialize, interact with the industry and discuss prominent issues of the various areas of engineering and management.

## **5.3 Global MGA Student Activities Meeting**

The 2009 MGA SAC face-to-face meeting was held in conjunction with the Region 10 Student Branch Congress in Singapore. Eva and Pablo attended on behalf of Region 8 SAC. The focus of the meeting was put on Strategic Planning for the global Student Activities Committee, operational updates and issues as well as networking.