REGION 8
STUDENT ACTIVITIES
COMMITTEE REPORT
iceland, June 2003

R8 SAC: Pilar Molina Gaudo pimolina@ieee.org
R8 SR: Basak Yuksel basak@ieee.org

R8 SA Committee is formed also by:

Christian Borgert c.borgert@ieee.org Past Chair and Awards Coordinator
Martin Baastians m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org Student Paper Contest Coordinator
Mischa Doehler mischa@ieee.org Innovation Coordinator (NEW!)

STATEMENTS OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Our current goals can be summarised in six simple lines:

Students learning
Students networking
Students relating to industry
Students staying with the IEEE
Students excelling
Students leading

INTRODUCTION AND UPDATE

R8 has currently ??? student members.
The number of Student Branches has increased from ??? in January to ??? at the end of
May. ??? have submitted their Annual Reports.
One ?? chapter and ?? Student Branch Women in Engineering Affinity Groups have been
formed.

ACTIVITIES PURSUED AND ONGOING

The following activities can easily be ascribed to one or more of the goals mentioned above.
It is important to remark that these months have also been a transition for two different SA
Committees and that we have used some of our time to learn and readjust.

Activities related to all R8 Students:

- Facilitate the presence of R8 Students at IEEE technical conferences by two means:
  a. Continuing the Voucher program. We are now actively publicising this
     program through major conferences web sites taking place in R8 and soon in
     the R8 News too.
b. Start a program that enables IEEE Student Members attending technical conferences in R8 to meet in a social event during the conference. To be presented in this meeting.

- Starting two pilot Section Patent-Pool programs. Currently under development.
- Strong presence in the R8 News. Basak is the R8 News Student Editor. Two issues have been published with updated information on new SAC, advantages for Students and many articles submitted by Student Branches.

**Activities related to Student Branches:**

- Presence of SAC members and other R8 members (e.g. Director) in Sectional SB meetings and SB Congresses:
  - Basak Yuksel present in Egypt Section Student Branch meeting (March 2003)
  - Tony Davies attended Eindhoven Student Branch Congress (April 2003) and EETRAN Conference in Herceg Novi, Yugoslavia in June 2003.
  - Jeremy Newberry attended the 24-hour-programing contest in Budapest, Hungary organized by the local Student Branch.
  - Basak will attend in July, the organized by the Sarajevo Student Branch with IEEE Foundation support.
- Project support to branch activities by R8 up to 500$ (since October 4 projects have been funded). Branches are encouraged to ask for funding:
  - Web Contest in Pretoria
  - 24-hour programming contest in Budapest, Hungary
  - Leadership Training and volunteer recruitment activity in Zaragoza, Spain
  - Eindhoven Congress (Pending reception of Reports)
- Increase our contacts to the Student Branches by revival of e-mail lists.
- Encourage SB counselors. Project support provided to Outstanding Branch Counselor. A brief e-mail survey has been conducted to investigate counselor’s point of view and ideas on how to better support their task and for ideas for reasonable awards.
- Student Branch Congress 2004 will be in Passau, Germany. Tentative date is September. SB has volunteered to organize the event. Preliminary organization activities have been carried out.
- Exploring the possibility of expanding the Buran initiative (Buran is a technical magazine in Spanish published by the UPC SB in Barcelona, Spain). Primarily send the magazine as a sample issue to all the SB and provide formation to leaders in SB with a strong commitment to start their own. UKRI Section is starting one. Currently ongoing.

**Activities related to Electronic Communications:**

- Renewal and reorganisation of the R8 web site: [www.ieee.org/r8sac](http://www.ieee.org/r8sac)
- Start a Virtual Community for the R8 Student Members as a virtual meeting and networking tool. This is a highly value added to the membership that could help to counter-attack the negative effect of the dues increase. Virtual Community is already available at: [www.ieeecommunities.org](http://www.ieeecommunities.org)
- Revitalization of e-mail lists of Student Branches, Chairs and Counsellors and avoidance of spam problems. Information messages sent to the branches.

**Activities related to Awards and Contests:**
• Student Paper Contest 2003 is ongoing. Jury and finalists are selected. Location is during EUROCON 2003 in Ljubljana in Slovenia.
• First contacts have been made for the celebration of SPC’04 during MELECON’04 in Dubrovnik. Deadline for Student Paper Contest 2004 will be December.
• R8 Student Branch web contest has taken place. R8 winner has been the American University of Beirut. Pilar has participated also as judge in the IEEE Web contest.
• As a result of a motion in Budapest meeting top 5 student branches with bigger membership increase are to be awarded 300$ each. 2002 Membership Growth awards to Student Branches have been:

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<tr>
<th>Branch Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>PADOVA UNIV OF</td>
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<td>AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>CZECH TECHNICAL UNIV IN PRAGUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>NNAMDI AZIKWE UNIVERSITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>UKRI SECTION STUDENT BRANCH</td>
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These branches will receive 300$ for a particular activity.

**Other activities:**
• Increase the relations to the Sections by means of contacts to the Student Activities Officers of the Sections. Section Chairs were encouraged to appoint Section SACs and there are 26 in R8. Contacts have been made by e-mail and there is the idea of an e-mail distribution list. Further encourage those Sections that have not yet appointed one.
• Christian (representing Pilar) and Basak attended the IEEE SAC meeting in Seattle in March 2003.
• Pilar has volunteered and has been appointed Chair of the SAC Electronic Communications Subcommittee.
• SAC meeting has taken place June, 27th in Iceland.
• Relations and joint activities with EESTEC (Electrical Engineering STudents' European association). There is already an IEEE Society Agreement signed. Basak attended their yearly meeting in Cosenza, Italy in April 2003. As a result several joint activities are going to be organized.

**ACTIVITIES COMING SOON**
• Preparation and organization of Student Branch Congress 2004.
• Enhance the contacts with GOLD Coordinator (think about retention strategies) and Industry Relations Coordinator to identify common goals.
• Formalisation of SPAC and SPAVe activities taking place already in R8 and expanding them.
• Pool of branch activities where to share ideas of activities and fund raising. Best Activity and Most original Activity Award.

**THANKS TO...**

Student Activities staff members: Laura, Christine and Barbara, for help, support and patience
Tara Gallus and Marilyn Catis, staff members for Virtual Community development