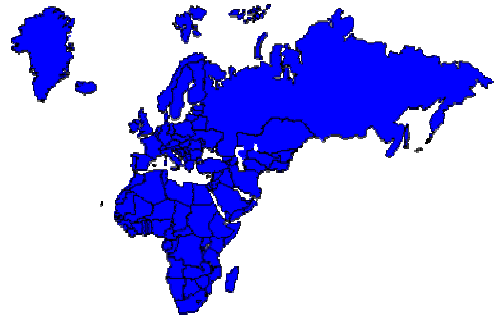


REGION 8 STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORT April 2006, Vilnius, Lithuania



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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Create more local IEEE student benefits at Branch, Section and Region level
- Foster student members' awareness of IEEE activities and existing benefits
- Help in formation of new student branches, chapters and affinity groups
- Help with communication between existing branches, chapters and groups
- Increase membership + keep members in IEEE after graduation
- SSAC and SSR at every Section
- Throw a huge party in Paris (also know as the SBC)

2005 AND 2006 NEW STUDENT UNITS IN REGION 8

- 32+ new Student Branches
- 10 new Student Branch Chapters
- 8 Student Branch Affinity Groups
- and over 25 reactivated dormant branches

2006 HEADLINES

- IEEE Region 8 Student Branch and GOLD Congress
Paris, August 31 – September 3, 2006
The place to be!
- Promotion of the Graduate Student Member (GSM) Grade
GSMs will be identified in IEEE databases in June/July
GMSs will receive an IEEE elections ballot in 2006

DID YOU KNOW?

- In Region 8 there are over 1200 student volunteers (December 2005 estimate) involved with IEEE activities, but less than one quarter of those are identified as volunteers in IEEE databases.

A SHORT MESSAGE FOR REGION 8 SECTION CHAIRS

- Support student activities in your Section!
100%

READ THIS FIRST

REVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Membership development

- We've been trying to keep an open channel with all students in the Region, this is not easy but individual approach gives best results.
- At the same time we continue to develop new Region wide student membership benefits.
- We have an ongoing project for the creation of IEEE promotional materials and we continue to support local production of promotional items for student branches.

Help-needy-volunteers project

- R8 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.

Region 8 News contributions from Student Branches throughout the Region are received and printed in every issue. WE NEED MORE SPACE! News of a more urgent nature are published at the R8 SAC web site and in the Region 8 Student Forum Virtual Community.

R8 supports its Student Branches with some seed money for the major activities. This is a successful ongoing program and the number of requests is continuously reaching dangerously high levels. We thank the Region 8 Committee for their generosity in supporting such events.

R8 Students at IEEE technical conferences

- R8 Voluntary Contribution Fund. Not intended just for students, but helps needy students attend technical conferences (limit \$1000 per person in a lifetime).
- The Voucher Program. An IEEE membership voucher to student members attending an IEEE technical conference in a previous year. The number of requests increases from year to year.
- Organization of IEEE Student Events at technical conferences. Students organizing such events may receive a travel grant to the conference.

Electronic communications

- New R8 SAC website launched in 2005 seems to be getting more and more attention. Will probably get some revamping on the navigation side.
- R8 Student Forum Virtual Community continues developing and now counts with more student participation

Contests, awards and recognitions

- 3 running contests, 4 more in development (see events).
- Information on awards and recognition programmes for students and student branches available on R8 SAC site.

Start a new Student Branch initiative

- Section by section, branch by branch, see previous page for results
- Next stop – UKRI; and we are even moving the RSR there 😊

Waking up dormant student branches project

- Most inactive branches removed from the R8 Student Branch list
- For all still existing inactive branches we are contacting the last know branch officers and counsellors and other IEEE members at the branch location in an effort to reactivate the branch.

Graduating student members section's welcome

- This program was conceived before the GSM membership grades and is now under additional development. This program is targeted at students who are receiving their first diploma in an IEEE designated field.
- Section Chairs are invited to welcome these recent graduates into the Section as voting members and possible new volunteers.
- We strongly believe this personal contact at a section level is very important for retention!!!

Support for branches willing to organize region-wide contests. Successful examples:

- Region 8 Student Branch Chess Tournament (very successful). The winners recently announced.
- R8 Student Branch Promotional Multimedia contest. Currently under development by the Princess Sumaya University in Jordan (see upcoming events).

Student Professional Activities

- SPAC/SPAVE support funds available
- Region 8 Workshops (Leadership skills, Project management) successfully organised throughout the Region, attended by many IEEE students.

REVIEW OF RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

R8 STUDENT BRANCH AND GOLD CONGRESS 2006

- <http://iee.org/sbc2006>
- The pre-registration closed on March 31 at 24:00 (GMT -4)
- R8 SAC team and Paris Orga Team in full preparation of the event
- WIE Committee will hold its meeting in conjunction with the SBC
- For updates and more information please visit the web site



IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest

- 2005 Finals held in Belgrade at EUROCON 2005 in November 2005
- 5 papers were printed in the EUROCON Proceedings and submitted to the Potential Magazine for publication (to be published soon)
- 2006 Contest received 16 papers from 16 Student Branches in 12 countries
- 6 of those papers will be presented at the finals, to be held in Benalmádena (Málaga), Spain, as part of [MELECON 2006](#) in May 2006

IEEE Region 8 Student Robotics Contest 2006

- Organized by Twente University of Technology, Netherlands. A joint SAC/GOLD and possibly RAS event. The champion for this project is Basak Yuksel.
- To be held in Twente 25th-30th May

Regional Student Branch Web Contest 2006

- Over 20 participating branches
- Region 8 will have 3 entries into the global IEEE Web Contest.

The 3-Profession workshop: Engineering, Medicine & Business

- Organized by AAST branch in Alexandria, Egypt. Held 18th-19th November 2005. Plans are to organize another edition as a cross-section event
- The event links together biomedical engineering concepts with business essentials and entrepreneurship skills together to be presented as an overall picture to the students

Careers in Europe Forum 2006

- The Forum is a unique pan-European recruitment event, offering internationally minded candidates career opportunities throughout Europe with a number of blue-chip multinational companies. Through one-to-one interviews, each company discusses specific jobs.
- To be held in Berlin, 4th-5th May

The IEEE **X**TREME Programming Contest idea has moved on to a SAC project currently discussed in the RAB SAC Communications sub-committee. Funds for 2006 approved.

Student Branches Multimedia Promotional Contest

- A contest in which student branches submit promotional materials, like videos or flash animations, advertising branch membership and IEEE.
- In development

Ethics competition (in conjunction with the SBC 2006)

- Probable to be held 1st Sept 2006
- We plan to sponsor 5 teams to the finals at the SBC
- Currently being organized in collaboration with the Univ of Sharjah Branch

MODELS, ISSUES, PROBLEMS

Difficulties with financial issues.

- Payment of dues – credit card problems, high fees for money transfer
- Rebate checks from Piscataway – expensive to cash
- Now under discussion with Student Services how to better advertise different ways of providing branches with rebates/allotment money
- News: Student Branch Rebate and Allotment will go as a single payment to the Student Branches – single payment, less losses
- Ideas: SB accounts with the section? Student Branch Custody Accounts?

Still strong delays in some areas with receiving IEEE magazines

Acknowledgements

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We could not do any of this without you!
Thanks for all your help and support!
You rock!