

Benelux Section**Claude Oestges****Highlights from the past**

- The IEEE Admission and Advancement committee met in Leuven, Belgium to hold an elevation evaluation event on Sep 14, 2013. Senior members and fellows were invited to take part in the evaluation of 103 new prospective candidates for senior member. The event was a success: about 20 reviewers attended, 104 mostly those who were otherwise not involved in the section.
- In terms of attracting new members, Student Membership is increasing. The numbers for Regular Members remained similar. Globally, a good recovery over the previous years (which had seen sharp decrease owing to the crisis) can be noticed.

Future activities

- The Section is actively preparing the IEEE Sections Congress to be held in Amsterdam, August 22-25, 2014.

Best practices

- The Benelux Section Executive Committee met twice during 2013 (May and November 2013).

Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- NERG ceased to exist in January 2014 and was merged into the telecommunication section of KIVI. The Section is currently investigating the signature of a MoU with KIVI.
- There is a concern about a recent communication by IEEE HQ limiting the term of all officers to 6 years, which would require the Section Treasurer to resign unless the Executive Committee applies for an exception. The members of the Executive Committee first highlight the high quality of the work provided by the Treasurer, and stress that the Section should be able to keep its Treasurer for a longer period.

Miscellaneous

- Two technical field awards were recently obtained by IEEE Benelux Section members.