

## Kenya Section

**Aniruddha Shahapure**

### Highlights from the past

- Annual Innovation Expo.
  - The 15th Annual Innovation Expo (formerly the Engineering Students' Exhibition) was held from the 21st - 22nd November 2013 in Nairobi. The event attracted young innovators from all over the East African Community with over 45 engineering and related projects.
- Strategic partnerships.
  - The section established strategic partnerships to help it achieve its goals and deliver value to its members. This included linkages with the LIWA Kenya Trust, Kenya Private Sector Alliance, Kenya Bureau of Standards, ECT Africa, Kenya National Council for Science, SAMSUNG East Africa and AITEC Africa.
- Advocacy
  - By leveraging its partnerships, the section was enabled its members to shape industry policy. Through the KEPSA ICT sector board, the section provided input to drive the Kenya Information Bill 2011 and the Draft Cybercrime Bill 2012, as well as working with KEBS ( Kenya Bureau of Standards) and ERC ( energy regulatory commission) with representation as Technical Committees for selected electrical and related standards.
- Industry linkages
  - Strong linkages were forged with industry in Kenya through expos, student mentor-ships and professional lectures.

### Future activities

- ECT Education Advisory Council, March 2014
- Installation of IEEE Museum Exhibits, May 2014
- Career Fair, July 2014
- TISP workshop, September 2014
- 16th Annual Innovation Expo, October 2014
- Entrepreneurship Workshop for Engineers and Scientists, December 2014

### Best practices

- Member engagement
  - Section was able to identify action areas for delivering value to its membership. The section officers are currently engaged in the development of an updated strategic plan that will drive all local activities for the next two years. Engagement with the members has been enhanced by adopting multiple communication platforms including social media.
- Industry partnerships and public sector engagement
  - The section has grown its visibility and capacity for its constituents by engaging and forming partnerships with private sector and public institutions. This has yielded relationships with MRM, Eco Technics, LIWA Trust Kenya, iHub, the Eastern African Economic Chambers of Commerce, KEPSA, KEBS, AITEC Africa and others. This has provided the section with immense social capital to pursue programs for the membership.

### Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- There is a increasing number of requests for IEEE corporate membership that would cater for the membership of teams at SME organizations .
- There is a need for the implementation of an effective virtual meeting solution that can easily be utilized by the membership. The current solutions on offered by IEEE are not fully supported in our geographic area.

### Miscellaneous

- Following members have been elevated to senior member grade
  - Robert Gateru
  - Aniruddha Shahapure