

Unapproved Minutes of the 101st IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting held on 5-6 October 2013 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

List of Participants

Full Name	Position
Martin Bastiaans	R8 Director
Costas Stasopoulos	R8 Director-Elect
Marko Delimar	R8 Past Director
Ali El-Mousa	R8 Secretary
Brian Harrington	R8 Treasurer
Aleksandar Szabo	R8 Vice Chair Member Activities
Pablo Herrero	R8 Vice Chair Student Activities
Carl Debono	R8 Vice Chair Technical Activities
Peter Roessler	Austria Section Chair
Wafeeq Ajoor	Bahrain Section Chair
Valentin Baranov	Belarus Section Chair
Luc Vandendorpe	Benelux Section Chair
Dusanka Boskovic	Bosnia and Herzegovina Section Chair
Jordan Kolev	Bulgaria Section Vice Chair
Mislav Grgic	Croatia Section Chair
Panayiotis Symeou	Cyprus Section Chair
Peter Farkas	Czechoslovakia Section Chair
Ahmed Darwish	Egypt Section Chair
Kalle Tammemäe	Estonia Section Chair
Rafal Sliz	Finland Section Vice Chair / R8 GOLD Chair
Christine Nora	France Section Treasurer
Axel Richter	Germany Section Chair
Athanasios Kakarountas	Greece Section Publicity Chair
Peter Kadar	Hungary Section Chair
Amin Nobakhti	Iran Section Treasurer
Jacob Baal-Schem	Israel Section Assistant / R8 Life Member Coordinator
Lorenzo Vangelista	Italy Section Secretary
Isam Zabalawi	Jordan Section Chair
Anne Ndugire	Kenya Section Treasurer
Fadhel Abulhasan	Kuwait Section Treasurer
Andrejs Romanovs	Latvia Section Chair
Ghassan Sha'ban	Lebanon Section Chair
Dalius Navakauskas	Lithuania Section Chair
Paul Micallef	Malta Section Chair
Runar Søråsen	Norway Section Membership Development Officer
Piotr Cholda	Poland Section Secretary
Rui Cruz	Portugal Section Chair
Goce Arsov	Republic of Macedonia Section Chair
Lucian Toma	Romania Section Treasurer
Sergey Shaposhnikov	Russia (North West) Section Vice Chair
Vera Drozdova	Russia (Siberia) Section Treasurer
Sergey Bankov	Russia Section Vice Chair
Hafidh Al-Samarrai	Saudi Arabia (West) Section Chair
Natasia Neskovic	Serbia and Montenegro Section Chair
Matej Zajc	Slovenia Section Chair
Riana Geschke	South Africa Section Chair
Emilio Corchado	Spain Section Vice Chair
Mikael Bergqvist	Sweden Section Chair
Maria-Alexandra Paun	Switzerland Section Secretary
Gözde Bozdagi Akar	Turkey Section Chair

Ievgen Pichkalyov	Ukraine Section Secretary
Maryam Althani	United Arab Emirates Section Chair
Nihal Sinnadurai	United Kingdom and Rep of Ireland Section Chair
Elya Joffe	R8 Chapter Coordination Chair
Simay Akar	R8 Chapter Coordination SC Member - SB Chapters
Jan Haase	R8 Conference Coordination Chair
Fotini-Niovi Pavlidou	R8 Educational Activities Chair - Continuing Education
George Michael	R8 Electronic Communications Coordinator
Elena Pareja	R8 GOLD SC Member
Nele Reynders	R8 GOLD SC Member
Anthony Davies	R8 History Activities Coordinator
Steve Nightingale	R8 Industry Relations SC Member
Kurt Richter	R8 Jubilee Book Coordinator
Antonio Luque	R8 Membership Development Chair
Zhijia Huang	R8 News Editor
Roland Saam	R8 News Editor
Christopher James	R8 Strategic Planning SC Member
Jorge Soares	R8 Strategic Planning SC Member
Piotr Graca	R8 Student Awards and Contest Coordinator
Efthymia Arvaniti	R8 Student Branch Coordinator
David Dias	R8 Student Electronic Communications Coordinator
Christian Schmid	R8 Student Representative
Peter Staecker	IEEE President and Chief Executive Officer
Roberto de Marca	IEEE President-Elect
Paul Canning	IEEE Area Manager Europe & Africa (Xplore Digital Library)
Tom Siegert	IEEE Chief Financial Officer
Tara Wisniewski	IEEE Director Corporate Activities
Karine Iffour	IEEE Europe Business Development Director
James Prendergast	IEEE Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer
Eileen Lach	IEEE General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
David Meza	IEEE International Paralegal
Cecelia Jankowski	IEEE MGA Managing Director
Elyn Perez	IEEE MGA Senior Manager Member Market Development
Adrian Pais	IEEE Humanitarian Activities Ad Hoc Committee Chair
Habib Kammoun	IEEE GOLD Affinity Group Hall of Fame Award Recipient
Margaretha Eriksson	R8 Director-Elect Candidate
Magdalena Salazar Palma	R8 Director-Elect Candidate / Sections Congress Chair
Igor Kuzle	R8 IEEE Power and Energy Society Representative
Samir Shaheen	R8 Volunteer Award Recipient
Ivana Stupar	Croatia Section Student Activities Chair
Vinko Lesic	Croatia Section Student Representative
Humberto Henao	France Section Assistant Treasurer
Lupco Karadzinov	Republic of Macedonia Section MD Officer
Pero Latkoski	Republic of Macedonia Section Student Activities Chair
Eesa Bastaki	United Arab Emirates Section Honorary Chair

Saturday

101. Call to order

The Region 8 Director, **Martin Bastiaans**, opened the 101st IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting by welcoming everyone and then asked the R8 Secretary, **Ali El-Mousa**, if there was a quorum and the secretary replied in the affirmative.

103. Bosnia and Herzegovina Section welcome

Dusanka Boskovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina Section Chair, welcomed everybody to Sarajevo and the IEEE Region 8 meeting. She then gave some logistical and travel information about Sarajevo and the upcoming social events.

104. Introduction of Section Representatives

The R8 Director, **Martin Bastiaans**, asked the section representatives to introduce themselves and identify their position.

105. Introductory remarks / Rolf Remshardt

The Region 8 Director, **Martin Bastiaans**, reminded everyone about the passing of **Rolf Remshardt**, a past Director of R8, and listed some of his career contributions. Then the R8 committee stood for 1 minute of silence in remembrance of him.

106. Approval of the agenda

The R8 Director presented the agenda with one small change as follows: The IEEE Awards presentation will take place during the meeting on Sunday instead of the usual tradition of doing it during the gala dinner due to the unsuitability of the restaurant environment. The agenda was approved unanimously as shown below.

AGENDA

Saturday, 5 October 2013

Time	#	Type	Item	Presenter
8:00	101	Procedural	Call to order	Bastiaans
8:05	102	Procedural	Roll call	El-Mousa
8:10	103	Procedural	Bosnia and Herzegovina Section welcome	Boskovic
8:15	104	Procedural	Introduction of new officers	El-Mousa
8:25	105	Procedural	Introductory remarks / Rolf Remshardt	Bastiaans/El-Mousa
8:30	106	Action	Approval of the agenda	Bastiaans
8:35	107	Action	Approval of the consent agenda	Bastiaans
8:40	108	Discussion	Director's address	Bastiaans
8:55	109	Discussion	President's address	Staecker
9:10	110	Discussion	Executive Director's address	Prendergast
9:25	111	Discussion	Secretary's report	El-Mousa
9:40	112	Discussion	Treasurer's report	Harrington
9:55	113	Discussion	Strategic direction	Delimar
10:10			Break	
10:40	201	Discussion	Technical Activities report	Debono
11:25	202	Discussion	MGA Director's address	Jankowski
11:55	203	Discussion	Section registration / OFAC issues	Lach
12:25	204	Discussion	Sections Congress 2014	Salazar Palma
12:40	205	Procedural	Recess	Bastiaans
12:45			Group photo	
13:00			Lunch	
14:00			Lunch ends	
14:00	301	Discussion	Member Activities report	Szabo
14:45	302	Procedural	Instructions about the afternoon break-out sessions	Kakarountas
15:00	303	Discussion	Break-out sessions	Kakarountas
16:45			End of break-out sessions	

Sunday, 6 October 2013

Time	#	Type	Item	Presenter
8:00	401	Procedural	Call to order and roll call	Bastiaans/El-Mousa
8:05	402	Discussion	President-Elect's address	de Marca
8:20	403	Discussion	Nominations & Appointments Activities	Delimar
8:35	404	Discussion	Director-Elect candidates presentations	Delimar
9:05	405	Action	Election of VCs / Approval of DE candidates slate	Delimar
9:20	406	Discussion	Student Activities report	Herrero
10:05	407	Discussion	IEEE PES initiatives in Africa and R8	Kuzle
10:20			Break	
10:50	501	Discussion	Recommendations resulting from the SC workshops	Kakarountas
11:02	502	Discussion	VAT compliance in R8	Sinnadurai
11:20	503	Discussion	Activities in Europe Ad Hoc Committee	Delimar
11:40	504	Discussion	Activities in Africa Ad Hoc Committee	Wisniewski

12:00	505	Discussion	Section development and vitality / Section reporting	Stasopoulos/Szabo
12:25	506	Action	Motions	Bastiaans
12:40	507	Discussion	General discussion / New business	Bastiaans
12:50	508	Info	Next meeting	El-Mousa/Kadar
12:55	509	Action	Adjournment	Bastiaans
13:00			Lunch	
14:00			Lunch ends	

107. Approval of the consent agenda

The consent agenda was presented by Martin Bastiaans and it was adopted unanimously as shown below.

CONSENT AGENDA

x	Type	#	Item	Author
x	Action	100	Approval of the Minutes of the 100th Region 8 Committee meeting in Madrid, 20-21 April 2013	Ali El-Mousa
x	Report	101	Awards & Recognition	Charles Turner
x	Report	102	Chapter Coordination	Elya Joffe
x	Report	103	Conference Coordination	Jan Haase
x	Report	104	Educational Activities	Niovi Pavlidou
x	Report	105	Electronic Communications	George Michael
x	Report	106	GOLD	Rafal Sliz
x	Report	107	History Activities	Tony Davies
x	Report	108	Industry Relations	Andreas Neumeier
x	Report	109	Jubilee Book	Kurt Richter
x	Report	110	Life Members	Jacob Baal-Schem
x	Report	111	Membership Development	Antonio Luque Estepa
x	Report	112	Professional Activities	Jan Verveckken
x	Report	113	Region 8 News	Roland Saam / Zhijia Huang
x	Report	114	Sections Congress	Athanassios Skodras / Saurabh Sinha
	Report	115	Standards	David Law
x	Report	116	Voluntary Contribution Fund	Daniel Pasquet
x	Report	117	Women in Engineering	Joyce Mwangama
x	Report	201	Austria	Peter Roessler
x	Report	202	Bahrain	Wafeeq Ajoor
x	Report	203	Belarus	Valentin Baranov
x	Report	204	Benelux	Luc Vandendorpe
x	Report	205	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dusanka Boskovic
x	Report	206	Bulgaria	Rossitza Goleva / Jordan Kolev
x	Report	207	Croatia	Mislav Grgic
x	Report	208	Cyprus	Panayiotis Symeou
x	Report	209	Czechoslovakia	Peter Farkas
	Report	210	Denmark	Ole Lauridsen
x	Report	211	Egypt	Ahmed Darwish
x	Report	212	Estonia	Kalle Tammemae
x	Report	213	Finland	Pasi Kallio / Rafal Sliz
x	Report	214	France	Pierre Borne / Christine Nora
	Report	215	Germany	Axel Richter
x	Report	216	Ghana	Rajan John
x	Report	217	Greece	Athanassios Skodras / Athanasios Kakarountas
x	Report	218	Hungary	Peter Kadar
	Report	219	Iceland	Saemundur Thorsteinsson
x	Report	220	Iran	Mahmud Fotuhi-Firuzabad / Amin Nobakhti
x	Report	221	Iraq	Sattar Bader Sadkhan

x	Report	222	Israel	Simon Litsyn / Jacob Baal-Schem
x	Report	223	Italy	Dario Petri / Lorenzo Vangelista
x	Report	224	Jordan	Isam Zabalawi
x	Report	225	Kenya	Vincent Kaabunga / Anne Ndugire
x	Report	226	Kuwait	Abdul Rahman Al-Ghunaim / Fadhel Abulhasan
x	Report	227	Latvia	Andrejs Romanovs
x	Report	228	Lebanon	Ghassan Sha'Ban
x	Report	229	Lithuania	Dalius Navakauskas
x	Report	230	Malta	Paul Micallef
	Report	231	Morocco	Mohamed Essaaidi
x	Report	232	Nigeria	Gloria Chukwudebe
x	Report	233	Norway	Erik Olsen / Runar Søråsen
	Report	234	Oman	Ahmed Al-Naamany
x	Report	235	Poland	Maciej Ogorzalek / Piotr Cholda
x	Report	236	Portugal	Rui Santos Cruz
	Report	237	Qatar	Yacob Mulla Saleh
x	Report	238	Republic of Macedonia	Goce Arsov
x	Report	239	Romania	Radu Dobrescu / Lucian Toma
x	Report	240	Russia	Yuri Gulyaev / Sergey Bankov
x	Report	241	Russia (Northwest)	Vladimir Kutuzov / Sergey Shaposhnikov
x	Report	242	Russia (Siberia)	Alexandr Markhasin / Vera Drozdova
x	Report	243	Saudi Arabia (East)	Muhammad Al-Dhamen
	Report	244	Saudi Arabia (West)	Hafidh Al-Samarrai
x	Report	245	Serbia and Montenegro	Natasa Neskovic
x	Report	246	Slovenia	Matej Zajc
x	Report	247	South Africa	Riana Geschke
x	Report	248	Spain	Pilar Molina Gaudó / Emilio Corchado
	Report	249	Sweden	Mikael Bergqvist
	Report	250	Switzerland	Andreas Doering
x	Report	251	Tunisia	Abdelfettah Belghith / Jaleddine Ben Hadj Slama
	Report	252	Turkey	/ Gözde Bozdagi Akar
x	Report	253	Ukraine	Valerii Zhuikov / Evgen Pichkalyov
x	Report	254	United Arab Emirates	Maryam Al Thani
x	Report	255	United Kingdom and Rep of Ireland	Nihal Sinnadurai
x	Report	256	Zambia	Kabwe Bellington / Readlay Makaliki

The reports and presentations that follow can be found at:

<http://www.ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2013-october-sarajevo/>

108. Director's address

Martin Bastiaans, Region 8 Director, presented first special guests attending the meeting, then listed the meeting program, then discussed some items from his submitted report available on the web, which included some regional statistics, regional recent milestones and regional awards and recognitions. Then he related some news from the last MGA OpCom meeting (11 May 2013) and MGA Board meeting (29 June 2013) which are relevant to R8. He finally listed the major MGA and R8 awards and asked people to nominate for these awards. He also stressed and asked that each section should have an award officer.

109. IEEE President's address

Peter Staecker, IEEE President, started his presentation with an update on the IEEE Board of Directors Strategy since the Berlin meeting in 2012. He then discussed the issues related to open access and also on MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). Then he talked about social media development and goals. He discussed trends and scenarios and highlighted the top nine of interest and he listed the Strategic Issues for IEEE in 2030. He then reported on an outreach visit to Portugal with R8 Director. The purpose was to contact and establish closer relations with local technical community.

110. IEEE Executive Director's address

James Prendergast, IEEE Executive Director, presented his report which included listings of membership stats, a discussion on publication collaboration, new products which included: a collaboration with IBM related to Strategic IP Insights Platform, a partnership with Stanford University for SIPX initiative, Internet of Things Portal launching, TA/MGA developing new video

series released through IEEE.TV, and InterCloud test bed community launched. He went on to discuss Region 8 collaborative efforts such as the Sections Congress 2014, IEEE Milestones, awards, Standards Association work and activities, and a brief report on high level meetings that took place in African countries. He then presented some business updates which included highlighting the importance of IEEE to top universities and companies, Xplore monthly usage, and IEEE magazines garnering honors.

111. Secretary's report

Ali El-Mousa, Region 8 Secretary, briefly reviewed the 100th Committee meeting that took place in Madrid. He then informed the committee about the results of the OpCom meeting that took place in St. Petersburg in July 2013 and invited comments regarding the issue of section vitality. He then pointed out some points of concern. He then reiterated the importance of adhering to the meeting schedule as it was tight and he ended by thanking everyone for their support.

112. Treasurer's report

Brian Harrington, the Region 8 Treasurer, gave an interim financial report; he started by reminding everyone about the process for reimbursement for the expenses incurred to attend the meeting. He informed the committee of the necessity of providing scanned copies of receipts and noted that reimbursement is only done electronically. However, he assured everyone that all financial details are not kept with him but with the Royal Bank of Scotland and that it is safe. He then gave the present financial position of the Region. He noted that R8 cash, which he considers a very important indicator, is in a very good shape towards the end of 2013 as opposed to the position in 2012. Also the R8 investment fund, which is managed by IEEE, is in a better shape also in comparison to the same time in the previous year. He made several comments about the trends and concluded that R8 investment and cash flow is now in a good position despite earlier setback factors in some previous years. Then he reminded the committee about statutory reporting and stressed that it is the responsibility of the section chair to manage this and make sure it is done properly. He asked section chairs to address these reporting requirements as soon as possible after Year-End. Finally, he put forward the proposed budget for 2014 for R8 which is the same amount as the year 2013. He then went on to discuss the general reasoning for this. He concluded that the performance of the Region 8 finances is steady under uncertain market conditions and stressed that the finances largely depend on membership. The proposed budget for 2014 was unanimously approved.

113. Strategic direction

Marko Delimar, Past R8 Director, started by introducing the R8 Strategic Planning subcommittee which he chairs. He then reviewed the vision and mission of the R8 committee. He then listed the main steps for realizing the mission and reviewed the activities of the R8 committee. He then listed some questions that are relevant to define a proper strategy. He reviewed the primary challenges identified in 2011 and gave some feedback about those. He identified the new sources for the new challenges. He then put forward a new proposal for new main challenges which are: Go to industry, increase IEEE's footprint, and Think education. He then listed the main operational issues which were: communication, volunteer workload and satisfaction and volunteer greenhouse. He then put forward the IEEE priorities.

201. Technical Activities report

Carl Debono, R8 Vice Chair Technical Activities, started by introducing his team. Then he put forward a list of highlight activities that the team is working on. **Elya Joffe**, Chapter Coordination Subcommittee chair, introduced his team then with the help of **Simay Akar**, the student branch chapter coordinator, presented a list of the major activities that took place in the past including new chapter formation, then talked about the student chapter meetings. He then presented the results of a survey following the chapter coordination subcommittee meeting and highlighted its conclusions. Then he talked about chapter of the year award and its recipient. Next they introduced the status of the Facebook page that was newly created in support of chapter coordination. After that, he introduced a new proposal: Best Student Branch Chapter of the Year Award and the reasoning behind it. Then he listed the planned activities for the near future. Then a brief discussion about best practices and points of concern were given. **Jan Haase**, the Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC) chair, presented his team. He then listed the flagship conferences of R8. Next he showed and briefly discussed a chart related to R8 co-sponsored conferences. He then talked about the Technical Co-Sponsoring fee. He then talked about the conferences MOUs with IEEE, issues regarding papers going into Xplore and announced the R8 Conference Organizer's Handbook. Finally, he informed everyone about webinars about conference organization for section chairs and organizers of conferences in R8 using WebEx. **Niovi Pavlidou**, Educational Activities Subcommittee (EASC) chair, first introduced her team then listed and highlighted the different activities that they are involved in such as pre-university activities, university activities and continuing education activities. **Steve Nightingale**, member Industry Relations Subcommittee (IRSC), introduced the team and then listed the challenges, the work plan asked for support for IR officers in sections. **Carl Debono** stood in for David Law, the R8 Standards Coordinator, as he could not attend the meeting. He listed and discussed the different activities related to standards in R8.

202. MGA Director's address

MGA Managing Director, Member and Geographic Activities, **Cecelia Jankowski**, presented the main MGA activities and services provided by MGA. **Elyn Perez** talked about what is new for the 2014 membership year in terms of member benefits such as in career development, member discounts, and professional networking. She discussed new ways for retention. **Cecelia** then gave some member satisfaction statistics and results of surveys and she stressed that MGA is focusing its efforts. She listed the 2013 MGA goals and some of the projects to achieve these. She presented the Volunteer Leadership Training (VOLT) Pilot

Program. She discussed the issue of volunteer communications and the actions being taken to improve it.

203. Section registration / OFAC issues

Eileen M. Lach Esq., IEEE General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, discussed the status of the international registration project. She started by showing the IEEE global structure. Then she reviewed the origin and history of the international registration project since 2009. Then she proceeded to discuss the worldwide legal status project today. She reviewed the benefit of registration to local sections and the institute. She then presented the results through October 2013 which indicated that 70 formations to be filed, 25 not required and 6 desired. She then presented some statistics about the project. She indicated the different modified forms of registrations. She then listed the proposed provisions for Society/Association bylaws and intercompany agreements and IEEE Intellectual Property. Then she presented the holding company structure idea and which countries fit where.

204. Sections Congress 2014

Magdalena Salazar Palma, Chair of the Sections Congress 2014, highlighted the goals and objectives of the congress, then she outlined a specific message to R8 committee, then she presented some info about the location and the timing. She then provided some reference information which included all SC 2014 Committees, Coordinators, and Staff Support. She then provided a program update and touched on the recommendations process.

301. Member Activities report

Aleksandar Szabo, R8 Vice Chair Member Activities, started by giving a short introduction to the scope and subcommittees of MA. He then stressed the importance of the cooperation between section officers and the coordinators of the R8 MA subcommittees. He then listed all the different activities that MA is involved in. He then presented a graph representing the R8 Membership from month to month and year to year with a discussion of the significance of the numbers. **Antonio Luque**, R8 Membership Development Subcommittee Chair, then introduced the members of the R8 MD subcommittee. Next he presented some figures and statistics about the current status of membership in R8 and commented on them. He then presented a list of the activities accomplished thus far during 2013. He then highlighted the MD workshops and stressed its importance. He then listed the better doing sections in terms of MD and those deserving of recognition. **Rafal Sliz**, R8 GOLD Subcommittee Chair, next presented the R8 GOLD team. He then presented and discussed the status and spread of R8 GOLD Affinity Groups within R8. He then listed and discussed the different ongoing projects undertaken by R8 GOLD subcommittee. Finally, he announced the new IEEE labeling for GOLD which is Young Professionals and discussed the meaning of this transition. **Tony Davies**, R8 History Activities Coordinator, initially briefly went through a list of his recent activities since the Madrid meeting. He then requested the help of the committee in two issues; the first is for the history of technology related to the section which can be the subject of a History Milestone Plaque. The second issue he referred to is a request to help in compiling the history of the section by the people there. **Kurt Richter**, the Jubilee book committee coordinator, listed the recent activities of the group and pointed out the open issues. He then put forward a proposed project to compile an information brochure for sections congress 2014. **Jacob Baal-Schem**, R8 Life Members Coordinator, started his presentation by emphasizing the importance of using the expertise of LM in R8. He then listed the sections where there is potential for LM AG formation. Next, he put forward a proposal for history activities to be done by IEEE Life Members. At the end, he listed a plan to have a LM day at the sections congress in 2014. **Roland Saam and Zhijia Huang**, the R8 News editors, started their presentation by a nice dialogue about why people are not sending in articles. They listed in their presentation the issues that have been produced of R8 news for 2013 and announced that they are now looking for a third volunteer for web edition development. **George Michael**, the R8 Electronic Communications coordinator, started his presentation by describing his job in service of R8. He then elaborated on the importance of having and regularly updating a section website as statistics have shown increased traffic from members. He ended by presenting some info about the R8 web site and other useful informational sites.

The following certificates were then presented:

For increase in total membership compared to 2012

- Turkey section (large)
- Croatia section (medium)
- Morocco section (small)

For increase in membership in percentage compared to 2012

- Tunisia section (large)
- Denmark section (medium)
- Lithuania section (small)

For increase in retention in percentage compared to 2012

- South Africa section (large)
- Saudi Arabia section (medium)
- Latvia section (small)

The Tunisia GOLD Affinity Group was announced as the 2013 recipient of the IEEE GOLD Affinity Group Hall of Fame Award; the plaque was presented to Habib Kammoun.

302. Instructions about the afternoon break-out sessions

Thanos Kakarountas on behalf of the R8 sections congress coordinators presented the procedure for coming up with the recommendations for sections congress 2014 from R8 utilizing the workshops to be held in the afternoon. He started

by providing some supporting information which included: identifying the SC14 Committee; the SC14 Region Coordinators, providing a brief introduction to the Sections Congress and its goals and objectives. Then he presented the SC14 Recommendations Process/Timeline and provided an SC11 Recommendations Update then he finished by discussing the workshops guidelines for IEEE R8 committee delegates.

303. Break-out sessions

The workshops took place.

Recess

Day 2

401. Call to order and roll call

The Region 8 Director, **Martin Bastiaans**, restarted the meeting by welcoming everyone again and then asked the R8 Secretary, **Ali El-Mousa**, if there was a quorum and the secretary replied in the affirmative.

402. IEEE President-Elect's address

Roberto de Marco, IEEE President-Elect, started his presentation by listing some fundamental issues that he believes ought to change in IEEE. Then he listed the IEEE adopted priorities by the Board of Directors. Then he went on to list his own personal priorities when he becomes IEEE President. He also presented the result of a visit he did to Finland.

403. Nominations & Appointments Activities

Marko Delimar, chair of the R8 Nominations and Appointments subcommittee, first talked briefly about the IEEE annual elections. Then he presented and discussed the 2014 IEEE R8 election process which relates to the election of the R8 Director-Elect and the R8 Vice chairs. He went on to elaborate on the workload and duties assigned to the positions of region Director-Elect, region Director and region Past Director. He pointed out to the committee where additional information can be obtained about these issues. He presented the two candidates for R8 Director-Elect briefly.

404. Director-Elect candidates presentations and Q&A session

The candidates for the R8 Director-Elect position (Margaretha Eriksson and Magdalena Salazar Palma) were each given up to six minutes to present themselves and their views. This was followed by Q&A session for both candidates from the R8 committee.

405. Election of VCs / Approval of DE candidates slate

The meeting went into an executive session and the R8 committee approved both candidates for the R8 Director-Elect position as nominated by the R8 N&A committee (Margaretha Eriksson and Magdalena Salazar Palma) and voted to extend the term for all current R8 Vice Chairs for one year until the end of 2014.

406. Student Activities report

Pablo Herrero, R8 Vice Chair Student Activities, started by welcoming everyone. Then he invited **Christian Schmid** (Region 8 Student Representative) who talked first about the new R8 SAC logo, then he listed the different Student Branch Congresses that took place thus far in R8. Then he informed the committee about the IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional (SYP) Congress to be held in Kraków, Poland, August 2014. He went on to press the section chairs to send student delegates from the sections to the congress and gave the reasons for that. He then showed some statistics regarding the SBC. He then handed over to **Efthymia "Femia" Arvaniti** (Student Branch Coordination) who discussed the need for sections to help in the revitalization process. She outlined the steps that are to be taken with the help of the sections for this. She then asked for feedback from the committee through forms that were distributed. Then the representatives of Italy, Egypt and Greece sections were individually invited to give a brief presentation about the student activities in their respective countries. **Piotr Graca** (Awards & Contests) then showed and discussed submission statistics regarding the R8 SAC awards. Then he also showed statistics about MGA awards won by R8. Then he listed the winners the Website Contest 2013 and announced that there will be new rules for 2014. He then announced that Rui Costa won the Larry K. Wilson Award 2013 for his project IST Academic (X-Academic) and will be given the award during the Budapest meeting next year. He then went on to list the R8 Student Paper Contest winners for 2013 and the Exemplary Student Branch Award for 2013.

Certificates for the recipients of the IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award were then given to the section representatives of the respective Student Branches, which were:

Austria Section:

Johannes Kepler University of Linz

Croatia Section:

Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek

Egypt Section:

Arab Academy for Science & Technology – Alexandria

Alexandria University

Cairo University

Greece Section:

University of Central Greece (Greece)

University of Patras (Greece)

Lebanon Section:

American University of Beirut

Malta Section:

University of Malta

Portugal Section:

Instituto Superior Técnico

Tunisia Section:

National Engineering School of Sfax

Turkey Section:

Istanbul Technical University (Turkey)

Bilkent University (Turkey)

Dogus University (Turkey)

United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section:

University of Southampton

United Arab Emirates Section:

University of Sharjah

He then went on to remind everyone about the IEEE XTREME 7.0 competition and the registration deadline. He also introduced the new R8 competition IEEE Mobile Application Development Contest (IEEE MadC 2013) and announced the submission deadline. He then presented info about the new Awards and Competitions (A&C) Handbook. He then listed the different awards available and asked for nominations. He also discussed the competitions that students can take part in. He then showed that now there is a tool from the IEEE that makes it easy to submit for the awards. **David Dias** (Electronic Communications), discussed issues related to Electronic Communications for Students and he listed the activities and tools that can be used to enhance communications with students. Finally, **Pablo** thanked all who helped with the SAC work.

R8 Awards and Appreciations (added item)

Martin Bastiaans, R8 Director, announced the presentation of certificates of appreciation for the following:

Spain Section: for exemplary service in hosting the 100th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting, Madrid, 20-21 April 2013.

Croatia Section: for exemplary service and dedication as a host of EUROCON 2013, Zagreb, 1-4 July 2013.

Russia North West Section: for exemplary service in hosting the IEEE Region 8 Operating Committee meeting, St. Petersburg, 12-14 July 2013.

Eesa Bastaki UAE Section: for notable services and contributions towards the advancement of IEEE and the engineering profession.

Finally, **Samir Shaheen**, Egypt Section, received the 2013 Region 8 Volunteer Award in recognition of his outstanding services to the Egypt Section.

407. IEEE PES initiatives in Africa and R8

Igor Kuzle, representative of PES in R8, first introduced the PES Community Solutions Initiative which aims to reduce global poverty in which energy poverty is a major factor. He introduced three major projects in which IEEE PES is involved in Africa to reduce energy poverty. He went on to describe the different aspects of each project, the participants and the NGOs who are involved. He then went on to describe the goals of PES in R8 and listed the resources available for achieving this goal. Then he listed different resources that can be used to help in contacting PES. Also, he showed how to reactivate dormant chapters.

501. Recommendations resulting from the SC workshops

Thanos Kakarountas on behalf of the R8 sections congress coordinators presented the results of the previous day workshops dealing with coming up with the sections congress recommendations from R8. He listed some statistics regarding the process. Then he put forward the four most voted on recommendations which fall under the following headings:

Collaboration Platform

Regional Distinguished Lecturer program

Membership reward (incl. corporate membership)

Bundle program for IEEE Xplore

He then went on to show the details of each of the above recommendations.

502. VAT compliance in R8

Nihal Sinnadurai, UK&RI Section chair, presented the results of work done with the help of staff from IEEE HQ and R8 Director to clarify the status of VAT and its effects on volunteer work in R8. He reported the good news that “Neither of the VAT compliance processes have any impact on IEEE Section and Chapter activity in Europe. Sections and Chapters are NOT required to charge VAT on event fees and file quarterly VAT returns”. He went on to explain the reasoning behind the conclusion. Then he gave a short tutorial on VAT and showed where work done under the IEEE umbrella would fit.

503. Activities in Europe Ad Hoc Committee

Marko Delimar, Chair of the committee, first presented a list of the composition of the committee. He went on to present the purpose behind the formation of the committee which is to “develop and sustain the capacity of IEEE’s 60,000 members in Europe to shape public policy in technical areas of interest”. He then discussed why this work is important and listed some points about that. He then talked about a members in Europe survey result which indicated that they are interested in shaping

the technical policy in Europe. He then listed the key activities being done lately and discussed each in turn. Then he listed the benefits of this work.

504. Activities in Africa Ad Hoc Committee

Tara Wisniewski, representative of the committee, started by emphasizing that the current work is mainly fact finding regarding the realities of the engineering environment in Africa. She then related a brief historical background about the IEEE focus on Africa. She went on to relate some Key Background issues about Africa. She then related general facts about the IEEE presence in Africa. The conclusion was that IEEE presence is modest. She then listed the current members of the committee and also defined its goals. She then explored the nature of the IEEE presidential visit to some African countries and recognized the overlap between its work and the committee's work. She identified the goals as to learn about context, opportunities and challenges. She then listed some key observations regarding the work in Africa. She then listed the major three IEEE immediate response activities to the work of the committee and the presidential visit. She then listed the current methodology and activities offered by the IEEE to improve access to technical information in Africa. She then listed the activities related to convening on education. She went on to list the partnerships that IEEE is engaged in for work in Africa. She ended by listing activities planned for the near future including a second presidential visit in November 2013.

505. Section development and vitality / Section reporting

Costas Stasopoulos, IEEE R8 Director-Elect and IEEE R8 Section Development and Vitality Coordinator, discussed in his presentation the vitality coordinator role and listed the duties assigned. He then listed the view that describes an IEEE member satisfaction. He then reviewed quickly some R8 membership statistics. He then listed the MGA rules for officer terms and the MGA rules for elections. He then reviewed the section rebate situation for 2013 and identified problems as 18 Sections out of 56 did not receive any rebate for 2012 (32%) and 12 Sections out of 38 that received rebate did not get the 10% bonus for 2012 (31%), and he then listed the problems that led to this. He then listed the actions taken on his part to try to remedy this situation. He then listed and explained the MGA rules for rebate and provided a section vitality checklist. **Aleksandar Szabo**, VC for Member Activities, then added some comments about how important it is for volunteers and officers in sections to do their jobs in a timely fashion and to appoint a vitality officer.

506. Motions

Two motions were put forward; for detailed information about the motions, see the appendix.

After discussion, the motion

- Resolve that an IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Chapter-of-the-Year Award is set up.

was adopted.

After discussion, the motion

- Resolved that Region 8 committee urges IEEE operations to freeze staff recruitment and allow staff numbers to decrease by natural wastage or involuntary departure. Steady progress and effective management will enable the operations to be unaffected and to operate more efficiently.
- Further, significant numbers of staff from Piscataway must be redeployed geographically to support large groups of members outside the USA.

failed.

507. General discussion / New business

No new business was brought to the Committee.

508. Next meeting

The next Region 8 Committee meeting will be held in Budapest, Hungary, on 5-6 April 2014. **Peter Kadar** gave a small presentation on Budapest and invited everybody to attend the meeting.

509. Adjournment

The Region 8 Director entertained a motion to end the Region 8 Committee meeting. The motion was adopted.

Adjourn

Appendix

506. Motions

The following motions were put forward:

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee

FROM: Elya B. Joffe, Chair: Chapter Coordination Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Approval for the IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Chapter-of-the-Year Award

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This award is given to the most outstanding IEEE **Student Branch Chapter** in recognition of their activeness based on quality and quantity of their meetings, programs, projects and member services. This award is to be provided for activities in the previous calendar year.

PROPOSED ACTION:

Resolve that an IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Chapter-of-the-Year Award is set up.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Total financial cost not to exceed US\$325, where US\$300 will go towards a cash award and US\$25 are allocated for the certificate.

PROS and CONS:

Pros:

Recognition of excellence and quality of Student Branch Chapter activities.

Support Student Branch Chapter Development activities.

Cons:

None.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Through the Chapter Coordination Subcommittee (Region 8) and Vice-Chair Technical Activities.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Region 8 Student Branch Chapter of the Year Award shall be administered by the Region 8 Chapter Coordination Subcommittee.

The Jury shall consist of the following:

- Region 8 Vice Chair for Technical Activities
- Region 8 Vice Chair for Student Activities
- Region 8 Chapter Coordination Subcommittee Chair
- Region 8 Student Branch Chapters Coordinator
- A representative from the Region 8 Awards and Recognition Sub-Committee

Region 8 Student Branch Chapter of the Year Award shall be based on the previous year's performance.

The Region 8 Student Branch Chapter of the Year Award jury shall evaluate student chapters based on diverse activities and achievements such as:

- 1) Number of meetings in a year
- 2) How many new members (absolute number and percentage gain)
- 3) Cooperation between Society Chapter and other student chapters in their section
- 4) Participating in the Society Conference
- 5) Holding workshops, joint meetings, technical trips regarding their fields etc.
- 6) Technical Projects
- 7) Social Activities, Membership Requirement Strategies and Events to increase motivation
- 8) Frequency and success to use chapter benefits (DLP, funds, awards etc...) and other chapter activities and achievements

Draft schedule for the first award:

- Early November (of previous year): Preliminary solicitation of award nominations including chapter activity information for previous year from all chapters.
- Early January: Official initiation of solicitation of award nominations including chapter activity information for previous year from all chapters.
- March 1: Deadline for Submission of award nominations including chapter activity information
- March 7: Recommendation made by the Chapter Coordination Subcommittee and endorsed by the VP for Technical Activities
- March 15: Decision submitted to the R8 Director and Secretary

Note: Chapter officers shall NOT be notified of their selection

- Production of the Award certificate for presentation date. Certificate letterhead may be obtained from IEEE headquarters that includes the IEEE and Region 8 logos. Signatures on the certificate shall be of: VP for Technical Activities, Chapter Coordination Subcommittee Chair, Student Branch Chapter Coordinator (in the ChCSC)

Note: The Region 8 Awards and Recognition Committee shall assist in production of the certificate, unless the certificate is produced independently

- Presentation of the award shall be as follows:
- In even years, the Student Branch Chapter-of-the-year Award shall be presented at the Region 8 SBC
- In odd years, the Student Branch Chapter-of-the-year Award shall be presented at the April Region 8 Committee meeting, in a manner similar to the R8 Chapter of the Year Award

Selection/Basis for Judging:

The awards program shall be coordinated by The Region 8 Student Branch Chapter of the Year Award Administrator under the oversight and responsibility of the Region 8 VP of Technical Activities.

The motion was adopted.

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee – 05-06 October 2013

FROM: Nihal Sinnadurai, IEEE UK&RI Section

SUBJECT: Austerity steps - Staffing

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We have been informed that the IEEE is a 'Business'. We operate in a time of severe austerity which impacts on all businesses and on the employment of our engineering colleagues. Consequently it is appropriate that IEEE shoulders responsibility by demonstrating its intention also to operate with austerity. There are clear examples from UK and other governments that civil service numbers have been decreased by more than 30% and the departments are operating more efficiently.

PROPOSED ACTION (required for Action items only)

- Resolved that Region 8 committee urges IEEE operations to freeze staff recruitment and allow staff numbers to decrease by natural wastage or involuntary departure. Steady progress and effective management will enable the operations to be unaffected and to operate more efficiently.
- Further, significant numbers of staff from Piscataway must be redeployed geographically to support large groups of members outside the USA.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION**Financial Implications**

- Decreased staff numbers will decrease the annual cost burden on IEEE operations.

Pros and/or Cons

- **Pro:** Action will show that IEEE is a partner with the rest of the world (not just the USA) in the austerity that we all practice.
 - Redeployment of staff geographically will establish the essential connection with members and cultures of the nationals around the world.
- **Con:** The proposition will be very unwelcome by IEEE HQ staff, with whom volunteers have to work. It will place an increased role on the staff leadership to take on work themselves and manage others effectively.

Implementation

- During 2013-2014, IEEE executive to scrutinise specific functions and personnel and places an obligation on each department head to commit to staff freezes in 2013 and reduction in 2014.

The motion failed.