Report from the Region 8 Awards and Recognition Sub-Committee

The main focus of the Committee since the Region 8 meeting at Heathrow in March has been to finalise the proposal for the creation of an Outstanding Section Award. The regulations for the Award have now been completed and will be presented to the Region 8 Committee for approval at this meeting. A full version will be made available on the Committee website. Under the proposal there will be two awards each year, to recognise excellent performance by a large Section (>500 members) and a small Section (<500 members). The expectation is that the winners would go forward to the annual MGA global competition.

All Section Chairs have been asked to appoint an Awards and Recognition Officer/Coordinator to increase awareness of all levels of IEEE awards. At present only 19 Sections have an A&R Officer/Coordinator, and the Committee believes that this is a primary reason for the relatively small number of nominations submitted from Region 8 Sections for all levels of IEEE awards.

The Committee plans to conduct a review of the effectiveness of its Technical Awards Panel (TAP). Although the panel has been able to get some nominations submitted for the major IEEE awards, it wants more information about these awards to be provided to a wider range of volunteers, ideally through Section Awards Officers. The objective is to encourage every Section to identify the leading candidates in their Section, in industry, government service, and academia, eligible for the major IEEE awards.

The Committee continues to liaise on awards issues with other Region 8 committees, including Chapter Coordination, GOLD, Student Activities, Women in Engineering, and Industry Relations.

Finally, a question for all Section Chairs: how many Sections have their own awards program, to recognise outstanding work by volunteers, students, etc.?

Charles Turner (Chair ARC-8) July 2011