IEEE R8 Standards Coordinator report

Coordinator: David Law

Goals and status

The major tasks assigned to the IEEE R8 Standards Coordinator for 2011, with the current status, are summarized below.

Conferences and Workshops

Standards speakers and tracks at conferences

Overview

Arrange both individual speakers on standards and/or whole standards tracks at major IEEE R8 conferences as well as speakers on standards for other events within IEEE R8.

Status

Arranged a speaker for the IEEE UKRI Section Student Branch Congress taking place at Queen Mary University in London in early September.

Arranged a 'Demystifying IEEE 802 Standards' track at AFRICON 2011 co-sponsored by IEEE R8, IEEE-SA and the IEEE Standards Education Committee. The speaker will be Jon Rosdhal who is the IEEE 802.11 Vice-chair, and has previously served on the WiMedia Alliance and ZigBee Alliance Board of Directors as Vice President and Treasurer, respectively.

The IEEE Standards Education Committee (SEC) is working with the student branch and professors at Queen Mary University in London to sponsor a Standards Education Workshop in late September 2011. The IEEE SEC is proposing a program that would include a Consensus-Building Exercise in which all workshop participants are presented with a scenario that requires their group to reach consensus. Desire is to have the workshop involve students, professors and practicing professionals from the London area.

Standards workshops for sections

Overview

The local section will provide the logistical support and promote the event to local industry and IEEE members. The IEEE R8 standards coordinator will apply for funding from the IEEE Standards Education Speakers Bureau for the speakers. There may also be some additional limited support available for items such as promotion for the event. It is hoped that the IEEE-SA will support these workshops through inviting participation from local standards bodies however the IEEE-SA is still considering this request.

The format of the workshop would be:

1. IEEE Standards (overview, process, participation)
2. Segment on chosen technology area (e.g., IEEE 802 wireless, Smart Grid)
3. Segment from local standards organizations (contact supplied by IEEE-SA)

The programme, to an extent, is analogous to the distinguished lecturer programme (DLP) from IEEE societies.

Status

Both the Denmark and Benelux section chairs have been contacted by IEEE-SA asking that a Standards Education Speakers Bureau request as they have expressed interest in holding one of these events.

Standards education

Standards education – Student mini-grants program

Overview

Encourage IEEE R8 students and faculty mentors to apply for IEEE Standards Education Committee mini-grants program to help with graduate and capstone design projects with an industry standards component. The IEEE then publishes the results as a Student Application Paper.

Status

Continuing to promote grants through web site, university outreach.

The IEEE is partnering with Microsoft Corporation to pilot joint IEEE-Microsoft Student Application Paper grants for Sub-Saharan Africa. The two orginisations will jointly fund and promote Student Application Paper grants in this geography. This is a pilot extension of the Student Application Papers grant program and looking to expand this pilot approach in other areas of IEEE R8 with other partners.

Standards education – University outreach

Overview

The IEEE SEC has been visiting universities worldwide to meet with faculty and administrators for an exchange of views and data gathering in respect to the inclusion of standard in the engineering curriculum.

Status

University outreach visits occurred in March 2011, with the help of a number of the UKRI members, to Strathclyde University, Durham University, Kingston University London, Imperial College London and Queen Mary, University of London. The visits are

now complete and the information gathered from University Outreach will be used to develop a business plan for standards-related university products and services.

Student paper competitions

Overview

Arrange student paper competitions in IEEE R8 with the cooperation of the IEEE SEC.

Status

Made in Egypt Women in Engineering Student Paper Contest

In support of the IEEE Made in Egypt, the IEEE SEC is sponsoring a Made in Egypt WIE Student Paper Contest in conjunction with IEEE Made in Egypt competition for undergraduate students on the subject of 'The use of industry standards in the development of projects for the Made in Egypt competition'. Submission deadline is 5 August 2011, $500 first prize, $300 second prize. A minimum of one author must be a member of IEEE Egypt WIE affinity group.

UK and Republic of Ireland (UKRI) Student Paper Contest

In support of the UK and Republic of Ireland (UKRI) Section Student Branch Congress the IEEE SEC is sponsoring a Student Paper Contest for the UK and Republic of Ireland (UKRI) Section. The subject is of 'The interrelationship of the IEEE 802 suite of networking standards'. Submission deadline is 29 July 2011. $500 first prize, $300 second prize.