IEEE R8 ad-hoc Publications coordinator

Coordinator: Stefano Zanero

Goals and status

The major tasks assigned to the IEEE R8 ad-hoc Publications coordinator for 2011, with the current status, are summarized below.

Goal 1) IEEE Xplore access increase

Coordination with the staff to create roster of contacts

Overview

As the position has been created this year, there was no background material for it, so a roster of appropriate contacts with the PSBS staff had to be created

Status

Completed with first in-person introductions during the London meeting of the Region. Reference map:
http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/subscriptions/info/contactus.html#sect5

Reach-out to Section chairs

Overview

The position should be known to section chairs, and we should start fruitful interactions with them (who are the ones who know their local reality best)

Status

Contact emails sent with description of position and request for simple information (as a mean to check that email was received and read). Very limited feedback from the chairs has been received. Follow-up has generated several subtasks, see below.

Reach-out to members

Overview

Given the substantial failure of plan A (reaching out through Section chairs), we are now envisioning a short questionnaire to R8 members to analyse their interest and get important feedback on how to help penetration of Xplore in the region.

Status

Initial planning stage.

Getting in touch with national and sister societies to help penetration of Xplore access

Overview

The idea is to help PSBS broker deals with national/sister societies and orders to get their members access to Xplore at conditions tailored to the specific Sections.

Status

Chairs have sent limited feedback/contacts on this. Contacts are currently being developed (but still in a very early stage unluckily, working our way through layers of very slow organizations):

- Italy: good contacts with CNI (the national body of engineering), which is unluckily paralized due to an electoral issue
- Algeria: trying hard to reach out to the National Administration of Scientific Research (http://www.nasr-dz.org/contact.php) which is the entity that can broker us a deal for the universities there
- Malta: with the help of chair Mr. Micallef trying to reach out to Chamber of Engineering (President of the Chamber, Mr. Saviour Baldacchino, coe@maltanet.net). Involved Paul Canning on the staff.
- Russia NW: Russian Association for Engineering Education (www.raee.ru) should be the right way to get in, the Section chair is trying to help by figuring out the right contact inside.

Algeria access to Xplore

Overview

An early task was to help PSBS staff identify appropriate contacts for Algerian institutions and universities.

Status

Sent out a mailing to selected members in Algeria. Through one of them, we had a suggestion to go through the National Administration of Scientific Research (http://www.nasr-dz.org/contact.php) which is the entity that can broker us a deal for the universities there. However, attempts to get in touch with this entity failed until now.

As a side effect of this contact, renewed interest for forming a subsection in Algeria was showed, and initial contacts were directed to Aleksandar Szabo for follow-up.

Goal 2) Acquisition of publications from sister and national societies

Collecting names and contacts for relevant national publications to include in Xplore

Overview

The idea is to help PSPB acquire interesting journals or proceedings from national societies to enrich Xplore and make it even more relevant at R8 level.

Status

Chairs have sent VERY limited feedback/contacts on this. Contacts are currently being developed only with Russia NW section, which started publishing its own Proceedings as a collection of papers presented by Section members at all kinds of local IEEE events (including the student members conference) and would like to include it in Xplore. So far no mention of relevant national publications has been received.