

EASC Report for the London Meeting

March 26-27, 2011

London, UK

Pre-University Activities: (Eva Lang, Bakr Hassan)

- Liaison with Student Activities Committee (SAC)
 - Advertise programs to Student leaders (Email, web, SBC, etc.)
 - Identify program partners
- Make Section leaders aware of programs and support for Pre-University Activities .
- Provide inputs towards IEEE's newest grade (work in progress): Junior Membership. Background: At the last IEEE Board Series (Nov. 2010): "IEEE President-Elect Kam provided a report on the involvement of pre-university students in IEEE activities, including the possible offering of formal IEEE membership to high school students, as well as an outline for a plan for pre-university IEEE Junior Membership. MGA and EAB were instructed to present at the February 2011 Board meeting specific plans for implementation and priorities for the junior membership project." (Minutes, IEEE BoD meeting, Nov. 2010)
- Support and empower Pre-University Activities all over the Region
 - TISP Saudi Arabia (20-22 April 2011)
 - TISP Scotland (April 2011)
 - Ongoing discussion with EPICS High Nigeria
 - Supported an IEEE EPICS project in Belgium
 - EPICS High activities in Southern Africa

Country	Project title	Project leader or co-leader	Approved Grant	University/Academic Institute
Namibia	Mobile Science lab for High School in Rural Area	Prof. Zacchaeus Oyedokun	US \$ 5,625	Polytechnic of Namibia
South Africa	Photovoltaic Powered study lamp incorporating an AM/FM radio and mobile phone charger	Dr Edward Chikuni	US \$ 5,000	University of KwaZulu Natal (UKZN)
Uganda	Kyambogo University And Agha Khan Poverty Reduction And Enviromental Conservation Through Solar Powered Solutions	Lwanga Herbert	US \$ 5,000	Kyambogo University (KYU)
Zambia	Digital Teaching Units	Dr Hastings Ma Libati	US \$4,935	Copperbelt University (CBU)
Zambia	OpenBTS (Open Base Transceiver Station) implementation in Chikankata	Mpaisha Phiri	US \$ 5,000	University of Zambia (UNZA)

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To apply for EPICS grants, please follow:

http://www.ieee.org/education_careers/education/preuniversity/epics_high.html

Source of EPICS grants: IEEE New Initiatives Committee (NIC) – facilitated via the Preuniversity Education Coordinating Committee (PECC), a standing committee of the Educational Activities Board (EAB).

EPICS support includes interaction with Nana-Ampofo Ampofo-Anti and Saurabh Sinha, who are members of the IEEE EPICS (international) committee.

- Partner with other IEEE pre-university programmes, including mentoring programmes such as IEEE Student-Teacher and Research Engineer/Scientist (STAR). STAR is an IEEE WIE initiative.
- Identifying potential partners (SBs, Sections, areas)
 - Survey to student and educational leaders
 - Overview on successful outreach activities
- Tying IEEE Pre-University Activities with existing programs
 - European Social Fund programs
 - MINT Reach-out programs (Germany)
- Translating TryEngineering to other languages: TryEngineering is a resource for students, their parents, their teachers and their school counselors. This is a portal about engineering and engineering careers, and it is hoped that it will help young people understand better what engineering means, and how an engineering career can be made part of their future.
- TryEngineering was translated to seven languages. This year, it is being translated into Arabic. Saudi Aramco is providing the funding and IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB) is providing the logistic support.

Interaction with global level PECC:

Liz Burd, IEEE's Chair (Pre-university Education Coordinating Committee (PECC)), has also been invited.

Continuing Education (CE) (Fotini-Niovi Pavlidou)

- Checked for the availability of volunteers in every section for CE (post-university education) and created the following site: <http://newton.ee.auth.gr/cef.ieee/>
- Contact to section chairs plus volunteers to inform on the CE initiative and requests a single point of contact for CE.
- Created a mailing list of the group for easy and frequent communication.

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- Establish a permanent forum on continuing education activities in Region 8 through a web site with blog or discussion forum (<http://newton.ee.auth.gr/cef.ieee/>)
- Open a dialogue on CE activities and highlight good practices
- Email list of volunteers for direct contact
- Regular communication with Steve Welch and Jill Bagley, IEEE Staff for Continuing Education.

Accreditation Activities: (Bakr Hassan)

With regards to accreditation activities, the Region 8 EASC works with IEEE Committee on Global Accreditation Activities (CGAA), a standing committee of the Accreditation Policy Council (APC), IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB):

Project#1: Accreditation of Computing Programs in South Africa

Meeting summary (adopted from CGAA Meeting of 1 March 2011):

Sinha presented the context of the South African accreditation agency, Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA), where he mentioned that ECSA currently addresses accreditation requirements in the fields of Engineering and Technology, but is in-view of expanding the approach to include accreditation of certain computing programmes. Sinha also noted a recent ABET accreditation for an informatics programme at the University of Pretoria. The Computer Society Chapter of the IEEE South Africa Section, started dialogue during and after a 2010 visit by Kam (in his role as IEEE president-elect), towards considering bringing the accreditation notion relating to Computing towards ECSA and/or alternative bodies in the South Africa. The mentioned chapter is co-working with other organizations, including SAICIST, BITF, etc.

Project#2: Southern & Eastern Africa:

Meeting summary (adopted from CGAA Meeting of 1 March 2011):

Eastern/Southern Africa. Saurabh Sinha reported that a workshop about collaboration among relevant academic and professional organizations in eastern and southern Africa has been scheduled for May 21 in Manzini, Swaziland. At least ten different organizations have indicated that they will be represented at the event. Sinha is working with Moshe Kam and invited participants to create an agenda responsive to current regional needs.

Project#3: Gulf & Jordan

- First face-to-face meeting – 8 Oct. 2010, Region 8 meeting in Prague
 - Review of the current quality assurance mechanisms

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- Discussion of accrediting body feasibility

- GCC ABET (2003)

- Teleconference – 5 Feb. 2011

- Position statement and a letter that shows the benefits of establishing this accreditation body.
- complementary role with different objectives to existing local bodies

Meeting summary (adopted from CGAA Meeting of 1 March 2011):

Bakr Hassan said a position paper outlining the potential goals, operating structure, and activities of a Gulf Region accrediting organization is now being circulated among work group members for comment and editing. The paper, and a draft cover letter, are intended for use by work group members in discussions with officials from existing government-affiliated accrediting organizations in the region. The work group will meet again on April 2.

Cooperation with other IEEE organization:

EASC is cooperating closely with the IEEE Educational Activities Board (EAB), the IEEE Education Society and others.

EAB Awards:

The EASC is closely promoting IEEE EAB Awards (<http://www.ieee.org/eab-awards>)

General communication:

Refer to the latest edition of the Region 8 newsletter and Region 8 Website (Technical activities -> Educational activities)

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