

IEEE R8 ad-hoc Publications coordinator Report

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Goals and status

The major tasks assigned to the IEEE R8 ad-hoc Publications coordinator for 2011, with the current status as of the first quarter of 2012, are summarized below.

Goal 1) IEEE Xplore access increaseCoordination with the staff to create roster of contactsOverview

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

Status

Completed as a result of in-person introductions during the London meeting (March 2011) of the Region.

Reach-out to Section chairsOverview

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). In some cases, the Section Chairs are not necessarily the "most interested" person, and therefore a wider outreach has also been done, but the Section Chair has been kept in the loop (where possible).

Status

Contact emails sent with description of position and request for simple information (as a means to check that email was received and read) in Q1 2011. Limited feedback from the chairs has been received. Follow-up has generated several subtasks, see below.

Reach-out to membersOverview

Given the very limited feedback received by reaching out through Section chairs, we drafted a short email to R8 members to get their interest into creating consortia. We may follow with a questionnaire to get important feedback on how to help penetration of IEEE Xplore (more formally known as: IEEE/IET Electronic Library (IEL)) in the region. The short message has also been publicized through the Region 8 News. A further article on development of the programme is planned for a next issue of R8 News.

Status

The email went out in Q3 2011, and a database of volunteers was collected and analyzed with (limited) feedback from IEEE Professional staff.

Next steps for Q1/Q2 2012 are:

- Work with select groups in particularly responsive Sections (in particular Egypt and France) for fostering national consortia; we will start with a WebEx meeting with each, and maybe a follow-up local meeting
- Work with all other volunteers by delivering a follow up WebEx meeting and getting their help with widening the volunteer response in their Section

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

The idea is to help IEEE Sales and Marketing broker deals with national/sister societies and orders to get their members access to IEEE 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 organizational hierarchies):

- Italy: good contacts with the "Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri" or CNI (the national body of engineering, which is a chartered profession in Italy). CNI was unluckily paralyzed for most of 2011 due to an electoral issue which has been solved at the end of the year.
- 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. Further dialogue will be contacted through the Chair of the Algeria Subsection.
- 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 IEEE XploreOverview

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

Status

Sent out a mailing to selected members in Algeria in Q2. 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. Subsequently a subsection has also been formalized in Algeria. Further dialogue through this new IEEE entity is expected.

Goal 2) Acquisition of publications from sister and national societiesCollecting names and contacts for relevant national publications to include in IEEE XploreOverview

The idea is to help IEEE Publication Services and Products Board (PSPB) acquire interesting peer-reviewed journals or proceedings from national societies to further enrich IEEE Xplore and make it even more relevant at R8 level.

Status

Chairs have sent VERY limited feedback/contacts on this. Unluckily, even when publications were identified (e.g. Proceedings of the IEEE Russia North West Section; South African Institute of Electrical



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Engineers Africa Research Journal, <http://www.saiee.org.za/arj>) there has been very limited support by the staff. The approach of including journals from “outside” entities is at times foreign, and while this trend (for instance, IBM journals) has now existed, there may still be a lack of formal procedures towards requests such as this one. Further dialogue is being established to improve this situation within the wider system(s) of the IEEE.