IEEE GOLD Committee Report March 2012

**Officers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Election Date</th>
<th>Term End Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Salima Kaissi (Chair)</td>
<td>01/01/2011</td>
<td>31/12/2012</td>
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<td>Joao Carlos Prazeres Figueiras (Past Chair)</td>
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<td>Nele Reynders</td>
<td>01/01/2011</td>
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<td>Rafal Sliz 01/01/2011</td>
<td>31/12/2012</td>
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<td>Khaled Mokhtar</td>
<td>01/01/2012</td>
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GOLD Committee is focusing on its continuous involvement in increasing the GOLD visibility and is continuing to have a tremendous momentum on Region 8 activities. We:

- Launched the first official edition of the Region 8 GOLD Book;
- Launched a new R8 GOLD website;
- Support and energize the GOLD Affinity Groups in Region 8;
- Connect Affinity Groups to share experiences about some common events topics;
- Create new Affinity Groups and Revive dormant ones;
- Onboard and support new GOLD Affinity Groups Chairs;
- Organize regular online meetings with GOLD Chairs in Region 8;
- Continue with the promotion of the Student Transition & Elevation Partnership (STEP) program;
- Focus on GOLD membership development;
- Motivate more GOLDies to stay, join and be active volunteers in IEEE;
- Prepare the Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award for 2012;
- Prepare GOLD Book Video;
- We organize GOLD Track for the SBC 2012, in coordination with GOLD Spain;
- Develop cross-activities with other committees in Region 8;
- Contribute to all GOLDRush and R8News issues;
- Are Social Networks present.

**Membership**

GOLD members are identified by their first university degree. Thus GOLD includes Graduate Student Members, Members, and Senior Members.

As of March 2\textsuperscript{nd} 2012, Region 8 has 9,692 active GOLD-flagged members compared to 9,202 by February 28\textsuperscript{th} 2011, which represents an increase of 5.3%.

Nevertheless and as for Arrears, their number is growing as well. It went from 5,270 in February 28\textsuperscript{th} 2011 to 5,733 in March 2\textsuperscript{nd} 2012, which represents an increase of 8.8%.
Meetings

- Regular online meetings with the GOLD committee members and the Region 8 VC - MA
  - General GOLD Topics
  - SBC
- First online meeting with Region 8 GOLD Chairs – February 21, 2012

Region 8 GOLD Committee Activities

- Regular online meetings with the committee members and the Region 8 VC – MA
- Bi-monthly online meeting with the Region 8 GOLD Affinity Groups Chairs
- Close coordination and support to the Affinity Groups
- GOLD Book Video is being edited
- A Motion Amendment of the Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award was submitted
- The new Region 8 GOLD website is launched
- Continued contributions to R8News and GOLDRush
- The Committee members will attend the Region 8 Meeting in Berlin, March 2012
- The Committee will be represented at the MGA GOLD Meeting in Houston, March 23
- The Committee nominated three GOLD Affinity Groups from Region 8 to the MGA GOLD Award: Hall of Fame
- Support the establishment of new GOLD Affinity Group:
  - Qatar

Some GOLD activities in Region 8 - 2012

- STEP Event, Portugal, March 7
- STEP Event, Jordan, March
- Robotic Competition, Jordan, September
- Egyptian Engineering Day, Egypt, September

Best practices

- GOLD Affinity Group chairs support formation of GOLD Affinity Groups in neighbouring sections
- GOLD members lectures at student branches
- GOLD Affinity Groups Chairs knowledge and experience exchange thanks to regular Skype meetings

Recommendations to Section Chairs:
• Identify good young volunteers, get them involved and train them to take on positions within the IEEE.
• Involve GOLD members in Section work, such as recruiting new members, reaching out to younger members, etc.
• Nominate local GOLD Affinity Group for regional and global Awards
• Organize the STEP program as a means to retain members and foster membership development
• Organize joint activities with GOLD and Students
• Be web present and raise the GOLD Affinity Group visibility locally and globally
• Encourage local GOLD Affinity Group to take part of regular Region 8 online meetings for GOLD Chairs, and to share experience and events via Region 8 GOLD Social Networks pages

Topics to be discussed in Berlin:
• Student Branch and GOLD Congress, Madrid 2012
• Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Award Motion
• GOLD Membership Development
• Define the exact role/responsibility of R8 GOLD Committee and/or Region 8 OpCom with Sections with no GOLD Affinity Group
• Contact Chairs of Sections with no Affinity Groups to establish new ones
• Contact Chairs of Sections with Dormant GOLD Affinity Groups
• Discuss potential cross-activities with Region 8 committees and subcommittees

IEEE Region 8 GOLD Web Links
• r8gold@ieee.org
• www.ieeer8.org
• http://www.facebook.com/r8gold
• http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3762315
• http://twitter.com/r8gold