

# Unapproved Minutes of the 98th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting held 31 March - 1 April 2012 Berlin, Germany

## List of Participants

Position	Name
IEEE Region 8 Director	Marko Delimar
IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect	Martin Bastiaans
R8 Past-Director	Jozef Modelski
IEEE Region 8 Secretary	Costas Stasopoulos
IEEE Region 8 Treasurer	Brian Harrington
R8 V/C Member Activities	Ali El-Mousa
R8 V/C Student Activities	Elias Nassar
R8 V/C Technical Activities	Saurabh Sinha
Austria	Jan Haase
Bahrain	Adel Abdulla
Belarus	Valentin Baranov
Benelux	Wim van Etten
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dusanka Boskovic
Bulgaria	Rossitza Goleva
Croatia	Igor Kuzle
Cyprus	Panikos Symeou
Czechoslovakia	Peter Farkas
Denmark	Erik Stilling
Egypt	Ahmed M. Darwish
Estonia	Urmet Janes
Finland	Pasi Kallio
France	Pierre Borne
Germany	Axel Richter
Ghana	Amoakoh Gyasi-Agyei
Greece	Athanasios Skodras
Hungary	Imre Rudas
Iceland	S. Thorsteinsson
Iran	Amin Nobakhti
Iraq	Sattar Bader Sadkhan
Israel	Jacob Baal-Schem
Italy	Stefano Zanero
Jordan	Isam Zabalawi
Kuwait	Fadhel Abulhasan
Latvia	Andrejs Romanovs
Lebanon	Ghassan Shaban
Lithuania	Dalius Navakauskas
Malta	Carl Debono
Nigeria	Gloria Chukwudebe
Norway	Erik Olsen
Oman	Amer Al Hinai
Poland	Maciej Ogorzałek
Portugal	Ana M. Madureira
Republic of Macedonia	Goce Arsov
Romania	Lucian Toma
Russia	Sergey Bankov
Russia (Northwest)	Sergey Shaposhnikov
Russia (Siberia)	Alexander Markhasin
Saudi Arabia (East)	Muhammad Al-Dhamen
Saudi Arabia (West)	Dheya Shuja'a Al-Othmany
Serbia and Montenegro	Natasa Neskovic

Slovenia	Matej Zajc
South Africa	Jacques van Wyk
Spain	Pilar Molina
Sweden	Rune Persson
Switzerland	Andreas Koschak
Tunisia	Loulou Mourad
Turkey	Okay Kaynak
Ukraine	Evgen Pichkalyov
United Arab Emirates	Maryam Althani
United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland	Nihal Sinnadurai
Zambia	Reuben Munungwe
Botswana Sub-Section	George Anderson
Mauritius Sub-Section	Krishna Seeburn
Sudan Sub-Section	Mussab M Hassan
Algeria Sub-Section	Abdelmalek Khezzar
Palestine Sub-Section	Allam Mousa
AHCAA	Zac Oyedokun
AHCAA	Herbert Lwanga
AHCAA	Robert Goodman
AHCAA	Victor Lawrence
IEEE's Public affairs advisor in Region 8	Bob Lewis
Awards & Recognition	Charles Turner
Chapter Coordinator	Daniel Pasquet
Educational Activities	Bakr Hassan
GOLD Activities	Salima Kaissi
Industry Relations	Ghaleb Dandan
Membership Development	Dirk Van Hertem
Region 8 News	Roland Saam
Electronic Communications	George Michael
Standards Coordinator	David Law
Student Representative	Jorge Soares
Jubilee Book Coordinator	Kurt Richter
Life Members	Aleksandar Szabo
Technical Committees Liaison	Vladimir Katić
Voluntary Contribution Fund	Vlatko Stoilkov
Awards & Recognition Subcommittee	Victor Fouad Hanna
Awards & Recognition / Student Activities	Jef Beerten
Conference Coordination	Karl Gudmundsson
Educational Activities/ Continuing	Fotini-Niovi Pavlidou
GOLD Activities	Nele Reynders
GOLD Activities	Rafal Sliz
PA subcommittee	Emilio Corchado
Strategic Planning	Tony Davies
Student Activities	Eva Lang
Student Activities	George Paunovic
Student Activities	Hossam Fahmy
Student Activities	Sohaib Qamar Sheikh
Student Activities	Simay Akar
Industry Relations	Fulcieri Maltini
Awards & Recognition Subcommittee	Samir I. Shaheen
GOLD Activities	Khaled Mokhtar
Chair of the Student Branch and GOLD	Jorge Pacheco
Branch Chapter Student Representative	Jan Verveckken
	Vladimir Dimcev
Clementina Saduwa Award 2011	Weidan Abu-Elhaija
IEEE President	Gordon Day
President-Elect	Peter Staecker
IEEE Past President	Moshe Kam
Executive Director & COO of IEEE	James Prendergast
IEEE Region 10 Director	Lawrence Wong
MGA Managing Director	Cecelia Jankowski

IEEE Standards Association President	Steve Mills
Program Manager, International	Moira Patterson
Chief Marketing Officer	Patrick Mahoney
Former IEEE President	Lewis Terman
Managing Director IEEE Educational	Doug Gorham
Staff Executive Corporate & Executive	Matt Loeb
Director, Strategy and Knowledge	John C. Keaton
IEEE President Candidate	Roberto de Marca
IEEE President Candidate	Tariq Durani
Director, Business Development Europe	Karine Iffour
Staff Executive Publications	Anthony Durniak
Area Manager Europe, Israel, North	Paul Canning
Standards	Terry deCourcelle
Senior Director, Global Business	Peter Sobel
C016	Violet Doan
EMB018	Christopher James
EMC027	Frank Sabath
ED015	Frank Schwierz
IA034	Péter Magyar
IM009	Mihaela Albu
MTT017	Jan Machac
PE031	Meliha Selak
PEL035	Andreas Lindemann
PHO036	Ian White
PE031	Costas Vournas
Member, Gulf Region Accreditation	Ali Al-Bahi
Member, Gulf Region Accreditation	Wafa Al-Mansouri
Director, University Programs	Burt Dicht
Vice President, Educational Activities	Mike Lightner
Pre-University Education Coordination	Liz Burd
Senior Director, Higher Education Review	Fawzi Al-Balooshi
Past Director	Rolf A. Remshardt
Past Director	Baldomir Zajc
Past Director	Jean-Gabriel Rémy
UAE Secretary	Essa Basaeed
UAE IRO	Hassan Omar
Oman Chair	Ahmed Al-Naamany
Slovenia Secretary	Radovan Sernec
UKRI Student Activities Chair	Andreas Koltas
Croatia Chapter Chair Coordinator	Hrvoje Pandzic
UAE past chair	Eesa Bastaki
Portugal Chair	Rui Cruz

## Saturday 31 March

### 1. Call to order

The Region 8 Director, **Marko Delimar**, opened the 98th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting and asked the Secretary, **Costas Stasopoulos**, to make the roll call.

### 2. Roll Call

The Secretary, **Costas Stasopoulos**, made the roll call and there was a quorum.

### 3. Welcome

**Axel Richter**, Germany Section Chair, welcomed everybody to Berlin, Germany and the IEEE Region 8 meeting. He then gave some general and some travel information about Berlin and the upcoming social events.

### 5. Introduction of Officers

An introduction of all the Section Chairs and representatives was made by the Secretary and themselves. All the appointed members of Region 8 introduced themselves too.

### 6. Introductory remarks

The Region 8 Director, **Marko Delimar**, welcomed everybody in Berlin. He introduced and welcomed all the guests from IEEE HQs in the Region 8 meeting. He stressed that there should be bidirectional communication and involvement of the Section Chairs. He asked everybody to speak up and participate in the discussions.

### 4. Adoption of the Agenda

Marko Delimar presented the agenda; it was approved unanimously as shown below.

#### AGENDA

#	Type	Agenda Item	Presenter	Additional info
1		Call to Order	Delimar	
2		Roll Call	Stasopoulos	
3		Welcome	Delimar	
4		Approval of the agenda	Delimar	
5		Introduction of new officers	Stasopoulos	
6		Introductory remarks	Delimar/Stasopoulos	

#### CONSENT AGENDA

#	Type	Agenda Item	Presenter	Additional info
11	Act	Approval of the Minutes of the San Francisco Meeting	Stasopoulos	
101	Rep	Awards and Recognition	Turner	
102	Rep	Chapter Coordination	Pasquet	
103	Rep	Conference Coordination	Debono	
104	Rep	Educational Activities	Bakr	
105	Rep	Electronic Communications	Michael	
106	Rep	GOLD Activities	Kaissi	
107	Rep	Industry Relations	Dandan	
109	Rep	Life Members	Szabo	
110	Rep	Membership Development	Van Hertem	
111	Rep	Professional Activities	Zajc	

112	Rep	Publications	Zanero
113	Rep	Region 8 News	Saam/Huang
114	Rep	Standards Activities	Law
115	Rep	Technical Committees	Katić
116	Rep	Voluntary Contribution Fund	Stoilkov
117	Rep	Women in Engineering	
201	Rep	Austria	Roessler/Haase
202	Rep	Bahrain	Ajoor /Qamber
203	Rep	Belarus	Baranov
204	Rep	Benelux	Van Etten
205	Rep	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Boskovic
206	Rep	Bulgaria	Goleva
207	Rep	Croatia	Kuzle
208	Rep	Cyprus	Symeou
209	Rep	Czechoslovakia	Farkas
210	Rep	Denmark	Stilling
211	Rep	Egypt	Darwish
212	Rep	Estonia	Janes
213	Rep	Finland	Koivo
214	Rep	France	
215	Rep	Germany	Richter
216	Rep	Ghana	Gyasi-Agyei
217	Rep	Greece	Skodras
218	Rep	Hungary	Rudas
219	Rep	Iceland	Thorsteinnsson
220	Rep	Iran	Soltanian-Zadeh/ Nobakhti
221	Rep	Iraq	Bader Sadkhan
222	Rep	Israel	Litsyn / Baal-Schem
223	Rep	Italy	Vatalaro
224	Rep	Jordan	Zabalawi
225	Rep	Kenya	
226	Rep	Kuwait	Rahman Al-Ghunaim/ Abulhasan
227	Rep	Latvia	Romanovs
228	Rep	Lebanon	Shaban
229	Rep	Lithuania	Navakauskas

230	Rep	Malta	Micallef/ Debono
231	Rep	Morocco	Essaaidi
232	Rep	Nigeria	Chuwudebe
233	Rep	Norway	Olsen
234	Rep	Oman	Naamany/ Hinai
235	Rep	Poland	Ogorzałek
236	Rep	Portugal	Cruz/ Madureira
237	Rep	Qatar	
238	Rep	Republic of Macedonia	Arsov
239	Rep	Romania	Dobrescu / Toma
240	Rep	Russia (Northwest)	Kutuzov
241	Rep	Russia (Siberia)	Markhasin
242	Rep	Russia	Gulyaev / Shaposhnikov
243	Rep	Saudi Arabia (East)	Al-Dhamen
244	Rep	Saudi Arabia (West)	Al-Samarrai
245	Rep	Serbia and Montenegro	Neskovic
246	Rep	Slovenia	Zajc
247	Rep	South Africa	van Wyk
248	Rep	Spain	Molina
249	Rep	Sweden	Bergqvist / Persson
250	Rep	Switzerland	Doering/ Koschak
251	Rep	Tunisia	Loulou
252	Rep	Turkey	Kaynak
253	Rep	Ukraine	Zhuikov/ Pichkalyov
254	Rep	United Arab Emirates	
255	Rep	UKRI	Sinnadurai
256	Rep	Zambia	Munungwe

## ACTION/DISCUSSION

#	Type	Agenda Item	Presenter	Additional info
301	Disc	Director's Report	Delimar	
302	Disc	Secretary's Report	Stasopoulos	
303	Disc	Treasurer's Report	Harrington	
304	Disc	Strategic Direction	Modelski	
305	Disc	Section Development and Vitality	Bastiaans	

<b>306</b>	Disc	Member Activities	El-Mousa
<b>306a</b>	Disc	GOLD	Kaissi
<b>306b</b>	Disc	Membership Development	Van Hertem
<b>307</b>	Disc	Student Activities	Nassar/Soares
<b>307a</b>	Disc	Student Branch Congress	Nassar/Pacheco
<b>307b</b>	Act	Student Awards	Nassar/Beerten
<b>307c</b>	Disc	Student 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities	Nassar/Akar
<b>308</b>	Disc	Technical Activities	Sinha
<b>309</b>	Act	Conferences	Debono
<b>310</b>	Disc	Call for Nominations	Modelski
<b>311</b>	Disc	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities	Bastiaans/Richter
<b>312</b>	Act	Awards	Delimar/Turner
<b>313</b>	Disc	President-elect Candidates' Debate	Delimar
<b>314</b>	Disc	MGA Report	Delimar/Jankowski
<b>315</b>	Disc	Section Reserves	Delimar/Michel
<b>316</b>	Disc	Message from the Executive Director	Prendergast
<b>317</b>	Disc	IEEE President's Address	Day
<b>318</b>	Disc	IEEE 2013 and Beyond	Staecker
<b>319</b>	Disc	Pre-University Activities	Sinha/Burd
<b>320</b>	Disc	Standards	Sinha/Mills
<b>321</b>	Act	Workshops	El-Mousa
<b>322</b>		General Discussion	Delimar
<b>323</b>		New Business	Delimar
<b>324</b>	Act	Next Meeting	Stasopoulos
<b>325</b>	Act	Adjournment	

## 7. Approval of the Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was presented by Marko Delimar and was adopted unanimously.

The Region 8 committee gave voting rights to the appointed Turkey Section chair.

The reports and presentations that follow can be found at:

<http://www.ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2012-march-berlin/>

### 301. IEEE Region 8 Director's Report

**Marko Delimar**, Region 8 Director gave a tribute to Dr. Roger Pollard who unfortunately has passed away on 3 December 2011 while serving as the Secretary of IEEE and a member of the IEEE Board of Directors, and a moment of silence was kept in his memory. He went through the SWOT analysis of

our Region and said that some challenges and opportunities have been tangled and progress has been made. He then introduced the members of the committee; he stated its mission and vision, went through some key facts and characteristics, talked about some recent Conferences and activities. He then pointed out some challenges for the future. He gave an overview of last year's events, introducing the new Sections and Subsections in our Region and he also mentioned the upcoming events. He talked of the establishment of Section officers' term limits. Then he went on giving the key challenges of Region 8: Africa, Cooperation with European agencies, and Conferences.

### **317. IEEE President's Address**

**Gordon Day** IEEE President said that IEEE Region 8 is very important for IEEE. This can be seen by the IEEE HQ participation in this meeting and it is also a sign of IEEE's globalization. Some of the bigger Sections of IEEE are based in this Region and it covers the largest geographic area. He is committed in supporting our Region and one of his priorities is IEEE and European Union relations, the Brussels office and the Standards advancement in the area. Also he would like to support and help our members from our Brussels office. He is very much in humanitarian activities in IEEE and especially in Africa and urged members to support these initiatives. He believes that as an organization we should push more to bring technology throughout the world, working together with UN, Unesco and other organizations. They are also working to help members in all parts of our Region with different projects because Region 8 is very diverse and he invited everybody to talk to him about their individual needs.

### **316. Message from the Executive Director**

IEEE Executive Director **James Prendergast**, gave a brief update of IEEE activities. He said that we should be very proud that our membership has reached the record of 426 thousand members together with a society membership increase. 2011 *Xplore* usage has hit a new high and conferences are also doing very well with better quality than before. Major initiatives are now going on in IEEE: IEEE Business Platform (IBP), IEEE Conference Exchange (ICX) and Integrated Content Project (ICP). He then talked of the Analytics/SAMIEEE Deployment Plan. He finished by giving the IEEE Five Year Aspiration: By 2016, IEEE will be the global provider of choice, and #1 in customer satisfaction, for services and products that empower people to discover, develop, and deliver technology. We will achieve this by:

- Delivering a best-in-class user experience by aggressively leveraging technologies
- Increasing nimbleness, speed to market, and operational efficiencies
- Driving high employee engagement and leadership excellence
- Creating new opportunities for member and customer engagement
- Ensuring our long term future through increased financial growth, strength & stability

### **314. MGA Report**

MGA Managing Director, Member and Geographic Activities, **Cecelia Jankowski**, presented the main MGA activities and her main thoughts for the MGA strategy for 2013. She gave some member statistics and then she presented some new products like IEEE TV, Volunteer Desktop, memberNet and Center for Leadership Excellence. She stressed that MGA is truly focused on the member and not on the membership. An update was given on all the functions and future plans for MGA. She also talked on the legal status of the IEEE Sections and all the efforts that are being made at the moment with the hiring of a special legal counselor to help the Sections. In Region 8 some Sections are going to become blocking entities for handling reasons: Switzerland, South Africa and Dubai. The Sections will be individually contacted for further processing.

### **315. Section Reserves**

MGA Managing Director, Member and Geographic Activities, **Cecelia Jankowski**, presented the main idea on the Sections reserves policy of MGA. The main reason for this new policy is for MGA to be able to cover some of the financial losses from the Sections reserves. MGA will be contacting all the Sections and let them know what the situation is according to the criteria that were decided. Hopefully no cash will be taken from the Sections. The rules for this policy could change in the future.



### **304. Region 8 Strategic Direction**

**Jozef Modelski**, Past Region 8 Director and Strategic Planning Chair gave his vision and mission of Region 8 and the key steps needed to realize them. He gave the primary challenges for the Region.

### **302. Secretary's Report**

Secretary **Costas Stasopoulos** gave an account of the Region 8 meeting in San Francisco. He mentioned that the web pages of the Sections are very important and that some Sections do not have a web page. He thanked all Region 8 Committee members for their support and cooperation, and also George Michael, the Electronic Communications Coordinator.

### **303. Treasurer's Report**

**Brian Harrington**, the Region 8 Treasurer, gave the Present Financial Position of the Region. The financial results for the year 2011 show to a large extent the volatile nature of the financial environment in which Region 8 is operating. The Region realized a largely balanced result. However, as Region 8 trades USD currency to buy local currency to finance its operations, it is sensitive to exchange rate fluctuations. As at the 31st December, 2011 there was a loss in the Net Worth of the Region as compared with the start of year which was equivalent to \$24,620. Further progress was made on cost control. He concluded that the performance of the Region 8 finances is steady under uncertain market conditions.

### **305. Section Development and Vitality**

**Martin Bastiaans**, IEEE R8 Director-Elect explained what Section Vitality is. The goal is to increase member engagement, improve relationships with and between members, increase operational efficiency and effectiveness, enhance collaboration with other business units and increase membership. He talked of Section size and the average Section size in our region, the rejuvenation of the Section's ExCom, the vitality and the Section reporting. He then gave some guidelines on how to reach these goals and some success factors for vitality.

### **308. Technical Activities**

**Saurabh Sinha**, R8 V/C Technical Activities, started by giving an overview of the webinars and other activities that took place during the last few months and the outreach towards chapter chairs and conference organizers. Then he presented the Chapter Coordination Subcommittee (ChCSC), the Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC), the R8 Conference Activities Subcommittee, Educational Activities Subcommittee (EASC), Industry Relations Subcommittee (IRSC), the Standards Coordinator, the TAB "Committees" Liaisons and the Technical Publications Coordinator. For each of the Subcommittees he gave detailed information on the past and future events and activities highlighting their success and pointing the direction they should go in the future.

### **309. Conferences**

**Carl Debono**, R8 Conference Coordinator, gave a presentation on the Conference Coordination Subcommittee and of its key events during the past months. The past and the future conferences were seen and analyzed.

### **320. Standards**

**Steve Mills**, President of the IEEE Standards Association, talked about the changing International standards paradigm. The traditional model is well known and is based on geographic and political borders. Now we have the emergence of a complementary model which is market driven and is

borderless. As an example he gave the Internet. He ended by saying that standardization like markets is borderless. The Standards Association should move to a bold strategic direction; embracing a new, more nuanced, dual-model international standards paradigm. IEEE should be seen as an international organization with strong global participation and should be irresistible to the standards community .

### **319. Pre-University Activities**

**Liz Burd**, Chair PECC, talked about the IEEE SC2011 recommendation number 5 (To encourage interest in pre-university students in engineering careers) and how they have responded to it by starting a monthly publication for students ages 14-18. She then talked on the IEEE SC2011 recommendation number 1, to develop a comprehensive long-term strategy to increase the number of next generation youth pursuing science and engineering careers and how they will address the issue.

### **306. Member Activities Report**

**Ali El-Mousa**, R8 V/C Member Activities started by introducing the GOLD team and gave the key facts and activities of the group. He urged everybody to create a GOLD affinity group. He stressed that having different activities in local level for GOLD is a key issue in having satisfied members. Then he presented the Professional Activities team giving their goals and plans. They organize activities to enhance members' careers in soft skills, management, communications and others. Professional Activities team can help members in these changing times in gaining new skills and in job looking. The Membership Development team was presented where local activities and personal contact are very important. Member retention is a key word here. He then gave some member statistics and information on e-membership. He talked about Life Members, their activities and future events. He continued with the Women in Engineering and their activities. There are many WIE affinity groups and many events have been happening. He then presented the R8 website team and gave information on the new R8 web site which is under development. He then gave some information on the Region 8 News.

#### **306a. GOLD**

**Saima Kaissi**, GOLD Activities Chair, gave a general overview of the GOLD growth, activities and events. She urged the section chairs to establish new GOLD Affinity Groups. Then she talked of the future activities and especially of the GOLD Congress to be held in Madrid in July.

#### **306b. Membership Development**

**Dirk Van Hertem**, Membership Development Coordinator, talked of the IEEE Region 8 Membership retention and recruitment. He gave some vital statistics for 2012; he also talked of the recruitment efforts and results, and he gave the outreach strategy for arrears recovery. Finally he urged the Section Chairs to help in member recovery.

### **321. Workshops**

**Ali El-Mousa**, R8 V/C Member Activities gave the guidelines for the workshops. R8 OpCom identified the following issues:

- 1- Identify the top two good and two bad section practices that sections in Region 8 are engaged in.
- 2- How do sections perceive member engagement and what are the top two best practices or activities and how do they pursue that? Also try to find the bad or negative issues related to this.
- 3- Discuss issues to do with the public visibility of IEEE within the sections and what activities and practices can be done to enhance it.

### **Recess**

**Sunday 1 April**

### 318. IEEE 2013 and Beyond

**Peter Staecker**, 2012 IEEE President-Elect, talked of Strategic Planning and the old and new model. The new model involves scenarios to set Strategic directions and make opportunistic experiments. He talked of the trends that change our strategy:

Open Access is changing from threat to reality, Education: the virtual classroom, social media and dynamic social networks will disrupt, membership model, impact of the Cloud (big data) on content distribution, companies like *Factual*, *Northern Lights* redefining the business of data mining and knowledge, standards development migrating from politically driven to global business/technology-driven.

Our approaches to our current businesses can change. He gave the *knowledge business* – with 6 complementary and synergistic segments:

- Standards
- Publications
- Conferences
- Education
- Membership
- Public Imperatives

What are the next steps?

We have to define directions (goals) for the future, take actions that move towards goals, follow/encourage other activities within IEEE that have strategic purpose/value, develop and refine an approach for subsequent years.

### 313. President-elect Candidates' Debate

**Eva Lang**, the host of the President-elect Candidates' Debate, presented the two candidates, **Roberto de Marca** and **Tariq Durani**. After a brief introductory speech, they answered in turn questions that were put forward by the R8 committee members.

### 310. Call for Nominations

**Jozef Modelski**, Chair of the Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee, stressed that the mission of the Region 8 Nominations and Appointments (N&A) Subcommittee is to identify qualified candidates for the elected and appointed positions of Region 8 and its Subcommittees. The positions that they were looking for are:

R8 2013-2014 Secretary (two years commitment)

R8 2013-2014 Treasurer (two years commitment)

R8 2013 Vice Chair, Member Activities (one year commitment)

R8 2013 Vice Chair, Student Activities (one year commitment)

R8 2013 Vice Chair, Technical Activities (one year commitment)

Three new members (term 2013-2014) of the R8 Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee (two years commitment)

Elections will be held during the Fall 2012 R8 Committee Meeting.

### 307, 307a, 307b, 307c. Student Activities, Student Branch Congress, Student Awards, Student 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities

**Elias Nassar**, R8 V/C Student Activities started by introducing all the members of his team and gave the goals of his committee. He stressed the important issue of communicating with student members and the efforts made towards this direction. He then gave an overview of Student Membership in R8, he presented the student activities that took place in 2012 and upcoming events like the SPC 2012 in Madrid and others. He invited the two President Elect candidates to come to Madrid where a debate will also take place. Then he invited **Jorge Pacheco**, member of the SBC 2012 organizing committee to talk about the Student Branch and GOLD Congress Madrid 2012. He talked of the preparations and the program of the Congress that will take place on July, 25 to 29 in Madrid, Spain. He urged the Section Chairs to encourage their Student and GOLD members to attend the Congress. **Simay Akar**, Student Branch Coordinator, Liaison to TA gave some information on the Region 8 50th Anniversary

Student Event. **Jef Beerten**, Student Awards & Contests coordinator talked on Student awards and Student Professional Activities and **George Paunovich**, Student Paper Contest Coordinator talked of the student paper contest. **Elias Nassar**, talked on Electronic Communications for Students and then he asked the Section Chairs for their help in order to promote the student activities. **Jorge Soares**, Student Representative asked several Section Chairs (Benelux, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Serbia, Portugal, UKRI, South Africa), to talk about their Student activities through an interactive process.

### 311. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Activities

**Kurt R. Richter**, IEEE R8 Jubilee Book Coordinator showed the editorial board for the Jubilee Book and he then explained the details on the Web-based Book on the Printed Book, on the R8 News – Special Issue and of the Anniversary Celebrations. He also explained the progress made with the oral history project. He urged the Section Chairs to make their inputs to these projects. He finished by giving some information on the creation of the Region 8 archive. **Martin Bastiaans**, IEEE R8 Director-Elect, mentioned of the special brochure that was made for the 50 year anniversary. He then presented 4 different dates (in 1962 and 1963) that can be considered as the birth date of Region 8. He then said that the celebrations of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary are not over yet but they will continue with various events until the next Spring meeting of Region 8. He also urged the Sections to celebrate locally, as well.

### 312. Awards

**Charles Turner**, the Awards and Recognitions Subcommittee Chair, explained why awards and recognitions are important in IEEE, how to generate awards activities and an Awards awareness program and how to begin the process in each Section. He also urged the participants to propose candidates for various awards.

He then presented the 2012 Region 8 Volunteer Award:

The Subcommittee received three nominations and decided to give the award to:  
Michel-Henri Carpentier (France Section)

**Eva Lang** and **Pilar Molina** presented the Clementina Saduwa Award to:  
Wejdan Abu-Elhajja, Princess Sumaya University for Technology, Jordan

**Daniel Pasquet** presented the IEEE Region 8 Chapter of the Year Award to:  
Best large chapter: UKRI Computational Intelligence Society chapter  
Chapter Chair: Damien Coyle  
Best small chapter: Lebanon Communications Society chapter  
Chapter Chair: Zaher Dawy  
Judges: Mihaela Albu, Ana-Maria Dumitrescu, Tamas Ruzsanyi, Jan Machac

**Marko Delimar** presented the 2011 Region 8 Volunteer Award: Vladimir Dimcev, Republic of Macedonia

**Marko Delimar** and **Costas Stasopoulos** presented awards to Italy and Greece Section chairs for exemplary service in hosting the IEEE Region 8 Operating Committee Meeting in Rome, Italy and in Athens, Greece respectively and to the UKRI Section chair for hosting the 96th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting in London, United Kingdom.

### 321. Workshops

**Ali El-Mousa**, IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chair, Member Activities gave a summary of the results of the workshops in the 4 topics with the help of Greece Section chair **Athanasios Skodras** and the Lebanon Section chair **Ghassan Shaban**:

Best Practices for Sections:

Sponsor and involve student branches in section activities including organizing a student day

Organize competition to recognize best student branch, best chapter, best thesis, and presenting them for regional and global IEEE awards

Having IEEE booths in all conferences to promote IEEE membership development

Bad Practices for Sections:

Having no effective communication and no proper activities within the section

Lack of diversity in most ExCom's e.g. lack of a good mix of different academic campuses, industry, age, gender and not having new blood

Offering free benefits e.g. membership, conference fees, etc.

Not changing inefficient officers

Not updating the website regularly

Best Practices for Member Engagement:

Motivating members by helping them improve their professional capabilities e.g. writing and presenting technical papers

Recognizing members during annual gatherings and other events (Awards, Media presence, e-publicity) e.g. members who have been elevated to the grade of Fellow

Collaborating with other Local Technical Societies and Industry in organizing events

Milestone ceremonies

Use of social media like facebook to allow members to express their views

Best Practices for IEEE Visibility:

Organizing events that touch community concerns and showing the role of IEEE in tackling these issues

Having IEEE get involved in pre-university programs that are done at community service level e.g. EPICS TISP, Science fairs

Getting Local Authorities and Industrial Figures to be involved in IEEE activities

Ali said that the detailed results will be posted on the internet and that feedback to them will be appreciated.

### **322. General Discussion**

**Pilar Molina** stated her general concern concerning the Sections reserves and the new rules of MGA.

**Marko Delimar** temporarily handed over the chairmanship to **Martin Bastiaans** in order to be able to answer the question and state his personal opinion. He said that Sections should participate in the profit and loss of IEEE. He said that more involvement of the Sections should be encouraged in the future and better communication between Sections and MGA should be encouraged. **Nihal**

**Sinnadurai** suggested that MGA should delay the implementation of the new policy for one year in order to give time to the Sections and their Chapters to adjust to the new reality and use their reserves for the benefit of their members. As a Section they do comply with the rules but if you add the reserves of the Chapters then they go above it. **Marko Delimar** said that he will bring the subject to the MGA board. He said that Sections are responsible for their Chapters. He continued by saying that this new policy is not made in order to punish the Sections but it was made in order to make IEEE more operational and business like. He urged the Sections to use their reserves for the benefit of their members. **Okyay Kaynak** said that as a member of the MGA board he agrees that this is a decision that had to be taken and it moves us into a more unified IEEE. **Peter Farkas** said that this new rule has retroactive effect which is not fair for the Sections. **Marko Delimar** took the responsibility to talk to MGA on better communication in both ways. **Jan Haase** made a suggestion to limit time of presentations during Region 8 meetings and give more time for discussion and exchange of ideas.

### **323. New Business**

TO: Region 8 Committee  
SUBJECT: IEEE R8 Industry Awards  
FROM: IEEE R8 Industry Relations Subcommittee (IRSC)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Industry plays a key role in shaping the future of IEEE as well as acts as a catalyst to support all IEEE activities. This award is intended to recognize the efforts of distinguished industry personnel as well as companies who play major role in promoting IEEE activities within Region 8. This award will be an annual award that will be presented and awarded to the following:

1. Distinguished Industry (Company) Award
2. Distinguished Industry Leader Award
3. Industry Special Award (active individual)

**PROPOSED ACTION:**

These three awards will be presented annually by IEEE Region 8 Director to the awardee or his/her representative during the Fall R8 Committee Meeting. The Industry relations subcommittee (IRSC) in collaboration with the Region 8 Awards and Recognition Subcommittee (ARC-8) will solicit input from all sections, R8 subcommittees and others as deemed necessary. IRSC will be the overall responsible body to manage, advertise and collect all inputs and summarize the findings supported by the Awards and Recognition subcommittee. The following will constitute the members who will work closely to select the winners of this award. This subcommittee will consist of the following members:

1. ARC-8 or his/her representative
2. IRSC Coordinator
3. Industry Awards Committee Chair (appointed, on recommendation of IRSC, by VC-TA)
4. VC-TA (Ex-officio)

The IRSC Coordinator shall work closely with ARC-8 and others to ensure that all nominees are from industry and have performed major contribution to R8 activities as defined in the Procedures and Guidelines (to be formulated).

**Financial Implications**

- Accommodations to be provided by R8. Travel expenses will be for the awardee expense. Plaques to be provided to each estimated cost per Plaques (Euro 200). Upon a recommendation by the relevant Vice-Chair, exceptions to the above need to be approved by the R8 Director.

**Pros:**

Recognize efforts of all selected candidates and encourage them to continue their support  
Increase Industry membership  
Build strong long lasting relationships with industry  
Encourage other industries to participate in future IEEE R8 events

**Cons:**

Financial expenditures but will be compensated by the benefits obtained

**The motion was adopted.**

**TO:** IEEE Region 8 Committee – 31 March - 1 April 2012  
**FROM:** Nele Reynders, Region 8 GOLD Subcommittee  
**SUBJECT:** Name change of the current R8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award to Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Affinity Group Award

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Region 8 GOLD Subcommittee wants to change the name of the current award ('Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award') to 'Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Affinity Group Award'

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**Financial Implications**

No financial implications.

**Pros and/or Cons**

This name change is meant as an improvement towards the recognition of GOLD AGs, so that the award not only rewards a certain activity or a specific GOLD chair, but rather that it rewards a specific GOLD AG for a full year of its activities. The R8 GOLD Subcommittee strongly believes that this improved name will honor the entire team that makes a GOLD AG successful and that it will motivate the GOLD AGs in Region 8 to be even more active than they are at this moment.

### Implementation

The R8 GOLD subcommittee will take steps to define the award rules, announce it, ask for nominations, define clear selection criteria, perform the selection and announce the winner. The R8 awards subcommittee will officially prepare a suitable certificates defined by the award rules and will recommend the proper place and time for suitably delivering the award.

### Background Information

The current motion for the Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award has been approved in the Region 8 meeting in Vilnius, April 2006 and the motion states:

"The R8 Committee approves the generation of a Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award. This is a certificate, which can be ordered, printed and framed by IEEE Piscataway. The recipient will be invited to receive the certificate from the R8 Director at an appropriate venue.

Champion: Rolf Remshardt

Approved on Consent Agenda"

The last time the motion was put in action, i.e. the award was given to a GOLD AG Chair, was in 2011. The recipient was Egypt GOLD for their activities throughout 2010. The award was presented at the Region 8 meeting in San Francisco, August 2011.

The proposed amended motion states:

"The R8 Committee approves the name change of the current Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award to Region 8 Outstanding GOLD Affinity Group Award. The award is a certificate. The recipient representative of the AG will be invited to receive the certificate from the R8 Director at an appropriate venue."

**The motion was adopted.**

### **324. Next Meeting**

The next Region 8 Committee meeting will be held in Tallinn, Estonia on 6-7 October 2012. Urmet Janes gave a small presentation on Tallinn and invited everybody to attend the meeting.

### **325. Adjournment**

The Region 8 Director moved to end the Region 8 Committee meeting. **The motion was adopted.**

**Adjourn**