

Report from the Region 8 Awards & Recognition Sub-Committee for the Region 8 Committee Meeting in Tallinn

Members: Charles Turner (Chair), Victor Fouad Hanna (Past Chair), Jef Beerten (Student Representative), Martin Bastiaans, Maciej Ogorzalek, and Shamir Shaheen.

Following the Region 8 meeting in Berlin in March./April, the committee reviewed the status of the awards for which it is currently responsible.

1. **The 2012 Region 8 Volunteer Award** was won by Michel Henry Carpentier of the France Section. The certificate will be presented at the Section meeting later this year.
2. There were no nominations for the **Outstanding Section Award**, newly introduced this year. This was especially disappointing because it had been hoped that the winner would go forward to the Global MGA contest. The committee resolved to re-double its efforts next year to stimulate some nominations.
3. The **Clementina Saduwa** and the **GOLD Awards** had been successfully completed this year. The GOLD award was presented at SBC in Madrid in July.
4. Three new **industry relations awards** had been developed by the Industry Relations Committee and would be inaugurated later this year.

The A & R website has been re-designed by Jef Beerten. Comments on its appearance and functionality would be welcomed. The overall aim was to provide complete information about all Region 8 awards, as well as links to other IEEE awards (such as those managed by EAB, MGA, and Corporate Activities)

The committee has recommended to OPCOM that a number of special awards be created to mark the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Region 8 in 2012/3. The intention is to recognise outstanding individuals for their contributions to society, through science and technology, in industry, academia, and in public service. This proposal is still under consideration.

At the presentation by the Chair at the Region 8 Committee meeting in Berlin, it was emphasised that more needed to be done to make members more aware of the significance and the value of awards, especially in a volunteer-led organisation such as IEEE. The best place to begin this process is at Section level. The committee's goal is to have an Awards Officer/Co-ordinator appointed in every Section of the Region. Currently, fewer than half of our Sections have Awards Officers. We ask all Sections to give this goal their top priority.

Martin Bastiaans had compiled a complete list of award winners from Region 8 since its formation in 1962. This will be posted on the R8 website and the Global History Network.

Charles Turner (Chair R8 Awards & Recognition Sub-committee) August 2012