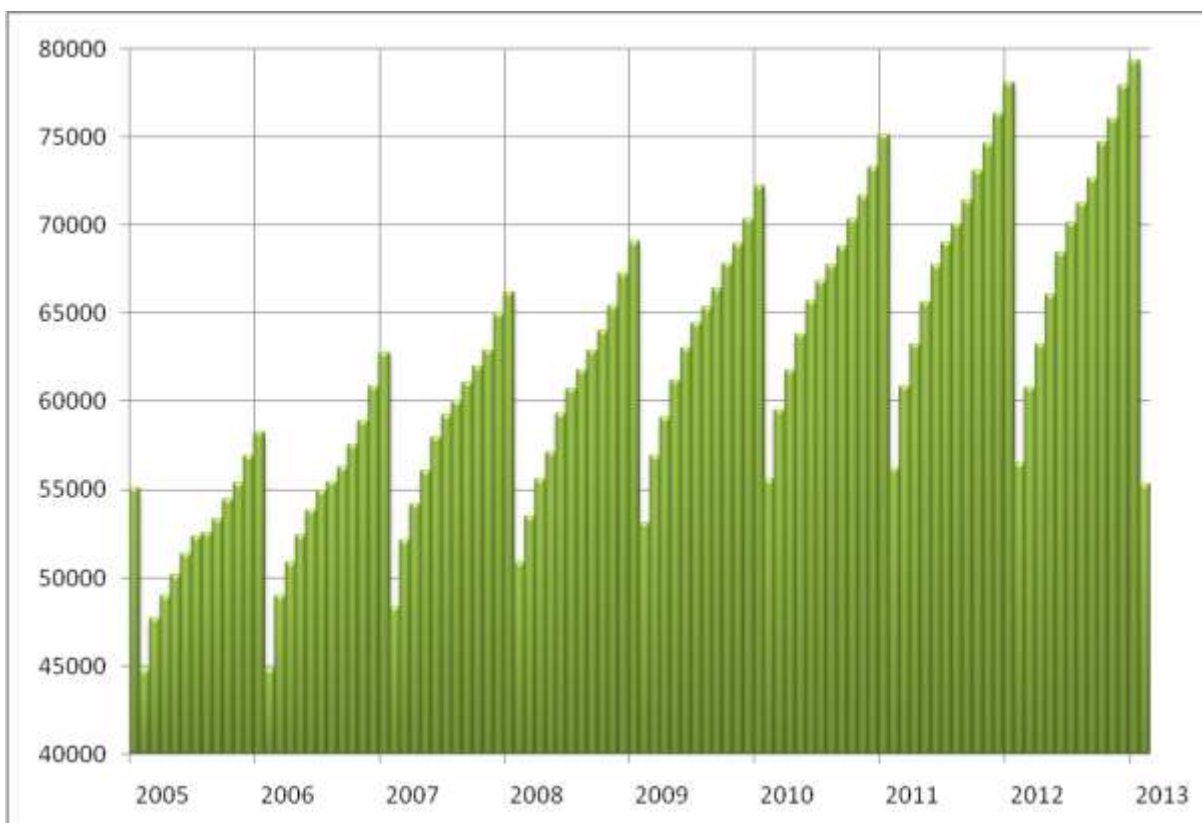


## VC Member Activities Report (Aleksandar Szabo)

At the Region 8 Committee Meeting in Tallinn I was elected for the position of the R8 Vice-Chair Member Activities (MA) for 2013. As the R8 Vice-Chair for MA I belong to the R8 Operation Committee. I am working with the following standing and ad-hoc coordinators/subcommittees: Graduates of the Last decade (GOLD), Membership Development (MD), Professional Activities (PA), Region 8 News, Sections Congress, Electronic Communications, History Activities, Jubilee Book, Life Members (LM) and Women in Engineering (WIE). The activity and cooperation of all these coordinators and subcommittees is extremely important for member activities in the Region and their organizational units. The success of the Regional MA volunteers strongly depends on the activity of Sections and its officers. The Section Officers belong to the Regional MA teams cooperating and working together. The Section MD Officers belong with Regional MD Officers to the MD Team, the Section GOLD Officers belong with the Regional GOLD Officers to the Regional GOLD Team, etc. Good team work will bring good results. In the field of Member Activities in Region 8 we

- Improve the value of IEEE membership by additional/new services and benefits
- Make members aware of IEEE activities and benefits
- Develop and help in non-technical activities (professional activities)
- Increase membership by recruitment, retention and recovery
- Develop local membership programs in cooperation with Sections
- Promote and support member grade elevation
- Assure IEEE membership promotion at IEEE conferences, workshops and meetings
- Cooperate with and support MA officers in Sections and provide training for them
- Help in formation, organization and development of organizational units
- Help to improve Section operation and vitality. Help in rejuvenation of organizational units
- Encourage communication and cooperation between organizational units
- Recognize volunteers. Look for good new volunteers
- Increase the Activity of GOLD
- Help WIE activity
- Increase LM engagement and LM Group formation. Encourage History activities
- Work on new ideas and new initiatives



The Region 8 **Membership Development (MD)** Subcommittee is coordinating the flow of information and the activity in recruiting, retaining and recovering membership.

The membership statistics on the regional level is showing an increase from month to month in the period from March till January. At the end of February we have a significant drop in membership, because many members who have not renewed are deactivated. The drop is compensated by increased recruitment.

The R8 MD Subcommittee and the Section MD Officers work together in recovering the deactivated members. Since we are from 1 March in the half-year dues period for new members, we have a good opportunity to increase our membership.

**Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD)** is the group of IEEE members that have completed their first academic degree within the last 10 years. The GOLD program has been established to provide the framework and tools for the sections' use in retaining recent graduates. We need to take care about the young members.

Our GOLD SC is doing its job very well. There is an excellent cooperation between GOLD and the Student Activities Subcommittee. This is very important in preparing the students for the transition to the Member Grade because the Student Members are the future GOLD members and the Graduate Student Members are GOLD Members already. New GOLD Affinity Groups are formed in our Region.

**Professional Activities (PA)** include all activities which are of interest to IEEE members regarding their career and can enhance their non-technical skills. This includes, but is not limited to soft skills, psychology and sociology in business, leadership, engineering management and economic related topics. Enhancing their non-technical skills is an added value for our members, especially for the young ones. Hence the cooperation of PA with GOLD and students is of great importance.

The mission of **Women in Engineering (WIE)** is to facilitate the recruitment and retention of women in technical disciplines globally. The R8 WIE coordinator engages section WIE affinity groups and coordinators and offers advice and support for local WIE activities. There are big differences between countries in Region 8 concerning the conditions and participation of women in engineering. To help the WIE coordinator two WIE advisors have been appointed for the first time this year. Note that the IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to promoting women engineers and scientists.

**Life Members (LM)** in Region 8 have still a great potential to form additional LM Groups. An IEEE Life Members Affinity Group is a local Unit of an IEEE Organizational Unit, established by petition, and concerned to represent and fulfil the needs of the local IEEE Life Members.

### **History Activities**

A lot of work has been done in preserving Region 8 and Section history. Many oral histories of past directors have been completed. Several Milestones have been approved and others are in progress. HISTELCON has been organized in Pavia last September. There is still a great possibilities in the mentioned fields.

**Region 8 News** is still the only regional newsletter that is offered printed to all members in the whole of the IEEE with coverage of the different activities taking place in the Region released four times per year bundled with the IEEE Spectrum. Back issues are available in electronic format at the R8 News website.

The **Jubilee Book** for the 50 years Anniversary of Region 8 will be available in the printed and in the online version. The Region 8 Committee Meeting minutes, except four, are digitized. A poster exhibition will be organized during the Region 8 Meeting in Madrid containing in particular historic photographs. After finishing their work concerning the 50 years Anniversary, I expect that the members of the core group will continue to work in history activities.

Region 8 Committee members are continuously informed about the 2014 **Sections Congress** to be held in Amsterdam, its importance and all the plans and possibilities to attend.

**Electronic Communications** continue to facilitate communication in the R8 Committee and between the Committee and IEEE members.