

**IEEE South Africa Section Report April 2013**

- 1. Highlights from the past**
  - 2. Future activities**
  - 3. Best practices**
  - 4. Points of concern / Topics for future discussion**
  - 5. Miscellaneous**
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**1. Highlights from the past**

- ICEAA – International Conference on Electromagnetics in Advanced Applications, 2-7 September 2012, Cape Town.
- ROBMECH conference 26-27 November 2012, CSIR Pretoria.
- Sustainable E-Leadership in E-Government and E-Business Innovations Conference, 4-5 Oct 2012, Pretoria.
- Workshops on Product Safety and Consumer Electronics: Elya B. Joffe, Rich Nute and Stephen D. Dukes, 23-25 Oct 2013.
- Computational Intelligence Research Group Workshop, 7 Dec 2012.
- International Conference on Industrial Electronics (ICIT 2013), 25-27 Feb 2013, Cape Town.
- Dr Ulrich Jakobus was named an IEEE Fellow.

**2. Future activities**

- Department of Education: Western Cape allocated a \$15000 grant for TISP. ESKOM is also joining the initiative.
- University of Cape Town SB was approved for \$9000 EPICS project “Energy efficient refrigeration for rural communities”.
- ICUE – Industrial and Commercial Use of Energy, 19-21 August 2013, Cape Town.
- DUE – Domestic Use of Energy, April 2014, Cape Town.
- IFAC 2014 – international Federation of Automatic Control, 24-29 August 2014, Cape Town.
- IEEE WCNC Conference (ComSoc) bid for 2017.

**3. Best practices**

- Getting the right person in a leadership position is vital for the success of OUs.
- Funding should be made available for good proposals.
- Continued Professional Development (CPD) can be used as an avenue for generating additional funding.
- Use of local bank account as well as IEEE CB account is a good idea for local conferences i.t.o. Foreign exchange regulations. Keep local currency within the country, channel foreign currency to the CB account.

**4. Points of concern / Topics for future discussion**

- Registration of Section as NPO is becoming a problem and should be addressed urgently, or should we do it ourselves? We have not received a single bit of feedback or invitation for participation in the process from IEEE legal services.
- NetSuite and level of training required for using it.
- Funding model for student activities within Chapter rebate.

**5. Miscellaneous**

- Visit by Dr Peter Staecker, IEEE President, 7 September 2012.
- Prof Riana Geschke was appointed as new Chair for the South Africa Section, Jan 2013-Dec 2014.
- Joyce Mwangama was appointed as R8 WIE Coordinator.
- Hosted a 35 year anniversary celebration in Pretoria where members with 30+ years of membership were honoured.
- Distinguished Lecturers programs:
  - Prof. Pierantoni, “Bridging the gap between Nanotechnology and RF Engineering Applications”, 10 Sept 2012.
  - Prof Kwok WA Leung, 11-12 September 2012.
- National Society Agreements
  - 3-year MoU with South African Institute for Electrical Engineers (SAIEE) in renewal stage.