

1. General

1.1 Officers

- R8 Vice-Chair, Student Activities (VCSA, RSAC): Pablo Herrero
- R8 Student Representative (RSR): Christian Schmid
- Past Chair: Elias Nassar
- Student Paper Contest Coordinator: Djordje Paunovic
- Web Activities Coordinator: David Dias
- Awards and Contests Coordinator (c.a. A&R): Piotr Graca
- Student Branch Coordinator: Efthymia Arvaniti

Secondary roles & cross appointments:

- Student Branch Chapter Coordination: Simay Akar

1.2 Goals and Objectives

- Create more student membership benefits at all IEEE levels
- Develop student activities (including contests, awards and promotion programs)
- Foster student members' awareness of IEEE activities and existing benefits
- Support students' initiatives and inform other IEEE organizational units about them
- Represent student interests and voice student concerns
- Help with the formation of new Student Branches, Chapters, and Affinity Groups
- Help with communication between existing Branches, Chapters, and Affinity Groups
- Increase student membership and develop retention strategies
- Reach out to pre-university students
- Liaise with other IEEE committees such as GOLD, PA, EASC, WIE, etc.
- Link the Student and Graduate Student Members closer to the industry
- Bring more fun to IEEE!

1.3 Membership

As of August 2013 (August 2012):

- Students: 7722 (7672)
- Graduate Students: 9274 (8277)
- Total Students + Graduate Students: 16996 (15949)
- Total R8 IEEE : 71641 (71282)

About 24 % of all IEEE members in Region 8 are Student or Graduate Student Members. We could fix the access to the samIEEE database. However, this is not 100% clean, since IEEE staff has communicated us that there are some IT issues still pending with the new accounts.

1.4 New Student Branches and SB Affinity Groups since 01/2013

1.4.1 New Student Branches

The following plot shows the current status of pending and approved applications for new IEEE Student Branches in Region 8.

UKRI: University of Bath	11-04-13	yes	yes			24-04-13
UKRI: University of Kent	16-04-13	yes	yes	yes		20-04-13
Greece: University of Crete	30-04-13	yes	yes, SSR	NA		12-05-13
UAE: Higher Colleges of Technology	06-06-13	yes	yes	yes		17-06-13
Russia: Southern Federal	04-06-13	yes	yes	yes		25-06-13
Italy: Caligari University	04-06-13	yes	yes	yes		23-06-13
UKRI: University of Cambridge	12-06-13	yes	yes	yes		31-07-13
Lebanon: Hadath student branch	13-06-13	yes	yes	yes		24-06-13
UKRI: Aberdeen Student branch	14-06-13	yes	yes	yes		26-06-13
Portugal: Leiria student branch	09-07-13	yes	yes	yes		30-07-13

The full list is provided below.

UKRI: University of Bath
 UKRI: University of Kent
 Greece: University of Crete
 UAE: Higher Colleges of Technology
 Russia: Southern Federal
 Italy: Caligari University
 UKRI: University of Cambridge
 Lebanon: Hadath student branch
 UKRI: Aberdeen Student branch
 Portugal: Leiria student branch

The number and rate of petitions decreased since April. This is typical considering the end of the academic year in many parts of Region 8. We expect the number of SB formations to increase again starting in September

1.4.2 New Student Branch Chapters

We approved 9 Student Branch Chapters in the period Apr-Sept. 2013.

University of Rijeka Computer Society Chapter
 University of Pretoria Microwave Theory and Techniques Society
 ENIS Power Energy Society
 An-Najah National University Communications Society
 Instituto Superior Tecnico Robotics and Automation Society
 University of Rijeka Power and Energy Society
 ISCTE University Computer Society
 Natl Technical University of Athens Computer Society
 Queen's University of Belfast Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society

1.4.3 New Women in Engineering Student Branch Affinity Groups

IEEE R8 had no new WIE Student Branch AG requests during the current period of 2013.

2 Awards and Contests

We kindly invite the Section Chairs to nominate potential candidates and bring their names forward to the R8SAC. The process is now automatic and goes through <https://ieeestudentawards.myreviewroom.com/> which is used to file submissions

2.1 Results on awards and contests for 2013

2.1.1 IEEE MGA Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award

We had 13 nominations this year, The Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award goes to Rui Miguel

Costa from IST Student Branch in the Portugal section for an extraordinary accomplishment called: IEEE IST Academic.

2.1.2 IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award

We had 21 nominations and these 16 branches were awarded:

Istanbul Technical University (Turkey)	Dogus University (Turkey)
University Of Malta (Malta)	National Engineering School of Sfax (Tunisia)
Bilkent University (Turkey)	University of Patras (Greece)
Arab Academy for Science & Technology - Alexandria (Egypt)	Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek (Croatia)
University Of Sharjah (United Arab Emirates)	Instituto Superior Técnico (Portugal)
Alexandria University (Egypt)	Johannes Kepler University of Linz (Austria)
American University of Beirut (Lebanon)	University of Southampton (UKRI)
Cairo University (Egypt)	University of Central Greece (Greece)

2.1.3 Outstanding Branch Counsellor and Advisor Recognition Programme

We awarded 7 counsellors and advisors in 2013. They will be getting their certificates mailed by Staff

Athanasios Kakarountas- University of Central Greece
 Bernhard Jakoby- Johannes Kepler University Linz
 Wladyslaw Grabinski- Ecole Polytech Federal Lausanne-Epf
 Charalampos Patrikakis- Technological Education Institute of Piraeus SB
 Chimezie Eguzo- Akanu Ibian Federal Polytechnic
 Dr. Dharmasa- Caledonian College of Engineering
 Dr. Geoff Merrett- University of Southampton

2.1.4 IEEE Student Branch Web Site Contest

We had 22 submissions to the WSC in 2013. The winners are:

1st place: ISCTE-IUL Student Branch (Portugal)

2nd place: IEEE AAST Alex Student Branch (Egypt)

3rd place: Southampton Student Branch (UK)

2.2 Other Awards and Contests

2.2.1 IEEE Student Enterprise Award

These projects were awarded in 2013

Akanu Ibiyam Federal Polytechnic - Offline Virtual Engineering Library
 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki - Symbiosis Alzheimer's Support
 University of Ibadan - Design & implementation of a finger - print based/password enabled access control unit for Halls of residence kitchenette
 Ecole Nat'l D'Ingenierus De Sfax - Unique Note
 Cairo University - Youth Development Camp
 University of Osijek - IEEEEMADC - Mobile Applications Development Contest
 Nat'l Tec Univ of Ukraine –Kyiv Poly Inst - Intelligent Predictive Control System for Stepper Motors in Industrial Application & Educational Laboratories
 American University of Beirut - AAHA: Arduino/Android Home Automation
 University of Salento - A wireless power transmission system for biomedical applications

2.2.2 IEEE Darrel Chong Student Activity Award

The Following certificates will be mailed to the corresponding SB

Gold:

Univ of Patras (Greece)

Silver:

NTUA (Greece)
 Univ Of Skopje (Republic of Macedonia)
 National Engineering School of Sfax (ENIS)(Tunisia)

Bronze:

Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Cairo, (Egypt)
 Arab Academy for Science and Technology - Alexandria (Egypt)
 National Technical University of Athens (Greece)
 American University of Beirut (Lebanon)
 Ibra College of Technology (Oman)
 IEEE Opole Student Branch (Poland)
 University of Ljubljana Student Branch (Slovenia)
 Technical University of Madrid (ETSIT-UPM) (Spain)
 National Engineering School of Sfax (Tunisia)
 YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IEEE (Turkey)

2.3 Region 8 Student Paper Contest 2012

Second phase of the SPC 2013 - Oral Finals were successfully realized in Zagreb, Croatia, on Monday July 1, 2013, during the EUROCON IEEE Conference (www.eurocon2013.org).

After Oral Finals, International Jury awarded three prizes, from the IEEE Life Member Fund, to:

I prize: Diploma and 800 USD (cash award amount): **Maarten Van de Put (92471153): “*Band-to-band tunneling in III-V semiconductor heterostructures*”**, KU Leuven SB, Benelux Section;

The KU Leuven Student Branch, from which the I prize winner of the SPC 2013 came from, will receive the Region 8 "**Dick Poortvliet Award**", an amount of USD 250;

II prize: Diploma and 500 USD (cash award amount): **Saeed Karimimehr (92129760): “*A Novel Face Recognition System Inspired by Computational Neuroscience*”**, Isfahan University of Technology SB, Iran Section;

III prize: Diploma and 200 USD (cash award amount): **Diego Marmsoler (90658756): “*On the Laws of Failure: A Theory of Compensable Programs*”**, Technical University of Munich SB, Germany Section;

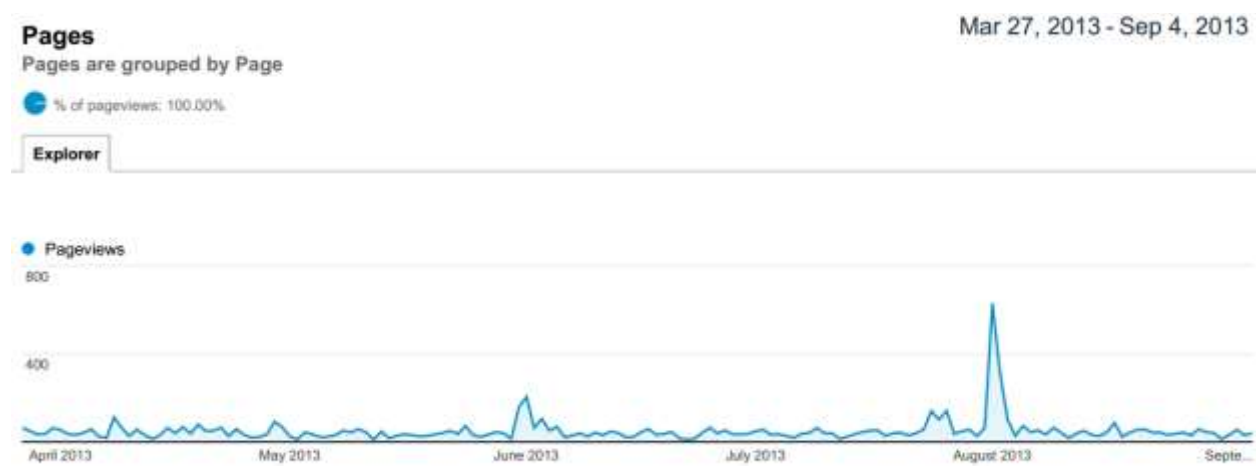
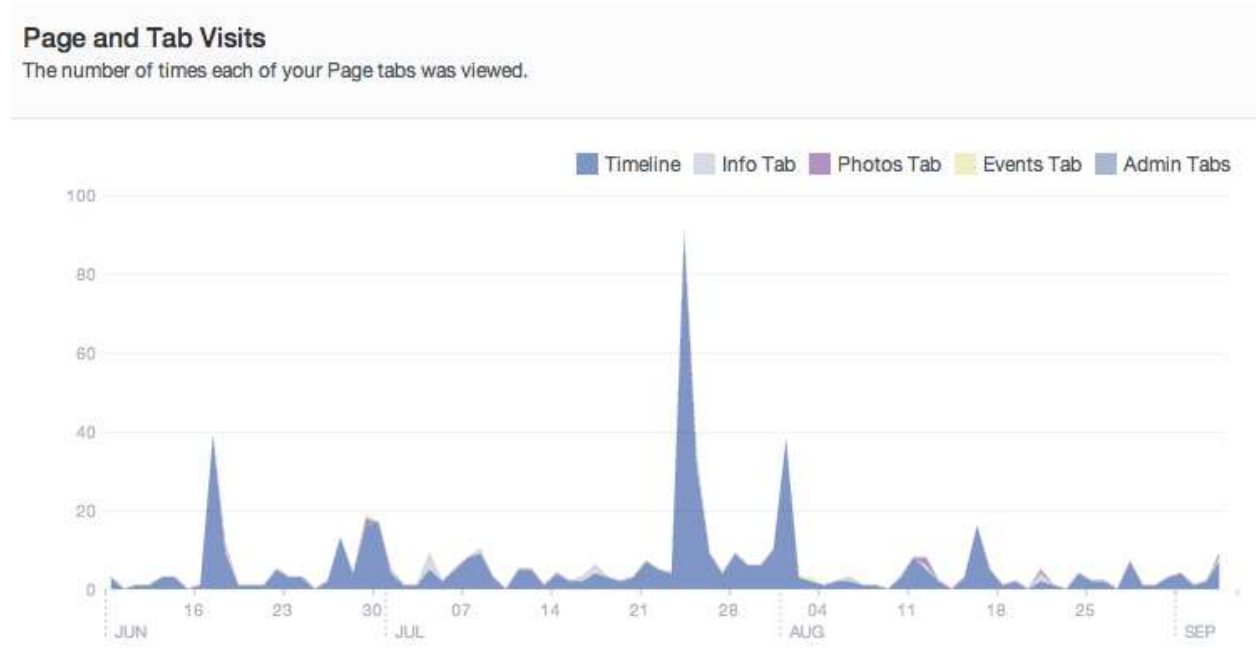
All finalists papers were included in EUROCON 2013 Proceedings, will be included in IEEE Explore digital library and will be posted to SAC/SPC Internet pages. After sending the SPC final results to IEEE services, the official prizes (diploma and money) are to be sent by IEEE Services to winners.

3 Communication

3.1 Web Activities

We have continued improving our online presence. <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/student-activities/> was restructured - there are no more broken links, no pages with nonsense, much cleaner and organized. It also includes a new Dashboard with quick links for easy and quick access to the most important things we want students to access (SBC, Awards, cookbook, our web presence).

Here are some of the updates on the statistics:



3.2 New Logo

We have created a new logo according with IEEE guidelines. It is available on our web site.



4 Ongoing Programs and Activities

4.1 Twin Student Branch Program

R8 SAC has decided to discontinue the Twin Student Branch Program due to the lack of metrics for performance evaluation. It was not possible to know if branches were becoming more active by signing up to this program and the database was incomplete and inaccurate. Many linked branches did not exchange information and even if they did, we had no means to know.

4.2 Revitalization Program

The R8 Student Activities Committee launched in May a project called "R8 Student Branches Revitalization Program" and the main goal is to identify and revive dormant student branches in every Section. A personalized form was created and sent to every Section Chair to fill in a way that inactive student branches would be easily-identified. The results so far showed that only 14 out of 51 Sections have responded in this Program, making the evaluation of the Student Branches and the revitalization process difficult. The following sections have NOT reacted to this communication. If you happen to have dormant SB and are in this list, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Bahrain	Oman	Iceland	South Africa
Belarus	Poland	Israel	Sweden
Benelux	Portugal	Jordan	Switzerland
Bulgaria	Qatar	Kuwait	Tunisia
Czechoslovakia	Romania	Lebanon	U.K. & Rep. of Ireland
Denmark	Russia	Malta	Ukraine
Finland	Russia (Siberia)	Morroco	United Arab Emirates
France	Saudi Arabia	Nigeria	Western Saudi Arabia
Germany	Serbia and Montenegro		
Hungary	Slovenia		

The Program is still active and now we are proceeding to Phase 2, in which the SAC will help the inactive student branches with proposed methods. We strongly believe that the student activities are a very significant part of a successful and active Section.

4.3 CookBooks for Students

We have been updating this material for 2013, with a new and refreshed image, getting recipes right. Additionally we are building an auto deploy/collaborative system for the cookbook similar to a wiki concept, so every branch can help also enhance the recipes

5 Student Congresses and other events

The following cross-section SBCs took place in 2013:

Sectional SBC

Turkey Student Branch Congress Izmir (Turkey) 04.02.2013 - 08.02.2013

Spanish Student Branch Congress Valencia (Spain) 21.03.2013 - 24.03.2013

Cross Sectional SBCs

3rd Iberian Student Branch Congress (ISBC) Porto (Portugal) 15.03.2013 - 17.03.2013

2nd Central European Student Branch Congress (CEuSBC) Opole (Poland) 13.05.2013 - 15.05.2013

3rd Middle East Student Branch Congress (ME-SBC) Beirut (Lebanon) 28.05.2013 - 01.06.2013

2nd Hellenic Student Branch Congress (HSBC) Nicosia (Cyprus) 1.11.2013 - 3.11.2013

Cross sectional SBCs were funded by R8 SAC with the same amount of 300 USD. We also had SAC presence in those except in the case of ME-SBC

5.1 SBC 2014

The 2014 edition of the largest student event in R8 will be held in Krakow, Poland. The dates are 7th-10th of August 2014. Please mark your calendars.

The selection process included 5 applicants from diverse parts of the region. The outcome of this selection process followed a rating scheme and voting agreed by SAC.

The preparations for the event already started. Currently SAC is having fixed monthly calls with the Orga team besides other on demand calls. We expect to present a program and preliminary budget during our R8 Spring Meeting by the Orga team themselves.