

Vice-Chair: Technical Activities

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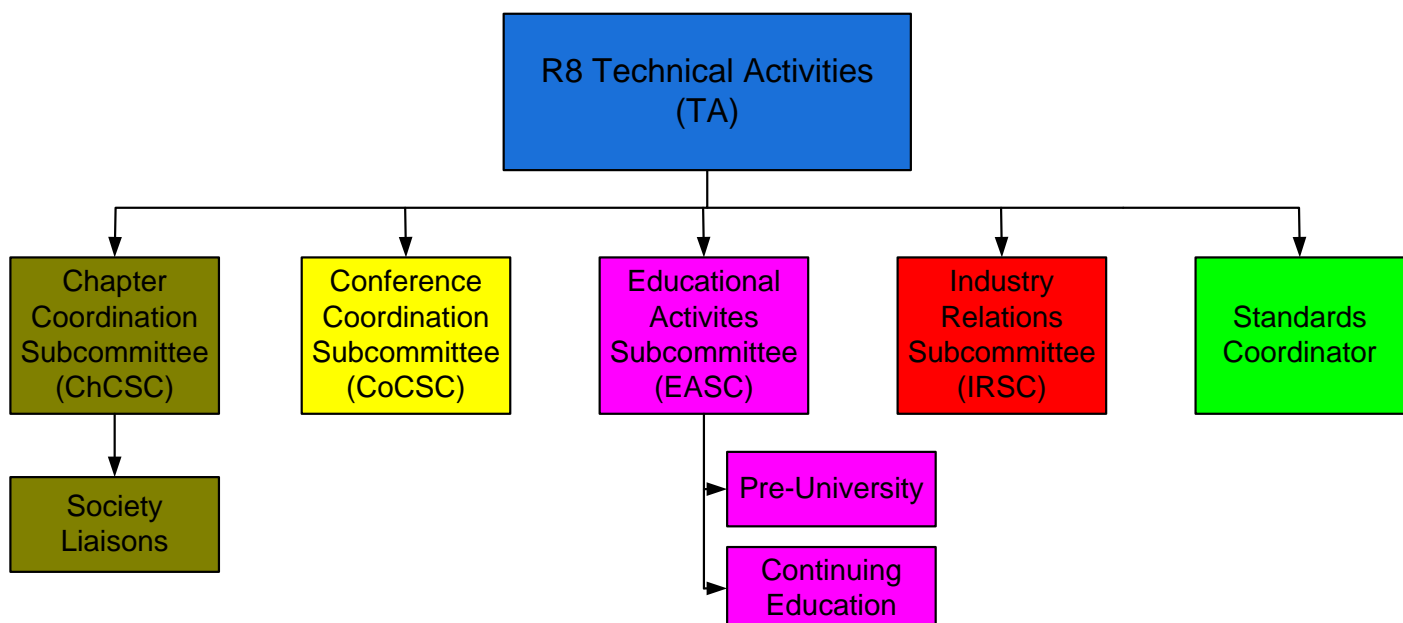


The structure of the Technical Activities portfolio is shown in the figure at the bottom of this page. The standing committees / coordinators for 2013 are: Chapter Coordination, Conference Coordination, Educational Activities, Industry Relations, and Standards. More up-to-date information is available on the Technical Activities website: <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/>

Since the IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting in Madrid, we continued to promote and support technical activities within Region 8. A brief outline is given below.

The **Chapter Coordination Subcommittee (ChCSC)** has been very active in creating student branch chapter awareness in student meetings. The ChCSC has reviewed a number of applications for new chapters, most of which came from student branch chapters, an area where the subcommittee has placed a lot of effort. The ChCSC is also looking at the vitality of the chapters in the Region and has established a presence on the social media. Based on the feedback from the ChCSC meeting in Madrid, a best practices manual is being developed. The subcommittee is working to produce an eNewsletter and is putting effort to attract more submissions towards the “Chapter of the Year” award. In Sarajevo, the ChCSC will be presenting a motion for the setup of the “Best Student Branch Chapter of the Year” award.

The **conference coordination subcommittee (CoCSC)** has continued attracting technical and financial co-sponsorship of conferences. For the 4th year in a row, there is growth in Technical co-sponsorship, this is very positive as it increases the visibility of IEEE Region 8. The memorandum of understanding is automatically generated through the IEEE Conference Exchange (ICX) tool and approval is all done online. ICX will continue to be updated to incorporate more tools to help conference organizers and streamline reporting. The papers coming from conferences are being screened to ensure that the papers published in IEEE Xplore are of good quality. This puts pressure on the sponsoring IEEE OU to make sure that the conference organizers are properly reviewing the papers. The CoCSC has also published a handbook to help conference organizers especially those new to the business.



The **Educational Activities Subcommittee** (EASC) is responsible for pre-university works (PUW), continuing education and university activities. Teacher In-Service Programme (TISP) hands-on and EPICS-in-IEEE workshops were supported to increase awareness of these programmes. More workshops are being planned in a number of countries. The subcommittee hosted a number of webinars which are very useful for continuing education of our members. The EASC is also disseminating the X Academic project which is intended to provide new resources of education for students. A series of presentations will be held in various events.

The **Industry Relations Subcommittee** (IRSC) has worked to strengthen the link between industry and IEEE Region 8. This was done through promoting membership within industry, attracting support for activities, and encouraging networking. The IRSC is recommending the appointment of an industry relations officer within each Section to liaise with the local industry, still very few Sections have an IRO. The IRSC is working on defining a mission statement and improving the operations of the committee.

The **Standards Coordinator** works closely with IEEE-Standards Association (IEEE-SA) and the IEEE-SA & EAB joint Standards Education Committee (SEC). In collaboration with these entities, talks and workshops on standards are being held in our Region 8 flagship conferences.

Overlap between the various subcommittees of Region 8 has been tackled during the meeting in Madrid, and areas of collaboration between the groups have started and are being encouraged. The vice-chair for technical activities extends appreciation for the hard-work done by all volunteers involved in the TA subcommittees. The reports from the subcommittees/coordinator are found in the upcoming pages of this agenda booklet.