

IEEE R8 GOLD Subcommittee Report October 2013**Rafal Sliz****Subcommittee members: Rafal Sliz (Chair), Nele Reynders, Elena Pareja, Amir Zahor, Ana Katalinic (Corresponding member)****Current Initiatives**

- The Region 8 GOLD Subcommittee increased the visibility of the GOLD Program among students by participating in the cross sectional Student Branch Congresses
 - Iberian Student Branch Congress, Porto (Portugal), 15-17th March - Elena Pareja participated in the event and presented the GOLD Program to attendees
 - Central Europe Student Branch Congress, Opole (Poland), 13-15th of May - Rafal Sliz participated and presented GOLD during the plenary session
 - Middle East Student Branch Congress, Beirut (Lebanon), 28th of May - GOLD SC has sent the promotional materials and arranged a local GOLD presenter
 - UK&RI Student Branch Congress, Bath (UK), 6-8th of September, GOLD SC has sent the promotional materials and arranged a local GOLD speaker
- The Region 8 GOLD Subcommittee increased the visibility of the GOLD Program among students, young professionals, industry and academia representatives during EUROCON held in Zagreb on 1st of July 2013. A local GOLD representative held the lecture about benefits of being a GOLD member.
- Region 8 Outstanding GOLD Affinity Group Award
 - The Award was set to recognize GOLD Affinity Groups within Region 8 for their efforts, successes and achievements in carrying out the mission of IEEE GOLD and the aims of IEEE in Region 8 within their section during the calendar year of 2012. Recognition is given to the Affinity Group (AG) that displayed the most successful maintenance of ongoing efforts, and the development and implementation of new programs.
 - Eight very good nominations were submitted by Section Chairs: Tunisia, Cyprus, Greece, Spain, Italy, Germany, Egypt, Finland and UKRI.
 - IEEE GOLD Finland won the Region 8 Outstanding GOLD Affinity Group Award for activities in 2012.
- MGA GOLD Hall of Fame Award
 - The R8 GOLD Subcommittee endorsed two Affinity Groups from Region 8: Tunisia and Croatia
 - The MGA GOLD Committee selected Tunisia as one of the three winners of the award.
- Graduation Date Request - there is large group of IEEE members with GOLD flags unspecified or unknown
 - The R8 GOLD Subcommittee approached these members and encouraged them to update their IEEE profiles
 - 9% of them responded to our email and updated their IEEE profile
- Graduation Certificate
 - An automatic system based on information from SAMIEEE will send GOLD Certificates for recently graduated students
 - Main goal is to increase the visibility of GOLD among freshly graduates students
 - Implementation ongoing
- Data synchronization and updates. Not all new GOLD Chairs update their information in the v-tools system resulting in a tremendous mismatch between the real situation and the information in the database. R8 GOLD Subcommittee together with MGA Staff has done efforts to update the database information according to the current situation.
- The GOLD Subcommittee organizes quarterly Skype meetings with GOLD Chairs from Region 8. During meetings issues important for GOLD Chairs are discussed. Moreover, the Subcommittee informs about progress of current projects, membership development and future plans.
- Social Networks activities - the GOLD Subcommittee is very active on Face book, LinkedIn and Twitter in order to inform young professionals about recent events and actions that are important for their career, their future and future of engineering.

- New project - "Interview with IEEE celebrities" is designed to attract young people and motivate them for volunteering. The poster-form document published at Face book is an informal interview with people important for GOLD and for Region 8.
- Initialization of new GOLD Affinity Groups
 - Due to small interest in the GOLD program in some sections, our Subcommittee has started a pilot initiative to approach all GOLD members within sections without GOLD AG and encouraged them to form GOLD Affinity Group
 - The pilot has been done for the Norway Section and resulted in a great success - 9 young professionals were interested in forming the GOLD AG!!!
 - Program will be extended on remaining sections without GOLD Affinity Groups.
 - New GOLD Affinity Groups formed within 2013:
 - Poland
 - Kenya
 - Slovenia
 - Groups with pending petition:
 - Kuwait
 - Sudan
- Large initiative of rebranding and reorganizing GOLD has been initiated in IEEE
 - GOLD label will be changed by Young Professionals (YP)
 - YP criteria will be adjusted by adding opt-in option
 - YP will be a form of membership, not a flag
- Student Branch and GOLD Young Professionals Congress
 - The Congress will be held in Krakow, proposed date 6-10 August 2014
 - The GOLD Subcommittee is fully involved in preparation together with SAC and Local Committees

Future activities

- To continue involvement in the Cross sectional Student Branch Congresses:
 - Hellenic Student Branch Congress, Nicosia, 2nd of November 2013
- Region 8 GOLD Exceptional Volunteer Award will be lunched
 - At the Region 8 Committee Meeting in Madrid the motion for the award was accepted and in September the call for nominations will be announced
- Company Branches Program
 - In order to increase the cooperation among members within the companies the GOLD Subcommittee lunched a new program
 - Members of IEEE within one company were selected and they will be informed about the opportunities of networking and cooperation
 - Members and company have been selected and only small details need to be confirmed
 - This initiative will tighten the cooperation with the Industry Relations Subcommittee
- Involvement in rebranding GOLD and promotion of Young Professionals
- Close cooperation with SAC and Local Polish committee to organize a remarkable Student Branch and GOLD Young Professionals Congress
- Involvement in organizing the GOLD Summit 2014 during Sections Congress 2014 in Amsterdam
- Continuation of already initiated projects

Amount of GOLD Members in Sections of Region 8

