

**Oman Section****Arnold N. Santos****Highlights from the past**

- Cooperated with the Oman Society of Engineers and the Asia Power Quality Initiative (APQI) to organize an international seminar on Power Quality Management on November 11-12, 2013 at Muscat.
- Actively participated and contributed a number of technical papers in the 7th GCC Conference and Exhibition held at Doha, Qatar on November 17-20, 2013.
- Sponsored and provided technical support to the 3rd International Conference on Harnessing Technology: Challenges & Opportunities in GCC States organized by CCE on December 2-3, 2013 at Muscat.
- Co-organized and hosted The 17th Gulf Engineering Forum on February 2-3, 2014 in Muscat with the Oman Society of Engineers.
- Elected new set of officers through on-line voting on January 2014.
- Organized/supported the following IEEE-Students branch activities:
  - Membership Campaign Drives at SQU, CCE, ICT and UoN.
  - Industrial Visits
    - Oman Cement Corporation, Mazoon Electricity Co. and Al-Kamil Power Station by ICT
    - National Electrical Industries, LLC, Al-Hassan Switchgear Mfg. LLC by CCE
  - Technical Seminars and Workshops
    - Multisim Workshop at ICT
    - Technical Project Planning and Writing Skills, Cloud Computing & Recent Track in IT sector at CCE
  - Contests and Competitions
    - Intra-college Tech-Fun Quiz at CCE
    - C-Programming Competition at ICT
    - Self-Driving Car Competition at SQU

**Future activities**

- IEEE Oman section is planning to organize the following events:
  - 8th IEEE GCC Conference & Exhibition
  - Forum on Smart Grid - Challenges and Perspective for Oman Electricity Sector
- IEEE Oman section in coordination with the Student Branches is planning to organize the following activities:
  - National Student Paper and Project Competition (STEPS 2014)
  - National Electrical & Electronics Engineering Quiz Competition (squEEEze 2014)
  - Student Branch Leadership Congress

**Best practices**

- IEEE Oman section along with the Asia Power Quality started an initiative for improving power quality management in Oman.
- IEEE Oman section along with Oman Society of Engineers is involved in the process of Electrical Engineers Classification Program.
- Representatives from IEEE Oman section are involved in the review panel of Oman Grid and Distribution codes.
- IEEE Oman section joins in the National Effort for Traffic Safety Awareness and Reduction of Vehicular Accidents

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

- Challenges & difficulties confronted by young Omani electrical engineers in the field.
- The accreditation of Electrical Engineering programs in local universities, colleges and institutes.

**Miscellaneous**

- Dr. Amer Al-Hinai, section Chairman was:
  - Guest of Honor for the International Conference on Information Technology, MESM 2014 held at Arab Open University
  - Lecturer/Presenter on the International Seminar on Power Quality and 17th Gulf Engineering Forum.
  - Member of the Steering Committee of the 7th GCC Conference & Exhibition
  - Dr. Ahmed Al-Naamany, Section Vice-Chairman actively engaged in the following:
    - Technical Committee Vice-chairman and Member of the Steering Committee of the 7th GCC Conference & Exhibition
    - Member of the Advisory board and Steering Committee for the 3rd International Conference on Harnessing Technology

- IEEE Ibra College of Technology Student Branch was awarded the Bronze Medal for the Darell Chong Outstanding Student Activity
- Dr. Dharmasa Pawar of Caledonian College of Engineering was selected and awarded one of the Outstanding IEEE Student Branch Counselors in IEEE Region 8.
- IEEE University of Nizwa Student Branch participated in the IEEEExtreme On-Line Programming Competition