

Portugal Section

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Highlights from the past

- IEEE Day: Open sessions for IEEE members were held in September 30th in Lisbon and October 1st in Oporto, and in the latter, since it coincide with the IEEE Day, further celebrations involving the local Student Branch were in order.
- The IEEE 2013 President, Professor Peter Staecker and its committee visited Portugal from September 29th to October 1st with the goal to understand IEEE role in the country, as well as to establish solid bridges between IEEE members and the universities, research institutions and companies in Portugal.
- Iberian Student Branch Congress @ FEUP - The Iberian Student Branch Congress gathered about 80 students from Universities of both the Portugal and Spain Sections. The event took place from March 15th to March 17th 2013 in Oporto's university and was organized by the University of Porto Student Branch.
- Leadership Camp - The first edition of the Leadership Camp gathered around 40 Student Branch officers from most Portuguese Student Branches. The goal was to train the officers in Student Branch management and general soft skills, but also to provide IEEE networking.
- IEEEExtreme 7.0
- IEEE Academic
- TISP Activities
- GOLD STEP Event (during ISBC 2013)

Future activities

- Some of the predicted activities this year include:
 - TISP High School Sessions - From the collaboration between our Student Branches and our Educational Committee, several TISP sessions are being planned for this year. At the moment, we have sessions planned in 7 high schools involving about 420 high school students
 - SBC 2014 - IEEE Portugal is making an effort to support a strong student participation in the upcoming R8 Student Branch Congress.
 - CAS/CE/BT Chapter will start a very interesting activity focused on circuit design, Microelectronics Design, the goal is quite challenging asking schools to submit an integrated circuit for fabrication;
 - Several activities proposed by student branches are going to be developed;
 - The 1st national WIE activity is going to be organized in March.
 - Several workshops organized by different chapters is going to be promoted, one example includes the EMBS Distinguished Lecturer Professor Constantinos S. Pattichis - 5th and 6th of March

Best practices

- Strong support of student branch activities by the Section. This enables us to maintain strong and active student branches, and has a strong impact on the amount of student members that the Portugal Section has.
- Borrow a Workshop - we implemented the "Borrow a Workshop" program which promotes collaboration between the Student Branches and increases the number of technical activities in each Branch, which is especially useful for newly formed SBs.
- The idea is that Student Branches can propose several technical activities to be outsourced for other branches, i.e. technical activities that can be developed by IEEE volunteers from one Student Branch in a different Student Branch, thereby contributing to an interchange of activities between Branches.

Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- The creation of IEEE Worldwide association is a point of concern for future activities within Portugal and its operation with the Section administrative body.
- The implications (in terms of tax, governance, procedures, etc.) arising from the change of the legal status of IEEE in Portugal, with the creation of IEEE Worldwide Portugal subsidiary and the dissolution of the existing association.
- Reactivity of inactive Chapters
- Increasing technical activities and its awareness that go beyond student activities.
- Conferences and MuO's - It is mandatory that conferences that are being held in the Section's geographic area, include the IEEE Section in its MoU.

Miscellaneous

- New SB Branches
 - University of Coimbra Student Branch
 - Instituto Politecnico de Leiria Student Branch
 - Universidade da Beira Interior Student Branch

- Affinity groups
 - Universidade do Minho Women In Engineering Student Affinity Group
 - University of Coimbra Women In Engineering Student Affinity Group