

## **CONSENT**

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee – 5-6 April 2014

FROM: Aleksandar Szabo, Region 8 Vice Chair member Activities  
Athanasios Skodras, Region 8 Sections Congress Coordinator

SUBJECT: Region 8 Recommendations for Sections Congress

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Region 8 Committee, at its 101<sup>st</sup> meeting in Sarajevo, 5-6 October 2013, has drafted four Recommendations for Sections Congress in the following order:

1. Develop a collaborative platform (one stop shop) for professionals and for the IEEE organizational units.
2. Develop a Regional Distinguished Lecturer Program (RDLP) supported exclusively by members from the industry.
3. Introduce a credit system for rewarding membership uninterrupted renewal/loyalty.
4. Introduce a customized bundle program for IEEE Xplore Electronic Library.

### **PROPOSED ACTION** (required for Action items only)

Resolved that the Region 8 Recommendations for Sections Congress - as stated above - shall be, and are hereby, approved.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

#### **Financial Implications**

- None.

#### **Pros and/or Cons**

- **Pro:** N/A
- **Con:** N/A

#### **Implementation**

- The Recommendations will be sent to the Section Congress organizers.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **General**

The upcoming Sections Congress (SC2014) provides a unique forum to collect input from our grassroots leadership to help shape our organization for the future. The recommendations process for SC2014 builds on the experiences from previous events with some refinements. This process was reviewed by the MGA Board in November 2013.

## **CONSENT**

1. Each Region is requested to submit up to four prioritized recommendations using the SC2014 Recommendation template (attached).
2. Recommendations are to be submitted no later than 16 May 2014.
3. As you generate the recommendations at your Region meetings, please encourage consideration of the long term vision of IEEE and alignment with MGA five year strategies. Recommendations related to MGA goals and strategies will have greater probability of implementation. Those that are outside of the MGA domain will be evaluated by the impacted Organizational Unit.
4. The MGA Operations Committee and SC2014 Program Committee will take ownership of the recommendations to review and modify, if necessary, to remove duplicates and ensure clarity.
5. Back up material concerning the issue addressed in the recommendation will be coordinated prior to SC2014. All recommendations and back up information will be distributed to attendees by 7 July 2014.
6. We will promote the discussion on the recommendations using social media channels prior to, during, and after the Congress.
7. The voting by primary delegates can be completed anytime during the Congress, up to 12:00 noon, on Sunday, 24 August 2014, using the SC2014 mobile app and web.
8. The top five recommendations will be presented on 24 August 2014 at the Closing Ceremony.

## **Reasons to submit these Recommendations**

1. Develop a collaborative platform (one stop shop) for professionals and for the IEEE organizational units.

The existence of such a platform/tool would (a) enhance collaboration among members regarding research and professional issues, (b) magnify visibility of activities and best practices, (c) establish a virtual meeting point for innovators and entrepreneurs searching for talented professionals e.g. job posting, (d) increase the impact of IEEE's activities e.g. contests, recognitions.

Athanasios Kakarountas

2. Develop a Regional Distinguished Lecturer Program (RDLP) supported exclusively by members from the industry.
  - (a) Members' motivation from industry to provide knowledge (followed by collaboration potentials) to wider regional/sectional areas,
  - (b) explicit support of section-level collaboration, and
  - (c) enhancement of Section's visibility to national professional and technical organizations.

## CONSENT

Pablo Herrero

3. Introduce a credit system for rewarding membership uninterrupted renewal/loyalty.

As members maintain their IEEE membership over the years and take advantage of the IEEE products and services, it should be considered introducing a credit system to reward them for their loyalty. Since IEEE members not only originate from academia but also from industry, the credit system should be organized for two different reward programs: (a) academia (individual) reward system, and (b) industry (corporate) reward system. Credits may be used, when collected, to pay for conference fees, or get access to IEEE standards. Special consideration may be given to members from developing countries, e.g. offering some extra credit points per year after membership renewal.

Athanasios Skodras

4. Introduce a customized bundle program for IEEE Xplore Electronic Library.

A bundle program for IEEE Xplore (IEEE/IET Electronic Library (IEL)) should be introduced for members that need few articles tailored to their needs but who do not have the ability to pay for multiple society subscriptions. Special discounts should be given for corporate bundles.

Carl Debono