

## Portugal Section

**Nuno Borges Carvalho**

### Highlights from the past

- IEEE Young Professionals Portugal launched the Young Professionals Internships (YPI) program, with the goal to create bridges between companies and Student Branches, by promoting the integration of Academia students in Industrial environment; giving to students an early contact with the labor market; and enable companies to identify future employees.
- CAS/CE/BT Chapter started an interesting activity focused on circuit design, Microelectronics Design, asking schools to submit an integrated circuit for fabrication.
- Continuous sponsorship of credible conferences.
- Continuous support of several Student Branch activities
- 15 funded students for SYP 2014 (representing 9 active student branches).
- Women in Engineering 4th Anniversary Event, 5th and 6th June 2014.
- Michael Shapiro IEEE Explore Platform training session with a visit to University do Porto SB headquarters.
- First Newsletter July 2014.

### Future activities

- Leadership Camp, an event to prepare student members for leadership positions in their Student Branches, and promote networking and experiences across the Student Branches. Planned for September/October 2014
- Issue a Call for awards nominations in several areas, and hold an Award Ceremony Dinner for the end of 2014
- IEEE Day Meeting
- IEEEExtreme Competition sponsorship in several Student Branches
- ISBC 2015
- Proposal for an Engineering Day in Portugal

### Best practices

- Redesign of the whole reimbursement process for IEEE volunteers, in which all OU have their own bank account and OU's treasurers have read-access to this account, thereby promoting a more transparent way to OUs to deal with own funds.
- ExCom Face2Face meetings around the country, inviting IEEE volunteers to participate.
- Promote relations between student volunteers and Chapters by finding technical activities where chapters can sponsor students and student branches activities. This helps Chapters to stay active, and students to find financial support for their activities.
- Strong support of Student Branch activities by the Section. This practice enables us to maintain strong and active student branches, which has a strong impact on the amount of student members in the Portugal Section.

### Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- Difficulties in convincing conference chairs to integrate IEEE Portugal Section as a technical co-sponsor of the conference, when some IEEE Society is already involved.
- Difficulties in finding volunteers for Chapter Chairs, which causes in chapters inactivity.
- Lack of benefits for IEEE industry members.
- Increasing technical activities and its awareness that go beyond student activities.
- Lost Rebate for the 2012 financial year for lack of information regarding the R8 financial requirements, which compromised the Section budget.
- The implications (in terms of tax, governance, procedures, separation of powers, 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.
- Increasing technical activities and its awareness that go beyond student activities.

### Miscellaneous

- Rui Miguel Costa - Larry K. Wilson Award Recipient
- New EMBS, MTTTS Student Chapters and two new WiE Affinity Groups