

U.K. Rep of Ireland Section**Steve Nightingale****Highlights from the past**

- Tariq Durrani petition has received significant and sufficient support to place him on the slate of candidates for IEEE President-elect. We look forward to a balanced and ethical campaign by all.
- Discussions have taken place with the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) and the Institute of Physics (IoP) to develop a closer, mutually beneficial, working relationship by cosponsoring and cross advertising technical events. In addition, an approach to professional registration of IEEE members is being investigated with the IET acting as a broker.

Future activities

- The next Section Chapter Chairs and Executive Committee Meeting will be held at Imperial College, London, on October 30th.
- The next Student Branch meeting will be on Friday 12th September at the University of Birmingham.

Best practices

- The Section has changed its name from the UK and Republic of Ireland Section to the 'UK and Ireland Section. This was formally approved by the MGA Board on June 23rd, 2014. A new website is being established.
- The membership of the Section at the end of June, 2014 was 10,352.
- The Section now has 27 active Student Branches.

Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- Concern has been raised with J Roberto Boisson de Marca that the recent issue of 'The Institute, Volume 38, Issue 2, June 2014', pages 5 through 7, 'A Conversation with the Candidates for the 2015 President-Elect', omitted the successful petition-candidate Tariq Durrani. A request has been made to redress this imbalance before the election.

Miscellaneous

- The Section has established a close working relationship with the Institute of Physics. A joint Outreach programme has been set up providing evening talks by industry practitioners to school students. The attendances have been excellent and students captivated by the practical examples.
- During 2014, the talks included 'Use of Technology' by a jeweller to authenticate precious stones being mounted into jewellery, Electronics Implants by an implant engineer to improve quality of life, including spinal implants to reactivate damaged nerves and an IEEE Distinguished lecturer spoke on Electronics Technologies that benefit our Environment.
- The Section received two IEEE Technical Field Awards:
 - Biomedical Engineering Award: Christofer Toumazou
 - James L Flanagan Speech and Audio Processing Award: Stephen John Young
- In addition, Christofer Toumazou won the European Inventor Award (presented by the European Patent Office) in the Research category.