

Czechoslovakia Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

- We invite industry to participate on our conferences and student workshops. The best way to get closer to industry is to benefit from personal contacts and friendship.
- Our Section needs to find more contacts and to present activities using leaflets or newsletters. Another important task is to identify and contact local non-IEEE societies and groups with a cooperation proposal.
- R8 could provide a set of success stories from the whole region, where sections and chapters have a very close connection with industry. It could be a portfolio of possible types of cooperation. The companies could then select what fits their needs.

Students and Young Professionals

- Our Section continuously supports student activities organized by student branches or local chapters. We have four SBs, two of them are very active. Several formats of activities have established: workshops, thesis contests, conferences, lectures. The last two are accessible to young professionals too. Unfortunately, our Section has a low number of IEEE young professionals. It is connected with previous question. Young professionals activities have been initiated, it needs to live on its own for a while. If there is a low number of YPs, we need to keep YP activities alive to attract students = future YPs.
- Our students are very active, but in some cases, they need a financial support. The section has a budget for these activities and it is the biggest part of our overall budget. Region 8 could have a support program established, implementing a set of criteria for an approval process.

Section Vitality

- Our members are mostly from academic environment, therefore conferences and workshops are the most welcomed events. Volunteers understand well the IEEE brand and they are working hard in teams to organize events very attractive to our members. Local members (lecturers and professors) are promoting the student membership as a big improvement of students' professional involvement.
- R8 is doing well with the YPP activities, especially the last years workshop was very successful. However, having one big event a year leads to be an event for "chosen" only. If we have e.g. 100 students and young professionals in our Section, it would be very welcomed to have a section YPP event supported by R8 partially.
- We are also working with possible senior members and other types of memberships to maintain or grow the member base.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Our last section ex.board meeting was very successful and we all have agreed we need to follow new R8 initiatives. It is hard to say if it could be better. We are looking forward to the cooperation with R8.
- Our IAS/IES Joint Chapter is celebrating 50th IAS anniversary and follows the membership development challenges of this very successful society.