

Estonia Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

We have received good participation rate and feedback of members from industry on our summer (fixed dates 19-20. August, whereas 20th of August is public holiday Day of Restoration of Independence of Estonia) seminars. The specific dates are equally suitable for members from academy and industry and during that event very different topics, interesting mutually for all participants could be discussed. Otherwise except the professional development and general interest of engineering area members of industry are quite out of IEEE community, they are not active users of IEEE services too. As some of members have expressed, the Spectrum Magazine (which everyone appreciates) is not enough to compensate the membership fee. There could be some services dedicated especially to members in industry.

Students and Young Professionals

Students notice the most activities where study, development and fun are combined. As an example IEEEExtreme is highly attractive. So far our section has covered membership fee for students interested to participate of competition. Unfortunately, most of them do not continue the membership except those dedicated more in research and pursuing of PhD. They can apply for reduced participation fee of selected conferences, membership is encouraged at department level too. Unfortunately PhD studies are intensive and it has been difficult to convince someone to take more serious (thus time consuming) responsibilities in IEEE e.g. leading of YP. It is easier with short-term, lightweight responsibilities.

Section Vitality

Visibility of IEEE, chapters, section and student branch in different media is important, otherwise it is difficult to notice worldwide organization among other attractors. It depends of universities a lot is there local student branch and active chapter officers who are taking care of public relations in and out of university, e.g. taking care of IEEE stand or page in University web or FB. Personal contacting helps a lot, but it is more difficult to reach members in other towns and universities. Would be good to collect Skype addresses too in SAMIEEE.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Section is participating in organization of IEEE EDUCON 2015 in Tallinn (18-20 March 2015). The most important achievement in 2014 was establishment of SB at Tallinn University of Technology. IEEE Estonia Section will have own first anniversary in 2016 (Section was founded in 1996).