

Slovenia Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

- We are trying to be in a sustainable partnership with local industry. What works particularly well is the involvement of companies in events and competitions organized by student branches. This year we have made specific effort to target the companies within technology parks across Slovenia. These have been invited to participate on ERK conference with their industrial related article submissions. The idea behind is to expand the usually presenters, i.e. mostly large industrial companies, and refresh with SME and startups.
- The assessment of improvements is in October time frame after our annual ERK conference.
- We will remain dedicated to foster industry relations also in the future.

Students and Young Professionals

- We have a variety of different activities for students. The learning courses we host are our biggest success. We give our students the opportunity to gain more practical knowledge to compliment the theory they get from classes. The knowledge spreads through many fields, like electronics, telecommunications, programming, etc. Our lectures and company tours have a high participation level as well.
- With better funding we could advertise IEEE in a much more efficient way, and thus get more members. Additional funding would also help us host more events.
- Our biggest success was the Arduino competition we did with the company Cosylab. The student response was great and with the support we provided with lectures the end products were great. The participants of the competition presented them on our final event, where a group of judges decided who will win the prizes. All in all the competition spun the course of 7 months and was a great success.
- We will continue our work from previous years. Our main focus will be on getting more esteemed lecturers to hold lectures on our faculty.

Section Vitality

- Regular events, meetings and activities together with commitment of long-term members to engineering community of IEEE works relatively well therefore we keep up with a relatively modest but very stable membership.
- The biggest problem is in transition from student to regular membership; this is the point where after graduation we lose a large number of student members which are not transitioning to PhD studies. There should be an even slower transition with membership fee to keep up with young members.
- Despite a small number of new members we are happy to report our high retention numbers, large in comparison with other sections. This indicates that the existing members value the benefits of membership however this feeling is slowly expanding towards new members.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The establishment of hardware-oriented student project competition sponsored by a high-tech Slovenian company turned out to be a good motivation point for students and excellent bridge between industry and IEEE.