

# **Sweden Section**

## Getting Closer to Industry

# **Mats Edvinsson**

- Industry relations are strengthened by e.g. having industry members involved in IEEE positions, e.g. Chair or Board members in Chapters, Section Board etc. This has been done also in 2015.
- However, a challenge: As corporates tighten the organizations, little time is left for voluntary work such as IEEE. An accelerated tendency during 2015, e.g. good individuals step down or look for replacements
- Direct contact & discussions with industry representatives in 2015. E.g. meeting with the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise on possible cooperation areas. However, progress is slow.
- Using the Nobel Prize event when IEEE members awarded as a vehicle to arrange or participate in events, as well as to increase exposure to industry, academia & IEEE members
- Participation from IEEE in industry events. E.g Section Chair & WiE Chair attended a seminar arranged by the Swedish Association of Graduate Engineers on female aspects of engineering. This increased the visibility of IEEE and WiE. Other Section Board members attend other industry events, scouting for members.
- Other initiatives jointly with industry participants by e.g WiE (see below)

## **Students and Young Professionals**

- The Sweden Section vitality has increased in WiE, YP and SB. E.g.: At the Section AGM in March 2015, the general opinion was expressed that the student groups, YP and WiE are now well represented in the Board. This is very positive in developing activities carried out by young generation within IEEE. The SYP coordinator (industry rep) elevated to ordinary member. WiE and a YP representatives adjunct members.
- Renewal preparations: A new young (industry rep) co-Treasurer adjunct to the Section Board, parallel to the Treasurer the learn & drive forward new Section procedures (see below)
- The Nomination Committee currently consists of and chaired by YPs representatives, including head of YP Sweden
- The WiE Group attracting more new members among professors and students at KTH. WiE organised a meeting in May with a professor from KTH and an industry senior scientist from Acreo. Very positive feedback from students, to continue as regularly scheduled sessions.
- The first ever pan-Nordic SYP will take place 6 8 Nov 2015 in Stockholm. Initiated & driven by the Sweden Section, a strong team of WiE, SBs, YP and a Section Board representative drives the preparations, venue, logistics, sponsors, etc.

### Section Vitality

- Initial preparations for hosting the R8 meeting in Stockholm in 2016 q3: Hotels identified, preliminary facts collected and sent to R8 for evaluation & further steps. As a rehearsal, Stockholm is hosting the the first pan-Nordic SYP in Nov 2015
- We have started with IEEE Collabratec
- A metro area coordinator was assigned 2015 q2L Samarth Deo. The purpuse is to initiate & spread among early adopters, such as YP SB & WiE
- Continue major efforts 2014 in structuring operations of the Sweden Section, interactions with Chapters, SB, YP & WiE, as well as planning, budgeting & reporting. 2015 started well, intention to bring it further forward.
- A pan-Sweden workshop on 2 Oct 2015; all Chapter Chairs, Chair SB, YP and WiE have been invited, as well as the Section Board; Key topics: IEEE Sweden 50 yrs, where are we today, Lessons learned, Areas to address, Going forward, Planning & budgeting for 2016 2018

### Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- The Sweden Section 50 year anniversary 2015 is used as a vehicle: E.g. Section Chair opening speech at CPMT first Nordic workshop in June. Special 50 year material to be distributed.
- Our Quarterly Newsletter continues. Now also distributed to R8 leadership etc, well received
- Comments on Section officer reporting:
  - The Section Board officers are updated
    - The Section Board updates changes according to our knowledge. However, it is a challenge to keep a 100% updated data of officers in all Chapters & Affinities
    - Some chapters have a low activity level, which sometimes leads to low staffing priority and hence low updating frequency. Some chapters struggle to compose a sustainable board, leading to interim or unclear solutions. Some chapter officers have not renewed membership in time. Some Student Branches loose momentum & sometimes collapse when key individuals move on. Etc.