

# **Cyprus Section**

## **Getting Closer to Industry**

# **Marios Antoniou**

The IEEE Section supports the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8 in order to rejuvenate IEEE's involvement with the industry and develop strong working partnerships between IEEE and industry companies. The IEEE Cyprus Section has already appointed an Industry Ambassador (Mrs Anastasia Georgouli) who will coordinate the implementation of the initiative in Cyprus. Our Industry Ambassador, in coordination with the South Europe Ambassador (Mr. Marios Antoniou) have already started the communication with the industry section in order to locate possible cooperation in internship programs. Very soon we will contact our members for supporting the mentoring programs

## Students and Young Professionals

IEEE Cyprus Section is the only Section in Region 8 that has an IEEE entrepreneur's network. This network is organizing talks and seminars for young entrepreneurs related to setting up and operating a start-up company. These talks cover technical, legal and business matters. The implementation of internship and mentoring programs through the Action for Industry Initiative will provide value to students and young professionals. They will receive valuable mentoring that will help them acquire new professional skills. Through internship they will be able to acquire working experience and opportunities for future employment.

#### Section Vitality

Vitality means performing the duties, initiative, energy and enthusiasm. Since vitality is one of the three focus areas of Region 8, it is also of high priority for IEEE Cyprus Section. Vitality will keep the section active and will serve its members better. As the new Chair of the section, I will try, with the support and cooperation of our Committee, to organize our yearly activities using the proposed by IEEE "Section Vitality Checklist".

#### Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Outstanding new initiatives
  - Teacher In-Service Program (TISP)

IEEE Cyprus section representatives (volunteers) from the academic erea participated in TISP Training Workshop in Greece. The Cyprus IEEE Section volunteers, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Cyprus, are organizing for the 1st Q 2016 workshops

- To train school teachers to perform interactive lesson plans in their classrooms thereby increasing the interest of students in pursuing science / engineering related degrees in the future
- To train other IEEE Cyprus Section volunteers.
- The IEEE Cyprus Section is organizing (in cooperating with the IEEE Region 8) the 18th Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference MELECON 2016 (http://www.melecon2016.org/cfp.html). The conference will take place from 18-20 April 2016, at St. Raphael Resort, in Limassol, Cyprus. More than 300 technical and research papers were submitted covering the areas of Information and Communication Technologies, Electrical Power and Renewable Energy Systems, Internet of Things, Big Data and Cloud Systems, Virtual Environments and Emerging Environmental Systems and Applications. We expect more than 400 participants, presenters and volunteers.
- Special achievements In 2015 the IEEE Cyprus organized the 104th IEEE Region 8 meeting in Limassol