

Estonia Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

- Appointing the officer of Industrial Relations among people outside academy improved contacts with industry, dissemination of information about DL visits etc.
- Still, members in SME industry do not feel they get enough in return of their membership fee compared to members at universities who enjoy full benefit of IEEEExplore.
- Some of DL topics have happened to be too academic and do not attract members from industry. Can region have industry oriented DL-s?
- As usual, during our section-wide summer seminar we invite representatives of local (IEEE areas related) industry to discuss about their problems, challenges, workforce preparation etc. Those meetings have been highly appreciated by academic members too.

Students and Young Professionals

- In our case IEEXtreme works well. Section is covering the fee for those students the first time are enrolling to IEEE to take part of competition. Although there are retention problems those could be smoothed when SB-s are active. Our SB-s and affinity groups are young (one or less than one year) but leaders are taking their role seriously.
- Region helps to launch and run joint events in countries in the neighborhood might help. We had very positive feedback from Nordic SYP 2015 student participants of our section. They learned a lot, have grown their professional network and have already launched new initiatives.
- Section is involving students in their events, student representatives are present at ExCom meetings and we are continuously ready to listen their ideas, give advice and also support financially as much our budget allows.

Section Vitality

- IEEEExtreme is still the largest one-event source of new members. At the same time there is increased interest against Senior membership status which has been under-exploited option in our section so far. Recently (in 2014 and in 2015) formed and approved student branches and WIE student affinity groups are also entry oriented and beneficial for section vitality.
- One of IEEE values is network but it is quite a difficult for regular or new member to discover who else belongs to chapter and section - it's very dynamic also. Even for officers it is quite time consuming to extract chapter (especially joint chapter) member lists in SAMIEEE.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- University of Tartu SB (30th November 2015)
- Tallinn University of Technology WIE SB (17th December 2015)
- IEEE Estonia Section will become 10 years old in 2016