

Norway Section

Runar Søråsen

Getting Closer to Industry

The newly elected Section Chair will send out an email to all members in Norway with a call for a volunteer to fill the vacant position as Section Industry Ambassador. When this role is in place the section board will build a strategy to foster industry relations.

Students and Young Professionals

- The Norwegian Section has one Student Branch (at Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim) and one YP Group. Both were established in 2014. We will assess the interest for establishing additional Student Branches at other universities in Norway.
- The chair of our Student Branch participated in the Nordic SYP Congress. This was reported as a successful and educational event. Apart from celebrating 50 years of the foundation of Sweden Section, the Congress focused on topics of how to facilitate innovation on campus, and current IEEE services and programs in Region 8.
- To better support Students and Young Professionals both financial support and guidance are needed. For example last time the IEEEExtreme coding contest was organized, we got 5k from the section, and 10k from industry (ARM and Q-free). The feedback from the SB was that it was a bit of fun to seek money outside, but it was time-consuming with no guarantee for success. SB members are quite new to IEEE and have limited experience and knowledge about what programs are available and how to make these programs happen. Some form of mentoring program for new YP AG and SB is requested, where volunteers coach groups that are starting.

Section Vitality

- During the last year we have gone live with our new website at <http://sites.ieee.org/norway>. An up to date website should help us engage a larger portion of our members. The annual general meeting for the Section was arranged 18th Dec, 1630 - 1830, at NTNU, Trondheim. The agenda provided time for networking, and pizzas were served! Also in December a new section board was elected. This board is elected for the period Jan 2016 to Dec 2017. One of the main strategies of the new board for increasing Section Vitality is to strengthen the collaboration with the Student Branch and the Young Professionals Group. They have ideas for activities that might require support from the section board. We will also try to create a forum to enable better exchange of experience and ideas between our Chapters. The new board is also assessing the possibility of utilizing the R8 Professional Activities Speaker Program for arranging workshops.
- Another strategy considered is to arrange some joint events with the national technical unions, such as Tekna or NITO. These associations are quite strong in Norway. The possibility of establishing contacts and links with them may be beneficial for the Section.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The chair of our NTNU Student Branch, Zhifei Mao, attended the IEEE R8 Nordic SYPWIE Congress 2015 in Stockholm. Thanks to IEEE and Sweden Section in arranging this event.