

Croatia Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

- Industry members were interested in attending events that provide opportunity to share their experience and achievements (lectures and workshops) or gain new technical knowledge from industry or academy peers.
- Areas that provide opportunity for IEEE to introduce new or improve existing industry related activities are: acquiring new employees (not only fresh graduates but also young professionals, seniors and managers), building professional and business credibility (through visibility within IEEE network, certificates and awards), and finding new business partners (customers, suppliers, collaborators). Quantity and topics of local IEEE activities should be more closely aligned with existing and emerging industry sectors in Section's area.
- There were no major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations.
- We will continue to organize our popular "IEEE Elevate" and "IEEE Step" events that generally attract significant number of visitors from industry (both IEEE members and non-members). We also plan to organize a networking event exclusively for IEEE industry members where we can discuss their expectations and impressions of our Section's industry related efforts. Collaborating with local industry associations is another way we plan to explore for getting closer to industry members.

Students and Young Professionals

- One of the most prominent students and young professional (YP) activities was the Croatia Section SYP Congress (October 17-18, 2015; Osijek, Croatia). It brought together 24 participants from all Section's Student Branches (SBs) and YP, and it emphasized collaboration and joint future plans of SBs and YP. Another notable activity was IEEE Day celebration, jointly organized by all four Croatia Section SBs, and YP and Women in Engineering affinity groups. Several technical/social events were organized, followed by membership recruitment actions and new volunteer meetings. Students also participated at IEEEXtreme and contributed with 18 teams. We also hosted Zagreb Energy Conference, ZEC 2015 (December 10-11, 2015), which attracted 66 participants. ZEC 2015 included technical lectures, electrical vehicles demonstrations and two visits (a hydro power plant, and a photovoltaics manufacturer). Finally, the 2015 ended with joint SBs and YP humanitarian actions. For continuous efforts of the Croatia Section YP group, Vinko Lesic (Croatia YP AG Chair) was awarded with the IEEE Region 8 Young Professionals Exceptional Volunteer Award.
- New edition of IEEEEmadC contest takes place from February to June 2016, this time with more than 100 ambassadors around the world (www.ieeemadc.org).
- The Section will continue its support for future activities.

Section Vitality

- Our activities follow the Section Vitality Checklist. The success of the Section is the result of the continuous work of our Section officers/coordinators as well as the vitality of our chapters, affinity groups and student branches. We take special care of timely annual reporting of officers, meetings and finances to be eligible for the bonus.
- The activities / programs / initiatives that work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in our Section include:
 - meetings, workshops and conferences;
 - cooperation with students and young professionals;
 - Pre-University education and STEM programs;
 - section awards;
 - section annual meeting/dinner.
- To improve Section vitality and sustainability the volunteers train themselves, taking advantage of the IEEE supporting material and programs.
- From the Region we expect help/guidelines to Section volunteers to improve Section operation and vitality.
- To foster Section vitality in our Section we will follow the best current practices:
 - taking care of members;
 - member retention and recruitment;
 - recruitment of new volunteers;
 - celebrating the IEEE Day;
 - inviting Distinguished Lecturers;
 - organizing IEEE conferences;
 - sponsoring local conferences;
 - section awards;
 - organizing Pre-University education and STEM programs;
 - publishing the Section Newsletter;
 - involving members from industry.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Special achievements include:

- Special achievements include:
 - Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek received the Silver "2014 Darrel Chong Award" for their proposal entitled IEEEEmadC;
 - Vinko Lesic, the Croatia YP AG Chair, was awarded the IEEE Region 8 Young Professionals Exceptional Volunteer Award.

- Anniversaries:
The 10th Anniversary of the Croatia Section Annual Dinner (November 2015).