

Professional Activities Subcommittee (PASC)

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Goals

The IEEE Region 8 Professional Activities aims to deliver tailored benefits to help advance professional career of Region 8 members. The PASC envisions to take various actions ranging from organizing local events to distributing regional level information via appropriate channels (Events, Collabratec, etc.). This includes, our speaker program, which is enhanced this year with the addition of new and young speakers from different spectrums of geography and skills. The primary goal for the subcommittee in 2016 is to engage each of our speakers into local or regional activities and help the program grow. In addition, the PASC will engage with other IEEE OUs to strengthen the program. Reaching out to industry has been a hurdle for the PA program, and in 2016 the subcommittee will aim to handle that.

Status and Past Contributions

- Less than a half of Sections in the Region 8 have PA officers: 28
- Improvement of Speakers program through call to motivated speakers interested to join the PA volunteers network. We received 5 applications and communication with perspective candidates is in progress.
- Many PA activities in Sections are not reported, especially when organized by SB, and quite often by Chapters. Such events are not recognized as Technical Meetings and are not linked to reporting requirements.
- IEEE Collabratec activities bringing the Region 8 PASC in Global PA Community and inclusion in activities linked to the MGA Global Resource program.

Outlook

- The primary goal for 2016 would be to increase the reach of speakers program. With help of new speakers, the subcommittee can cover more geographical area and diverse topics of interest. This shall allow, not only to increase number of events, but also to serve more members across the region
- The MGA Global Career Resource program is planning new activities and the subcommittee will collaborate for the pilot of those activities.
- Create online content specific for the Region 8 PA program and enlist what are the most popular topics among our membership.

Points of concern

- The speaker program requires more cooperation and planning with local organizers to ensure delivery of interesting events. Many members have access to online content for different topics, hence it is critical to deliver unique experience with the PA event.
- Convincing benefits to industry members is much difficult. A tailored benefits portfolio for each industry is required as the requirements vary. Large industries already have lot of in-house PA activities, so it is difficult to contribute for membership in those industries.
- Speakers need to be held accountable for the quality of their events. However, collecting feedback from each event is difficult.
- Improve status of the PA events within the meeting reporting requirements.
- Improve visibility and impact of PA activities.