

V/C Student Activities

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Goals

IEEE R8 SAC aims to reach the following goals:

- Monitoring SB activities through the Student Branches revitalization program and the new Student organisation units' formation process and pre-approval forms. Our report on revitalization project indicates our success rate.
- Maintaining a lively community of IEEE Students across the region through Cross-Sectional Congresses and Region 8 SYP Congresses. This year our focus is on the R8 SYP in Germany.
- Promoting excellence and competition spirit through the annual Awards and Contests, Mind the Gap! Contest launch and the Student Paper Contest. Our record of submissions and awards indicates our achievement level.
- Getting closer to students through the social media channels such as website, Facebook page and mailing list.
- Monitoring our Industry Relations as a start for more engagement to come.
- Developing SB counselor support network.

Status and Past Contributions

1) Awards & contests

Promotional campaign for Award submission started on 1st December 2015 in cooperation with MGA Student Activities Committee and lasted until 15th February 2016. For promotional campaign we used various PR streams like Facebook, R8 website, video materials, illustrations, and webinars. We had 25 publications on various Facebook pages and IEEE related groups. As a result of promotion this year we have achieved new record in award submissions. Stats for each category:

- 32 submissions for The Darrel Chong Student Activity Award
- 7 submissions for IEEE Outstanding Branch Counsellor and Branch Chapter Advisor Award
- 10 submissions for Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award
- 35 submissions for IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award

Last edition of IEEEExtreme was fruitful for IEEE R8 where teams took top 3 positions in competition:

- 1st place "Team Name" from Iran
- 2nd place "EPFL1" from Switzerland
- 3rd place "Powerhouse" from Romania

The first place for global website contest is also announced to be from region 8:

- 1st place: "Alexandria SB" from Egypt <http://alexsb.org>

2) Student Paper Contest (SPC) 2016

The first call for SPC 2016 has been launched in August 2015. A total of 29 valid submissions out of 40 were received from 24 Student Branches belonging to 18 Sections. The papers were graded over Exordo platform this year. 5 finalists will present in the oral final during MELECON '16 in April in Limassol, Cyprus and three of them will be the winners of this round. The five selected finalists are:

- a) Serban Mihalache, Florin-Silviu Dumitru, *Current-Mode Capacitance Multiplier with Reduced Parasitic Elements*, Faculty of Electronics, Telecommunications and Information Technology, Politehnica University of Bucharest, Romania
- b) Marko Bizjak, *The segmentation of a point cloud using locally fitted surfaces*, University of Maribor, Maribor, Slovenia
- c) Laszlo Pinter, *Statistical Analysis of the Electric Vehicle Chargers' Impacts on the Low-voltage Distribution System*, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Budapest, Hungary
- d) A.J. van den Biggelaar, *A Fast, Flexible and Accurate Algorithm for Shaping the 3D Radiation Pattern of an AAS*, Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands
- e) Stefan Wunsch, *Reducing the Processing Loss of Windowed Transforms Using Linear Discriminant Analysis*, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Karlsruhe, Germany

3) Electronic Communications

The R8 SAC Facebook page is extensively used to update all the news regarding student activities starting off as well as Award Campaign, posting news about the deadlines and the awards. The R8 SAC website (www.ieeer8.org/student-activities) is used for posting all results about IEEEEXTREME, SPC, and Student Revitalization Project documents. Furthermore, the electronic communications support:

- Coordinating region 8 Ambassadors for the MadC and IEEEEXTREME.
- Keeping up with the Pre-approval Process.

4) Student Branch Revitalization Project

The Student Branch Revitalization program is a continued effort by R8 SAC to ensure that student branches remain active and that all Section Chairs appoint a Student Activities Chair as well as a Student Representative for their section as they serve as an important link for Region 8 to all students in the respective sections.

The Student Branch Activities Reporting campaign started on 21st October 2015, which was 10 days prior to the deadline, 31st October 2015. The campaign constituted of daily reminder in a form of a poster highlighting the number of days before the deadline. The poster was shared using all our social networking platforms. The overall result of the campaign was a success as it led to 120% increase in the number of reports submitted as compared to the 2014 academic year. Other activities of 2015 was the preparation of "The survival guide" and the implementation of the "Pre-approval form"; These ensure that all newly registered student branches have a direction not only from their department but from the

students who will form the student branch, by giving an indication on how they plan to keep their branches active not only for the present year but for the successive year.

We have a total of 519 SB, 193 SC and 78 student affinity groups formed in R8 as of end of Feb 2016. Stats for formations as last report in October 2015 till 28th February 2016:

- Student Branches: 18 approved (19 pending approval)
- Student Branch Chapters: 11 approved (plus 13 Pending)
- Student Affinity groups: 4 approved (1 pending)

Outlook

- **Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress 2016** IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress 2016 will take place in Regensburg, Germany from the 17th to 21st of August 2016. This year the Congress will be organized by the Student Branch of the University of Regensburg and the Student Branch of the University of Passau. These two teams are working together closely with each other, as well as with the R8 Student Activities Committee and R8 Young Professionals Subcommittee to achieve great quality and results from this event. The expected attendance is up to 450 students, Young Professionals and IEEE Officials.

The Congress Program consists of various different sessions, such as plenary, soft-skills workshops, technical, as well as a strong presence of Industry which will help to engage Students and YPs.

The R8 SAC will support students to attend the R8 SYP Congress and we would like to encourage all Section Chairs to help the students with their travel expenses.

- **Region 8 Student contests**
 - We are conducting campaigns for IEEEExtreme 9.0 programming contest which takes place on 24th October 2015.
 - SPC 2016 oral presentations will take place as part of MELECON 2016 in Limassol.
 - "Mind the Gap" contest (a R8 SAC initiative) will run for the first in 2016.

Points of Concern

- 1) Keeping counselors updated by sending email to them.
- 2) Promoting the SYP 2016
- 3) Making Twitter more active and create a hashtag for reaching more students.
- 4) Sending emails and e-Notice reminders for SAC major events
- 5) Updating Facebook, Website, LinkedIn, and Twitter.