

Region Vitality

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Goals

The basic goal is to better serve our members. That means successful Section operation, timely reporting (officers, meetings, financials) and holding elections on time by taking care about the period of service according to the rules.

Status and Past Contributions

Sections have been reminded to hold elections on time taking care about the period of service according to the rules. We have now a much better situation with holding elections on time and with serving terms of Section Officers.

Region Officers start their terms on 1 January. That is one of the reasons for having start terms of Section Officers on 1 January as well. For the Region it is important to have an updated list of Section Officers at the beginning of the calendar year.

Sections have been informed to report on time in December from MGA and in January from me. Help was offered. Some Sections had difficulties in financial reporting by using NetSuite. For such cases a template has been prepared and successfully used. I would like to point out the work of Adam Jastrzebski (appointed by our Director for helping in Section Vitality) and Becky Szewcsik (MGA Staff) in financial reporting. In 2016 the deadline for reporting has been changed from 31 March to 15 March. The situation with reporting is improving and is much better now than in the previous year.

The basic success indicators of Section Vitality in the Region are the number of Sections reporting on time and receiving the rebate as well as the number of Sections with officers serving inside the period of service according to the rules.

Outlook

What should be done to improve vitality? Visit <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/section-vitality/> to become familiar with tools/documents

- Section self assessment - Use the Section Vitality Checklist
- All section officers should do their job with pleasure. Be informed and efficient
- Be familiar with the use of the Section Vitality Dashboard, SAMIEEE and v-Tools
- Be familiar with the MGA Operations Manual (Section 9)
- Be familiar with the Geographic Unit Rebate Schedule, Requirements and Procedures. NEW - Geographic Unit Rebate Schedule included into the MGA Operations Manual (Section 9.0.E)
- Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled by majority vote of the Section Committee or Section Executive Committee
- Organize elections on time, well before the serving end date of current officers. When doing so you will ensure an adequate transition period. As an example, in Region 8 we have elections in October for officers starting on 1 January.
- NEW - A Section may define in its local operating procedures document if the Vice Chair shall automatically become the Chair at the conclusion of their term (MGA Operations Manual, 9.4.F).
- Fulfill membership needs
- Contact members and obtain member feedback
- Increase membership and increase member engagement
- Recruit and train new volunteers and potential successors
- Prepare a Program of activities for the calendar year. Start new initiatives.
- Organize meetings (professional, technical, nontechnical, administrative, social) by section, chapters, affinity groups, student branches
- Form new chapters, affinity groups and student branches
- Have a chapter and affinity group coordinator in your Section and keep a vigilant eye on the activity of chapters and affinity groups during the year
- Guide and help chapters and affinity groups and organize a yearly meeting with chapter and affinity group officers
- Encourage cooperation and joint events of section units (chapters, affinity groups, student branches)
- Conduct events with students
- Getting closer to industry (involve practicing engineers)
- Involve Young Professionals
- Organize Educational activities (preuniversity, lifelong)
- Organize Professional activities (leadership, management)
- Organize Student activities (have an active Student Activities officer and a Student Representative in the Section, activity/vitality of all SBs in the Section, involve students into section/chapter activities, help students)
- Awards (member recognition, member grade elevation, volunteer recognition, Section yearly awards)
- Section website always up to date
- Organize an annual social event

Points of Concern

According to the rules in the MGA Operations Manual, Sections should take care about doing their basic job.

Section officers should train themselves, possibly before running for a position. Region 8 should also organize workshops/trainings.

All our Coordinators/Subcommittees should continue to help and encourage activities in Sections. As a consequence of these actions, their vitality will increase.

The Region Vitality Coordinator Aleksandar Szabo a.szabo@ieee.org and the Section Vitality Officer Adam Jastrzebski akj@kentforlife.net are always ready to help our organizational units.