Electronic Communications Coordinator (ECC) — George Michael

The Region 8 Electronic Communication Coordinator's job is to facilitate communication, both between members of the Region 8 Committee, and between this committee and present or future IEEE members.

Presentation Tools

- The on screen clock / counter we use at the Region 8 meetings was refactored to have more features like font size change and is available for download here http://link.ieeer8.org/timer2
- An Android application and a Windows application were developed that allow users to control power point presentations via their smartphones and tablets. The new system uses Bluetooth technology to make the communication between the devices. The application is available for download here http://link.ieeer8.org/clicker.

Articles cross posting

Our website offers the service to automatically post articles to mutliple services. We can post to social network services like Facebook groups and pages, Twitter accounts, Google+ accounts and to other Wordpress or Blogger websites. If you are interested to receive our articles automatically, please contact me for details. I would like to thank Cyprus and Greece section for participating in this service with their Facebook groups.

Redirects

To make it easier for our volunteers to promote the content they post on the website, we created redirects for their pages to shorten the URLs and make them more user friendly. For example our news feed can be accessed from this URL http://news.ieeer8.org, Student activities from http://student.ieeer8.org and http://students.ieeer8.org. The same functionality is being applied to sections, for example http://cyprus.ieeer8.org translates to http://ieee.org.cy Sections and groups that want to use this functionality, please contact me.

IEEE Region 8 website (http://www.ieee.org/r8)

The IEEE Region 8 website serves as a common reference point for all information regarding our Region. It supports besides hosting of articles, the hosting of photo galleries and document repositories. From the website you can get information about: latest news regarding R8, offers and services from IEEE, jobs, the full section roster and links to the sections' websites, links to important conferences, IEEE related important links and many more. We are always accepting new articles so feel free to let us know of what your Section is doing so that we can let the whole Region know.

Statistics

According to the monitoring tool that has been installed on our websites these are the statistics that were obtained over the period from the 5th of October 2015 to the 7th of March 2015. Over this period, near 21,000 people visited the website and over 51,000 pages were viewed with our homepage receiving more than 28,50% of the traffic with more than 14,500 page views. On an average visit, a user stays for about a minute and a half. Our visitors come from 150 countries/territories all around the world, many of whom are outside Region 8. Our Facebook group https://www.facebook.com/groups/2490621134/ has more than 5,800 members! Our newly activated Twitter account (https://twitter.com/ieee8) will also be receiving the posts from our website. Right now we have 72 followers and counting.

Mailing Lists (http://listserv.ieee.org/)

It is the responsibility of the ECC to maintain the Region's mailing lists - depending on the type of group or list - this means adding/deleting members if subscribing is not permitted or reviewing/editing messages if moderating is required. Important lists for volunteers can always be found at the homepage of our site.

vTools (http://vtools.ieee.org/)

vTools abbreviation stands for "Volunteer Tools". vTools simplify the administrative tasks to our volunteers via use of online tools, reduce time spent managing activities, and assist in member development. vTools are developed and made possible by IEEE volunteers. The toolbox simplifies administration by offering web based software, reduces time spent managing activities, and assists in member development.

Reports

During this period we are still testing various methods to receive the reports of the committee. For this reason a survey is being used to collect section reports at http://surveys.vtools.ieee.org and a word document with limited formatting capabilities is used by the rest of the members of the committee. The final version of the Agenda Book and the individual reports were converted to Latex to improve their quality of typesetting. As the incoming reports are not in Latex, this process takes significant amount of time to complete. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Youmna El Bitar and Mr. Christian M. Schmid for their invaluable help and the many hours they dedicated for the completition of this task!

Please contact with me at xeirwn@ieee.org for more information or assistance.