

Action For Industry (AfI)

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Goals

Your strategic vision matters!

What are the goals and challenges in your field? What are your primary indicators of success? E.g., How will you know that your subcommittee was successful at the end of the year?

Objectives: To move IEEE closer to industry by initiatives delivering credible and sustainable value to industry. Thereby we in Region 8 aim to restore the roots of IEEE which started with industry

Measures: The Action plan is systematic, avoiding slogans and unrealistic intentions. Because the plan is systematic, we measure progress by each stage of achievement.

Challenge: The serious challenge is whether industry, which has been significantly neglected by IEEE, will be persuaded to open up co-operation with IEEE.

Status and Past Contributions

We highly value your contributions to Region 8!

Please provide the relevant information that you would like to present to the committee. E.g., describe the major activities, the associated outcomes achieved so far and how they contribute to the success of Region 8.

Positive Progress

R8 Industry Ambassadors have established effective and friendly contact with many companies across Region 8. The common approach and achievements are intended to make the value of IEEE familiar to companies whether national or global.

We reached many companies by painstakingly identifying Seniors and Fellows actually based in industry. Many of the industry Seniors and Fellows are now Mentors available to our young engineers. Similarly, internships that have been offered enable our young engineers to access short term industry experience.

Companies offering Internships seek high ability IEEE Students. They will be very selective, preferring those who show commitment, communicate well and have good interpersonal skills.

Briefings on these are on the Region 8 website on:

Internships: <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/action-for-industry/internships/>

Internships offered are listed at <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/action-for-industry/internships-offered/>.

Mentoring: <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/action-for-industry/mentoring/>.

The list of volunteer Mentors is at <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/action-for-industry/mentors/> so that young engineers can reach out to them for guidance

The AfI team participated in the Students and Young Professionals Congress (SYP) in Regensburg during August 2016 and held a very successful interactive Workshop at which 80+ Students and YPs plus R8 OpCom and candidates for IEEE president and Region Director participated. The strong interest in AfI was evident from the student and YP contributions made by many who were benefitting from AfI.

To-date more than 100 IEEE Students have been placed in Internships throughout Region 8. Additionally, many IEEE Students and YPs have sought Mentoring. The Mentors have responded positively to the Mentees.

R8 intends to send Certificates of Appreciation to all the companies that have participated in the Internship initiative.

Outlook

Turning your vision into an actionable plan!

What should be the main focus of next years committee? What things should be done as continuation of your work?

Next Steps:

We are grateful that the successful progress of AfI has received commitment from Region 8 OpCom to continue into the future. We are grateful for the R8 OpCom hardship fund that has been made available.

Our next steps are:

- 1) Consolidate and continue the Internships and Mentoring. Gain kudos from successful internships with bright IEEE students proving to be highly capable.
- 2) Bring willing companies into R8 initiatives.
- 3) Hold IEEE forums for entrepreneurs and small and medium sized companies.
- 4) Facilitate (non-voting) Corporate Memberships for companies with opportunities for reduced fees for employees.
- 5) Provide industry tracks allowing more (non advertising) industry oriented presentations.

The AfI Succession plan. The 2017 AfI Team:

- 1) Chair = Marios Antoniou,
- 2) Student and YP Liaison = Mohamed Amin
- 3) R8 Industry Ambassadors: Toni Mattila, Marios Antoniou, Mohamed Amin, John Matogo

Points of Concern

The IEEE Region 8 family is here to help and support!

What are your major struggles? Where are the loose ends? How could R8/MGA or any other IEEE entity better support you? E.g., what would you need to achieve your goals?

Support:

We need the continuing commitment of R8 OpCom to support the team and its objectives. R8 Director has agreement from MGA that:

- 1) the Membership Renewal form will have tick boxes for all members to show whether they are in Industry, Academia, Government, Other.
- 2) vTools to be adjusted to change the Section role from IRO to Section Industry Ambassador (SIA)