

Estonia Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

Good contacts with national industry associations are good, resulting information exchange about relevant and interesting to both side events. Industry people still feel they are not receiving enough benefits to justify membership of IEEE, moreover work load does not allow them to focus volunteer responsibilities. There are exceptions of cause. We succeeded to compose and launch petition to form joint chapter of industry related societies (Industrial Applications and Industrial Electronics together with Automation and Robotics and Power and Energy societies). There are enough members, also few members outside of academia and we hope it helps to foster Industry relations.

We have decided also to renew somewhat in dormant status site visits to industry partners.

Students and Young Professionals

It really depends of student leaders. There are really active ones who organize one event after another and passive ones waiting for suitable opportunities. SB support (rebate) arriving to Section is small and although Section does support extra some of activities (participation at SYP congress, IEEEExtreme) students lack good knowledge where else and how to apply for additional support. We expect SYP Congress at Regensburg will give our SB representatives necessary expectation and skills to organize and finance own events.

YP affinity group is not forming due to lack of good leaders and due to distributed nature of potential members.

The WIE of Student branch of TUT appeared to be great success, they have succeeded to organize in short time many events and attract great lectures/professionals from different IT related fields to give an open lecture. Section does definitely notice and support new activities.

Section Vitality

The section (officers/members) and its units have to take care for visibility of own actions, otherwise the organization presence will be forgotten fast. Professors can convince students (especially PhD) to join IEEE to get benefit on research events (smaller fee). DL events are also good attractors but often it's difficult to organize them on "prime" time for higher student attendance. Region/Society officer visits and presentations at chapter/section events can be beneficial.

The most successful has been getting new students waiving their the first year membership fee if they contribute in some IEEE related event (e.g. IEEEExtreme). We will definitely continue with this practice.

There is small continues growth of members in Section comparing membership volume over many recent years.

Another issue is retention. In some few cases the friendly reminder of colleague to renew the membership has proved to be helpful. In majority cases former members have weighted their decision to not continue IEEE membership already seriously and it has to be accepted.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- * Forming of WIE at Student Branch of Tallinn University of Technology. * Forming of Student Branch of University of Tartu. * Conferences where Section was technical supporter (CyCON, ReCoSoC) and more to come. * Action to form joint chapter of industry related societies. * New Senior Members. * Anniversary (IEEE Estonia Section became 10 years old) Summer seminar and General Assembly on 19-20th of August 2016.