

Norway Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

In March we succeeded to recruit a volunteer to fill the vacant position as Section Industry Ambassador. Our appointed Section Industry Ambassador is Giancarlo Marafioti. The section is currently working on a strategy to foster industry relations. To support this process, we are assessing the possibility of creating a section Industry Relations Committee. In addition, Giancarlo has been in contact with Toni Mattila, the R8 Industry Ambassador for Europe North, to align our strategy with initiatives at the regional level. We are currently working on establishing contacts with potential mentors from the industry with the goal of establishing student internship positions.

Students and Young Professionals

- The Norwegian Section has one Student Branch (at Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Trondheim) and one Young Professionals Group. Both were established in 2014. We are currently assessing the interest for establishing additional Student Branches at other universities in Norway.
- For the students, competition events work well. We have organized the Extreme programming competition. It did interest young master/ bachelor students. However, organizing such competitions normally costs much, since we need offer local prizes, global prizes are extremely hard to win. Some other activities such as academic/industry talks or seminars, are also expected to work well. Topics can be 'life of researcher/professor', 'prospect of the industry' and such.
- To better support the student activities, we need incentives to motivate students to become IEEE student members, so that they can join in the competitions, talks/seminar, etc. And contacts with the industry is very important as well, since we want to invite them to share their experience/insights.
- Hamed Nademi, the Secretary of the Norwegian section, will participate in the R8 SYP Congress 2016 in Regensburg on behalf of the Norwegian SYP Affinity Group.

Section Vitality

The section board has, since the last R8 meeting, initiated the following main strategic activities to strengthen the section vitality:

- 1) Re-instated the Section ExCom where the section board and the chairs of all chapters and affinity groups meet
- 2) Started a process to create collaborative agreements between the section and national societies, with the goal of realizing additional technical activities and increasing IEEE visibility. This will be according to the new National Society Agreement (NSA) Process
- 3) Appointed a Section Industry Ambassador. This person will lead the process of establishing contacts with mentors from the industry with the goal of establishing student internship positions
- 4) Established contacts at universities with the goal of establishing more student branches
- 5) To increase IEEE visibility, we have established a working group to assess the possibility of defining a IEEE Milestone in Norway.
- 6) Appointed an Awards and Recognition Officer for Norway: Daniel Golparian.
- 7) The section endorsed a Jerobeam Fenderson concert which were held in Oslo May 26th. The technology behind Jerobeam Fenderson's music and oscilloscope visualization was featured in IEEE Spectrum last year.

Based on an initiative from the Sweden section, a new joint chapter has been established: "Joint Nordic Components, Packaging & Manufacturing Technology Society Chapter".

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The Section Chair wants to thank Jenny Olsson Picalausa for arranging the Jerobeam Fenderson concert in Oslo. This arrangement resulted in several leads that might be utilized to establish more IEEE activities in Oslo.