

Serbia & Montenegro Section

Vera Markovic

Getting Closer to Industry

Attracting more IEEE members from the industry and foster the Industry Relations is a challenge in Serbia and Montenegro because the level of the industry development is not high. Regardless, there were some initiatives and actions aimed to go closer to the industry since the last R8 meeting.

As a good example of enhancing the relations with companies, CE chapter with the support of Serbia & Montenegro Section organized an industry oriented international event aimed at innovations in consumer electronics, ZINC 2016. The event encompassed forums, seminars, workshops and product and prototype exhibition, giving the opportunity researchers and engineers from industry and academia to exchange their experience, results and ideas. The vice-chair of the IEEE Serbia & Montenegro Section gave a special talk about IEEE within that event in order to draw attention of the audience, especially from companies and research institutes, to IEEE.

At many other events, some kind of promotion was organized in order to attract industry engineers to become IEEE members.

Students and Young Professionals

Special attention is paid by IEEE S&M Section to the students and young professionals. The biggest student event and the major success of the IEEE Student Branch of Nis is the joint International Students Projects Conference IEEEESTEC, which is organized every year by IEEE SB Nis with the cooperation of IEEE S&M Section, IEEE ED/SSC Chapter, IEEE MTT Chapter, WIE and student organization EESTEC. It is also a place for promoting IEEE among students to a great extent.

IEEE SB Novi Sad continued with promoting activities in order to motivate younger students to join the student branch. The emphasis was set at presenting different student competitions organized by IEEE, opportunities for scholarships, grants and fellowships, etc.

The Section supports the participation of a student representative at the IEEE R8 Student & Young Professional Congress 2016 in Regensburg.

IEEE supported International conference in Consumer Electronics, held on June 1-2 in Novi Sad had a special focus on talented young professionals. Special discounts for young researchers as well as awards for best young author's paper have been offered at the ETRAN conference, held on June 13-16 in Zlatibor, which is also supported by IEEE S&M Section as well as by various societies/chapters.

Section Vitality

During the previous period, the S&M Section made big efforts in order to spread information and promote the values of IEEE. A new flyer about IEEE in Serbian language has been prepared, printed and distributed at major electrical engineering events. As a result of the permanent work on the section vitality, there are good results regarding the membership development. Recently, the S&M Section was recognized for an outstanding achievement - meeting the retention goal for the 2016 membership year. Also, very good result is achieved in the "recruitment" category, almost 90% of the 2016 goal.

The Section supports a lot of conferences, workshops, seminars, invited lectures, etc. which are held in Serbia and Montenegro. It should be emphasized that the members of the Section Executive Committee and Chapter Committees take part actively in organizing such events. It is a common and good practice at the conferences and workshops that Section Chair or Vice-Chair welcomes the meeting at the opening ceremony and gives a speech on IEEE association and its mission, as well as on the S&M Section activities.

It is also very important for the Section that its web site is very-well maintained and regularly updated.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

2016 is a year of tributes of our Section, the successor to the earlier Yugoslav Section, because we mark the 45th anniversary. Concerning the special achievements, the Joint Chapter Power Electronics, Industrial Electronics and Industry Applications Societies has been awarded with a prestigious prize "Best Chapter Award" by the IEEE Power Electronics Society. It is expected that the delivery of the award will be within the scope of the conference ECCE 2016 in Milwaukee, USA. In addition, recently the IEEE Signal Processing Society's Serbia and Montenegro Chapter has been awarded a Certification, valid for four years, from 1 January 2016 through 31 December 2019.