

Urban Burnik

Slovenia Section

Getting Closer to Industry

- We are continuing to foster good personal relations with important engineering leaders in Slovenian industry and beyond. We are happy people from Slovenian companies are regular guests at events organized by Slovenia Section and local
- chapters. We are keeping good contact with the industry also by organizing industrial events and excursions for students, which is of high importance for the companies seeking for young engineers.

One of the good ideas from recent period is to foster mutual promotion; a good example is partnership with National Instruments at technical events of varied degrees.

- We are also happy to see how small SMEs recognize the benefit of membership of their engineers especially for networking and technical activities.
- IEEE presence in large traditional companies from the area of electrical engineering should further be enhanced as at the moment our local society of electrical engineering possesses a better presence.

Students and Young Professionals

- Regular social and technical events are being organized by and including members of Student branches in Ljubljana and Maribor. There is an ongoing plan to revitalize activities of SB Maribor.
- To boost confidence and provide direct networking, members of SB Ljubljana are directly involved in most events organized by Slovenia Section and its chapters and groups.
- We are fostering relations between the industry and students, promoting career development and information flow. Further student activities like sponsored student competitions are foreseen for the study year 2016/17.
- Student events are well attended but are not leading to a significant increase in number of volunteers.
- More awareness of the membership potential should be introduced among students of electrical engineering and computer science. The membership among undergraduate student is moderate but is increasing among graduate students. On the other hand, undergraduate students are much more involved in local organisation of activities. The benefits of experience, engineering soft skills and networking should better be promoted among potential members.

Section Vitality

- We are regularly organizing events of interest to our members. We also believe in a commitment of electrical engineers to belong to a professional society. Thus, we are maintaining a relatively constant number of retaining members, which is shown also in R8 MD reports.
- Retention is much lower within student and graduate student members, likely due to a high increase in membership dues from student to regular member.
- We would require much clearer benefits to members to increase membership. The price model is relatively complex with many membership options and dues. IEEE's membership fee for regular members is high compared to an average engineering salary in Slovenia.
- We will continue to organize and to promote events and activities by IEEE in order to make clear membership benefits.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Slovenia Section partners in organization of International Electrotechnical and Computer Science Conference ERK 2016 for the 25th time.
- Up until, 2 distinguished lecturer events have been organized, with more activities to follow in autumn.