V/C Member Activities

Dušanka Bošković

Goals
Main goal of the MA team is promoting member engagement through activities and projects linked to specific affinities as Young Professionals (YP), Life Members (LM), Women in Engineering (WIE) and History Activities. We also try through Professional Activities (PA) to answer member needs in the field of career development and to identify interesting topics for their future development.

Primary indicators of our success are sustainable networks of officers in all sections in the Region 8, and challenge is in reaching motivated IEEE members in different parts of the Region 8 and involving them in our activities. The best example is Young Professionals Sub-Committee (YPSC) which developed vibrant network of YPAGs officers in the Region 8, and provided them with full set of very important resources for successful YPAG operation. The results of our engagement and especially of the Membership Development Sub-Committee are visible through members’ retention and members’ recruitment. Specific details for the Region 8 membership data are provided in the MD SC Chair Report in the Agenda Book, but also in monthly reports distributed regularly to all MD officers in the Region.

Status and Past Contributions
The Vice Chair for Member Activities is coordinating activities of the Membership Development (MD), Professional Activities (PA) and Young Professionals (YP) sub-committees and coordinators for Life Members (LM), Women in Engineering (WIE) and History Activities. The diversity of sub-committees (SC) reflects the diversity of IEEE members and emphasizes our goal to focus on a specific needs and benefits of a member. Within the MA co-ordination Region 8 got involved in a new activities as joining Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT) with the ad-hoc Humanitarian Activities SC.

The major event in the Region for the reporting period was SYP Congress 2016 in Regensburg, where local organizers, YPSC and SAC demonstrated the highest level of organizational skills and hospitality. The YPSC were hosting several workshops, and they were joined by the PASC and WIE representatives. This was an excellent opportunity that MA sub-committees members were able to personally approach many Student Members and YPs and involve them in many valuable and interesting events.

Outlook
We are in the concluding months of our two year term, and we are hoping that our successors would build open the results we achieved and organizational structure we have established, as we were following the steps of our predecessors. In performing our activities we have engaged a lot of excellent and motivated volunteers, creating a pool of candidates for the future regional officers.

Points of Concern
Main concern for the MA team is a membership decrease linked to reduce in the activities, and consequently the resources. Best way to answer this challenge is in improving our activities, with strong emphasizes on improved co-ordination between sub-committees and in planning joint events and projects, and also transferring experience and sharing knowledge between sub-committees, and not only within MA team, but jointly with the Technical Activities and the SAC.