Professional Activities Subcommittee (PASC)  
Jan Haase

Goals
Apart from organization and continuation of the Distinguished Lecturers Program PASC will try to focus on the following goals this year:

- Get in contact with existing PA officers in sections and trigger appointment of new officer in sections which did not have one in past
- Organize events and booths at Region 8 flagship conference and broaden the audience of PA activities to other conferences in Region 8
- Make PA more visible via Website, Facebook, Collabratec, etc.

Status
The PASC provides a major support to Region 8 activities via its Speakers program. The subcommittee has provided speakers and funding in past for various student and young professionals congresses such as R8 SYP in Regensburg, Nordic SYP in Stockholm, etc. Through these congresses we are able to broaden our audience to various parts of Region 8. In addition PASC has organized activities with various sections as well. Local section PA officers have hosted our speakers for various workshops which has helped in growing section activities. Hence PASC, contributes to engage members of Region 8 for their professional growth and engage into various section, student and young professionals activities.

Outlook
The new PASC just started this year, so the immediate plans will be sketched based on the goals mentioned above. Contact with AFRICON chairs was already established and Eurocon is next objective. In addition we are actively looking for new speakers and hope to strengthen our activities in various parts of Region 8.

Points of Concern
The committee size should be extended to 3 members. This has already been discussed and approved by Vice chair of Member Activities and Director of Region 8. With 3 members, it would be possible to divide the work in different areas of PASC according to different personal strengths. Also it helps to communicate with large number of section chairs, student volunteers and young professionals volunteers across Region 8.