

Educational Activities Subcommittee (EASC)

Sohaib Qamar Sheikh

Goals

The Sub-Committee's mission is to coordinate educational activities programs in the Region and create public awareness of engineering, technology and other relevant topics within IEEE's fields of interest, and we aim to achieve this mission by organizing targeted events and programs which are:

- 1) Aligned with Region 8 strategic goals;
- 2) Focused on improving the experience and knowledge of our members; and
- 3) Introduce IEEE educational offerings to industry professionals, educators and the general public.

The Sub-Committee has discussed and agreed on the following goals for 2017:

- 1) Support Educational activities officers in Sections by organizing at least one online meeting with them this year;
- 2) Organize a TISP Week program of Section-level TISP workshops for educators in the Region;
- 3) Re-vitalize EPICS-in-IEEE and IEEE Academic programs by organizing online workshops activities and participating in at least one Section or sub-Regional Student and Young Professional Congress;
- 4) Collaborate with EAB to organize an online Early Career Faculty Development workshop in the Region;
- 5) Explore accreditation opportunities in Region 8 by working with the Section Chairs and EAB, and organizing one workshop. This goal is dependent on EAB moving forward with the workshop program;
- 6) Increase the visibility of IEEE's continuing education offerings to the industry by participating in or organizing at least one industry event.
- 7) Organize four webinars covering relevant technical and soft skills topics for professionals;
- 8) Conduct a Region-wide Pre-University activities competition to foster local program ideas;

In addition to the items listed above, we will also be working on the following activities:

- 1) Support Section level educational programs;
- 2) Liaise with relevant units within EAB to align our activities and programs;
- 3) Liaise with Region 8 Action for Industry team to explore further opportunities for continuing education programs;

Status

Planning is in initial stages for the following programs and events:

- 1) Educational Activities Officer Meeting – tentatively scheduled for June 2017;
- 2) Early Career Faculty Development Workshop – EAB is on-board; Region 8 team to start finalizing the program, date and speakers;
- 3) TISP Week – Initial strategic discussion started for TISP Week in the second half of this year;

Outlook

Our focus this year is to make all areas of educational activities - Pre-University Education, University Education, Accreditation, and Continuing Education – active and optimized towards offering maximum value to our members. This involves a combination of promotional efforts, organizing face-to-face and online events, exploring partnership opportunities inside of IEEE and externally, and supporting Section level efforts.

The focus of next year's committee should be to capitalize on the momentum built this year and creating stronger partnerships with the Sections by working collaboratively with them and understanding their needs further. Key yearly events should also be continued. These include:

- 1) TISP Week;
- 2) Early Career Faculty Development Workshop;
- 3) Workshops in Section and Regional Student and Young Professional Congresses;

Points of Concern

The Region is vast with varying educational needs. One of the critical elements is to work closely with external entities, especially for accreditation and continuing education, which demands a longer time frame than one or two years. This is a major challenge as both of these areas have been inactive for a number of years and we are currently building our strategy to create strong offerings in these areas which provide value to our members. The Sections and Region are requested to share ideas, contacts, resources and local examples of programs and partnerships in these areas.