Cyprus Section   Nicos Michaelides

Getting Closer to Industry

The IEEE Cyprus Section supports the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8 in order to rejuvenate IEEE's involvement with the industry and develop strong working partnerships between IEEE and industry companies. The IEEE Cyprus Section in 2016 has already signed MOU agreements for internship programs with 10 big companies from the telecom, energy and computer sectors and has secured 50 internship positions for our student and YP members.

The Certificates of Appreciation issued by the IEEE Region 8 for Cypriot companies that participated in Acton for Industry during 2016 and their respective company champions will be presented in an industry to be organized during Q2 of 2017. IEEE Cyprus Section is in contact with the companies for the 2017 internship programs and.

IEEE Cyprus Section will investigate the possibility to participate in the biggest Information Technology and Telecoms industry event that is organized in Cyprus (Infocom 2017). Industry experts will also invited in IEEE local events.

The SBs of the IEEE Cyprus Section will organizing educational visits to big companies like Electricity Authority of Cyprus, Satellite Earth Stations, Seawater Desalination Plants etc.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The IEEE Cyprus Section will continue sponsoring events, activities, competitions and seminars, related to new technologies and other issues that are for the interest of the student society, organized by the student branches in cooperation with their universities. The implementation of internship and mentoring programs through the Action for Industry Initiative will provide value to students and young professionals. Through internship they will be able to acquire working experience and opportunities for future employment.

Section Vitality

Since vitality is one of the three focus areas of Region 8, it is also of high priority for IEEE Cyprus Section. For the next period we are planning the following activities:

- Create an action plan with each student branch, affinity group and chapter.
- Legal Registration of IEEE Section
- Update our website http://ieee.org.cy/
- Keep metrics related to membership development. Contact deactivated members and ask them to renew.
- Communicate with people that could be potential IEEE members to convince them to join IEEE.
- Organize the annual event for membership recruitment.
- Organize seminars and workshops for our members.
- Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) - organize workshops in high schools
- The IEEE Section will continue supporting the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8.

IEEE in Africa

There are several conferences on electrical and electronic engineering and information technology organized in Europe. The IEEE R8 could sponsor the participation of students and young professionals from Africa to these events. The IEEE R8 could also provide support and training to volunteers from Africa in order to coordinate activities and organize events in Africa. Furthermore, professors and industry experts from other area can be encouraged and sponsored to participate in IEEE events that will be organized in Africa.

The IEEE Cyprus section will investigate the possibility to sponsor the participation of a number students and young professionals from Africa in Energycon 2018.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

The staff of IEEE Office in Vienna could implement regional activities and strategic initiatives and objectives of the R8. For example, it will be very useful for the whole IEEE R8 if the IEEE Office in Vienna could provide professional support for the organization of conferences and other events in the region.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Outstanding new initiative: In 2016 the IEEE Cyprus Section made a bid for the organization of the IEEE International Energy Conference ENERGYCON 2018 in Cyprus. In December 2016 the IEEE R8 Opcom assigned the organization of the R8 flagship conference to the IEEE Cyprus Section. Important dates of the conference:

- First call for papers: March 2017
- Full paper submission: 15 October 2017
- Deadline for workshops/tutorial proposals: 1 October 2017
- Notification of acceptance: 15 February 2018
- Camera-ready papers: 1 March 2018
- Registration starts: March 2018
- Conference dates: 3-7 June 2018

Special achievements: IEEE Cyprus Section organized in October 2016 two TISP workshops for school teachers and participated in Region 8 TISP week. The workshops were under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus and supported by the European University Cyprus (EUC). A total of 60 Informatics and Technology & Design Secondary Education teachers were participated and two representative lesson plans were performed one for Computing and one for Engineering. The workshops were supported by a team of students from the IEEE Cyprus Section Student Branches. The Cyprus Section is planning to organize TISP workshops in Secondary Education in cooperation with school teachers (2Q 2017)