

Denmark Section

Troels Bundgård Sørensen

Getting Closer to Industry

The membership numbers for the Denmark section are relatively stable, although many members mainly subscribe to IEEE in order to access the IEEE periodicals. That includes a fair amount of members in industry. The section has a challenge to engage those members to increase the overall activity level. The Distinguished Lecturer Program DLP has recently, and in the past, created much interest, and we believe this is one solution. Also we have two very active chapters whose activities give clear opportunity to Danish industry; in 2016 one of the chapters co-organised the European Control Conference, ECC16, thus creating an opportunity to get abreast with the latest developments, despite limited travel budgets in industry.

As a new initiative, the section committee will attempt to establish direct liaison with a member from the Danish technological service industry, hoping that their contacts will give a good overview of industry trends and activities, and their interests and wishes. The member will be invited for the section ExCom meetings.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Our main objectives are to revitalise Student Sections at both Aalborg University (AAU) and Denmark Technical University (DTU), to actively support chapters and to either revitalise or dissolve dormant chapters. Initiatives have been taken at AAU to form a new student branch, and the same is expected at DTU soon.

Student Paper Contests (SPCs) and the upcoming Student Branch Congress are among the “teasers” we will use to get young professionals joining our section.

The main priority in the section is to have more active rather than more members.

Section Vitality

For now 4 years, the Denmark Section has been severely restricted in its activities by limited access to our local bank account. Despite repeated attempts to transfer executing powers from past to present treasurer we have still not succeeded.

Our current bank situation makes things very difficult, as financial support to all activities such as Student Branches, Chapters and local DLP expenses are impossible for the time being. To get this issue solved is therefore the single most pressing issue for the Danish section.

One approach to somewhat relieve the situation has been to approach the Danish Engineering Association IDA, probing their interest for joint professional activities like joint seminars. Experiences from joint IEEE/IDA seminars in the past shows clearly that by turning up in high numbers, IDA members show they have an interest in such seminars with speakers from both academic research and industry. It is clear that IEEE here has a distinctive advantage towards IDA and Industry in general, although members of the current IDA management has hesitated in working with IEEE.

IEEE in Africa

The section committee has not discussed the issue so far.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Disseminate ideas and suggestions for improving industry relations, steering section vitality, etc. based on the overview of activities within the region. Maybe even compile a catalog or manual for such.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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