

Germany Section

Ingo Hahn

Getting Closer to Industry

One of our colleagues of the ExCom serves as the Industry Relations officer. Besides that, one of the major strengths of the IEEE Germany Section is that we have members either in industry and in academia. Furthermore, most of the members in academia, especially the professors, have spent many years of their professional life in industry. Based on this strong connections to industry it is possible to organize nearly every meeting of the ExCom or the meetings of the different IEEE Society Chapters either at an university or in collaboration with the industry.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

New IEEE members are mainly attracted by the meetings of our different IEEE Society Chapters and by personal advertisement for an IEEE membership to colleagues. These chapter meetings are organized by academia and industry, therefore, it is possible to promote IEEE and gain new members.

Furthermore, we have about 14 active IEEE student branches spread all over Germany. The activities of these student branches are also a means to attract new student members. The IEEE Germany Sections supports most of the student branch activities also financially.

Section Vitality

The ExCom of the IEEE Germany Section meets personally twice a year at different locations in Germany. Among them were during the last years e.g. Berlin, Bielefeld, Erlangen, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Munich. All the chairs of the IEEE Society Chapters and chairs of the IEEE Student Branches are invited to attend each of the ExCom meetings, and they are requested to report on their activities. During our ExCom Meetings the Chapters and the Student Branches could also request for financial support from the IEEE Section for specific activities.

One of the major successes in 2016 were the IEEE SYP 2016 congress held in August last year in Regensburg, and the IEEE Milestone in Königs Wusterhausen in July. IEEE president Barry Shoop attended this event. Furthermore, another IEEE Milestone is in preparation together with the IEEE Poland Section. We want to honor the achievements of Jan Czochralski who invented the Czochralski method for crystal growth of semiconductors.

The IEEE Germany Section is also technical cosponsor of many IEEE conferences to be held in Germany. Prior to agreeing in an MOU the IEEE Germany section requires in every case the active participation of an IEEE chapter in preparing a conference.

IEEE in Africa

Firstly, try to promote IEEE at the universities. Convince the students and the academics of the values and of the benefits of the IEEE and let them play an active role in leading student branches and society chapters. After finishing their studies these students would surely promote IEEE in the companies where they will work.

Another idea could be to support the building of strategic partnerships between IEEE Sections in Africa and other IEEE Sections in R8, probably in Europe. Like the concept of sister-societies we find e.g. between IEEE IAS and IEEE PELS we could imagine a kind of sister-sections.

The IEEE Germany Section could support IEEE activities in Africa by an active information exchange of ideas on best practices and lessons learned in leading the different branches and chapters of our Section. If this concept could work in Africa is not guaranteed, but we could share our experience. Furthermore, we could also help in finding some industry contacts for student excursions as we have done in the past with a student branch of the IEEE Tunisia Section.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

To recognize and support the needs of IEEE R8 members more specifically as before, especially in Middle East and Africa.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Ideas for other IEEE milestones in Germany are discussed regularly in the ExCom of the IEEE Germany Section.