Iran Section   Ahmad R. Sharafat

Getting Closer to Industry

The followings worked well for us:

1) Requiring each sponsored conference to organize a panel session to promote academia-industry relations.
2) Evaluating requests for sponsorship also on their programs for the industry.
3) Requesting the student branches to initiate industry relations.
4) Organizing various workshops to cater for the industry needs.
5) Creating a Job Site in our website.

The following changes are considered:

1) Enhancing the activities of the industrial committee with a view to generating more interest from the industry.
2) Encouraging the industry to consider offering incentives to IEEE members and give priority to hiring IEEE members.
3) initiating internship programs.
4) Proposing improvements in the curricula to include industry related subjects.

Success since the last meeting:

1) We initiated serious discussions with the industry to consider the above mentioned changes, and are very hopeful that the industry will become more active.
2) The office bearers for both the Industry Relations Committee and the Standards Committee are now appointed from the industry.

We plan to implement the followings:

1) Organize workshops on topics of interest for the industry.
2) Encourage the industry to actively participate in organizing conferences.
3) Organize panels and webinars by the industry for students and Young Professionals.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The followings work well for us:

1) Providing incentives such as giving discounts for purchasing books and registration fees of sponsored conferences.
2) Organizing annual National Student Consular assemblies.
3) Organizing annual general Congresses during which annual awards are announced.
4) Facilitating renewal of IEEE membership.
5) Selecting highly qualified individuals based on their achievements for our annual awards.
6) Organizing and sponsoring students contests.

The following changes are required:

1) We have not been receiving any support from Region 8 because of the past sanctions. This needs to be properly addressed with appropriate solutions.
2) We need the new IEEE office in Vienna to provide support (at least the airline tickets) for a minimum of 50 internationally renowned scholars to travel to Iran and give lectures on the topics of interest to our members in Iran.

We have maintained a vibrant and active IEEE Iran Section in spite of virtually no support from Region 8. In the absence of the required changes as outlined above, it would be very difficult to attract and support future members.

Future plans:

1) We will rejuvenate the Young Professionals committee, and accord it its overdue priority in our activities.
2) We will continue to apply what worked well for us, as outlined above.

Section Vitality

The followings worked well:

1) Sponsoring conferences.
2) Holding monthly meetings of the Executive Committee.
3) Organizing workshops and lectures on topics of interest.
4) Encouraging members to promote their membership grades.
5) Holding IEEE Day in student branches.
6) Providing incentives to our members, such as discounts for purchasing books and hotel reservations.
7) Honoring highly qualified individuals for their achievements with annual awards.

Below changes are required:

1) We have not been receiving any support from Region 8 because of past sanctions. This needs to be properly addressed with appropriate solutions.
2) We need the new IEEE office in Vienna to provide support (at least the airline tickets) for a minimum of 50 internationally renowned scholars to travel to Iran and give lectures on the topics of interest to our members in Iran.

We have maintained a vibrant and active IEEE Iran Section in spite of virtually no support from Region 8.

Future plans:

1) We will continue to apply what worked well for us, as outlined above.
2) We will initiate the local version of IEEE Iran Section Distinguished Lecturer program.
3) We will propose improvements in the curricula of electrical and computer engineering programs of study in Iran.
4) We will introduce different real-world problems to our members.

IEEE in Africa

We propose the following action items to be considered by IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe:

1) Organize online course, webinars and workshops
2) Organize student contests for both undergraduate as well as graduate students.

We stand ready to help IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe in the implementation of the above proposals, or in any other way that our help is asked for.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

1) We have not been receiving any support from IEEE Headquarters and Region 8 because of past sanctions. This needs to be properly addressed with appropriate solutions. We are disadvantaged as compared to other Sections.
2) We need Region 8 and/or the new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria to provide support (Airline tickets at the minimum) for at least 50 internationally renowned scholars to travel to Iran and give lectures on the topics of interest to our members in Iran.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We need to resolve the outstanding issues pertaining to sanctions and get the much needed support from the IEEE Headquarters and Region 8.

We also need to reactivate access to the IEEE Digital Library for Iranian universities as another action item of top priority. Future Plans:

1) Invite distinguished national/international scholars to present technical and scientific lectures and present webinars.
2) Promote international collaboration between IEEE Iran Section committees with their counterparts in Region 8 and other regions.
3) Support Chapters to enhance their professional activities.
4) Establish new Chapters in 2017.
5) Expand existing student chapters and establish new ones.
6) Enhance and foster involvement of the industry in the IEEE Iran Section activities.
7) Provide wider national benefits for IEEE members.
8) Provide online courses and webinars to complement their university education and prepare them for work in the industry.
9) Organize national student paper competitions (SPC).
10) Organize new student contests.

We have maintained a vibrant and active IEEE Iran Section in spite of virtually no support from IEEE Headquarters or Region 8.

We celebrated Claude E. Shannon's centennial Anniversary by IEEE Iran Section in Tarbiat Modares University, where two internationally renowned scholars gave lectures on the subject of information theory and Shannon's contributions.