

## **Lebanon Section**

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### **Getting Closer to Industry**

To get closer to the industry, we signed a MoU with the Order of Engineers and Architects (OEA) - Tripoli, Lebanon. We already programmed three joint events with OEA. The first is a seminar on cybersecurity that will take place on Saturday February 18, 2017. The second is the IEEE Lebanon Communications Research day 2017 that will take place at the order of Engineers of Tripoli during the month of April 2017, and the third is Final Year Project Competition organized by the order of engineers that will take place in July 2017.

In parallel, the Lebanon YP Affinity Group prepared MoUs with leading local companies like Nokia, Ericsson and the local mobile operator Alfa. As part of this collaboration, an IoT completion was organized with Alfa and Ericsson, and a monthly newsletter is prepared by the YP Affinity Group to brief the companies about IEEE activities.

Now, we are in the process of preparing MoUs with order of Engineers and Architects in Beirut and leading local companies. The primary changes from IEEE is to make itself more relevant to small/medium size companies, possibly through providing heavy discounts on publications.

### **Attracting and Supporting Future Members**

The YP Affinity Group has been key in providing the link among student branches and with the section through joint events and initiatives. YP organized visits to IEEE Students branches at different Lebanese universities. Their direct support and collaboration with university students played a big part in the establishment of nine new student branches in the last two years.

Region must foster/encourage more joint events among student chapters and YPs from different countries.

### **Section Vitality**

As of February 13, we have 1576 members which shows a steady increase in the membership in the section. The section received a Certificate of Recognition from the IEEE Member Recruitment and Recovery Committee for outstanding achievement in member recruitment in 2015 and 2016.

We currently have 17 student branches (9 new student branches established in the last 2 years) and currently one petition in preparation. We established one student branch chapter (University of Balamand Power and Energy society chapter).

Our financial position remains strong with a current balance of about \$ 40K.

One key aspect that IEEE and Region 8 must address is the retention of members post-graduation. There must be an incentive system for members to remain engaged.

### **IEEE in Africa**

Region 8 must focus on supporting Young professionals and student branches who are the key for a continuous and steady growth of the IEEE community.

### **Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria**

Not aware of the role and mission of this new office.

### **Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback**

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