

## Norway Section

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### Getting Closer to Industry

Focus for the last period has been to establish internships in the industry for students. Potential companies and mentors have been identified. Currently awaiting response. This approach aligns with the IEEE R8 Action for Industry Initiative.

To further foster industry relations active chapters with industry participation is a necessity. The section is doing its best to support the chapters, both by inviting them in the Section ExCom meetings and by assessing the chapter structure. It has been decided to support the merging of the Norwegian chapters of Power Electronics Society (PELS), Industry Applications Society (IAS) and Industrial Electronics Society (IES) into one chapter.

### Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Our main challenge is to establish and maintain Student Branches. One Branch was established at Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in 2014 (Trondheim campus). The activity at the moment is unknown. We have tried to establish Student Branches at other universities or campuses, but with no success, mainly due to lack of interest and too few IEEE members.

The section has one Young Professionals Group. This group has been quite active, but the current Chair had to step down due to other obligations. We have not succeeded in recruiting a new chair. Hamed Nademi, the Secretary of our section, participated in the R8 SYP Congress 2016 in Regensburg on behalf of the Norwegian SYP Affinity Group.

One team from Norway participated in the IEEEExtreme 10.0. With better marketing by the Section before the competition this could be made to be an even more efficient means for attracting new members.

To better support the student activities, we need incentives to motivate students to become IEEE student members, so that they can join in the competitions, talks/seminar, etc. We also think that the establishment of internships in the industry for students will make it more attractive to become student members.

### Section Vitality

The re-instated Section ExCom (where the section board and the chairs of all chapters and affinity groups meet) has been partly a success. Still difficulties in assembling all the participants to the monthly/bi-monthly telcos. We are planning for a face-to-face ExCom meeting in March where strategic vision work for ensuring section vitality will be on the agenda.

A working group in the section has prepared and submitted a proposal for an IEEE Milestone.

### IEEE in Africa

Currently nothing planned, but open to suggestions of how to support IEEE in Africa.

### Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Development and support of further membership benefits adapted to the needs of members in R8.

### Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The Section Chair wants to especially thank:

- the working group that prepared and submitted a proposal for an IEEE Milestone
- Yuming Jiang, Kaveh Niayesh, and Zhifei Mao for arranging and being proctors at the IEEEExtreme 10.0 competition