

## V/C Technical Activities

**Christopher James**

### Goals

The role of the VC for TA is to oversee and coordinate the activities of a number of key areas within the Region, these include:

- 1) Educational Activities
- 2) Chapter Coordination
- 3) Conference Coordination
- 4) Action for Industry
- 5) Standards

Sub-committees made up of key individuals have been established that bring together fresh ideas along with some 'institutional memory'. Each sub-committee has headed but a seasoned veteran of their respective area within IEEE.

My major goals for 2017 are:

- 1) Support the sub-committee chairs and members through continuing dialog.
- 2) Empower the sub-committees to challenge the status quo.
- 3) Learn best practice within this role from wider IEEE regions.
- 4) Create a preliminary initiative linking Technical Society expertise to that of the Region.
- 5) Ensure a stable, long-term view on the Region's conference programme.
- 6) Place particular emphasis on Standards and Industry programmes.

### Status

- The sub-committee chairs are in place and they have formed their sub-committees.
- I have had initial one-to-one discussions with each SC chair on strategy and focus
- Sub-committees are having routine online/ tele-conferences discussing their relevant areas, I do my best to dial-in and participate where possible.
- The TA Section of the Region 8 website has been refreshed and all the SCs have updated their sections and included relevant information to keep the content current.
- I have started preliminary talks with SCs regarding budgetary requirements looking forwards.

### Outlook

- Continue in open dialog with SC chairs and members
- Investigate bottle-necks, stumbling points, etc. within each sub-committee and help work towards a meaningful solution.
- Specifically deal with flagship conferences with an eye towards increased quality, sharing best practice and more open and inclusive attendance.
- Specifically deal with Action for Industry initiatives to strengthen the connections between Industry, academia and our young members.
- Look into a greater involvement of Standards into Region 8 activities – especially with the establishment of the IEEE office in Vienna.

### Points of Concern

At this my main concern lies in dealing with the challenges to maintain a youthful, inclusive community within Region 8 that strives for high quality in its interactions, events and other outputs.