



The 108th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting

25-26 of March 2017
Stockholm

Agenda Book



This document contains the Agenda Book for the The 108th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting. Due to the technical constraints when compiling this document from over 111 individual reports, the layout of some reports may have been slightly modified. You will find an electronic version of this document, together with the original version of each report on <http://www.ieee.org/r8>. Feel free to contact George Michael (xeirwn@ieee.org) with related questions.

The following is from the IEEE Policies, Section 7 - Professional Activities (Part A - IEEE Policies).

7.8 IEEE Code of Ethics

We, the members of the IEEE, in recognition of the importance of our technologies in affecting the quality of life throughout the world, and in accepting a personal obligation to our profession, its members and the communities we serve, do hereby commit ourselves to the highest ethical and professional conduct and agree:

- 1) to accept responsibility in making decisions consistent with the safety, health, and welfare of the public, and to disclose promptly factors that might endanger the public or the environment;
- 2) to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest whenever possible, and to disclose them to affected parties when they do exist;
- 3) to be honest and realistic in stating claims or estimates based on available data;
- 4) to reject bribery in all its forms;
- 5) to improve the understanding of technology; its appropriate application, and potential consequences;
- 6) to maintain and improve our technical competence and to undertake technological tasks for others only if qualified by training or experience, or after full disclosure of pertinent limitations;
- 7) to seek, accept, and offer honest criticism of technical work, to acknowledge and correct errors, and to credit properly the contributions of others;
- 8) to treat fairly all persons and to not engage in acts of discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
- 9) to avoid injuring others, their property, reputation, or employment by false or malicious action;
- 10) to assist colleagues and co-workers in their professional development and to support them in following this code of ethics.

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I. General Information

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Agenda

Order of the Day						
Friday, 24 March 2017						
18:00	0:30:00			Registration		
18:30	0:10:00			Welcome		Mats Edvinsson
18:40	0:10:00			Stockholm City Welcome		Karin Mäntymäki
18:50	0:30:00			Sweden Section Presentation		Mats Edvinsson
19:20	0:40:00			Technical presentation; Nobel, History and Present		Tobias Degsell
20:00	0:30:00			Cocktail Reception		
20:30	2:00:00			Dinner		
22:30				Dinner ends		
Saturday, 25 March 2017						
8:00	0:05:00	100	Procedural	Call to Order		Margaretha Eriksson
8:05	0:15:00	101	Procedural	Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers		Jan Verveckken
8:20	0:05:00	102	Procedural	Welcome by Swedish section		Mats Edvinsson
8:25	0:05:00	103	Procedural	Introductory Remarks		Eriksson/Verveckken
8:30	0:05:00	104	Action	Approval of the Agenda		Eriksson
8:35	0:05:00	105	Action	Approval of the Consent Agenda		Eriksson
8:40	0:35:00	106	Discussion	IEEE Region 8 Director's Address+future		Eriksson
9:15	0:20:00	107	Discussion	IEEE President's Address+future		Karen Bartleson
9:35	0:20:00	108	Discussion	IEEE Executive Director's Address+future		Jim Prendergast
9:55	0:05:00	109	Discussion	IEEE Vienna Office		TBD
10:00	0:20:00		Procedural	Break		
10:20	0:20:00	110	Discussion	IEEE President's Elect Address+future		Jim Jefferies
10:40	0:10:00	111	Discussion	Nominations & Appointments		Costas Stasopoulos
10:50	0:40:00	112	Discussion	Student Activities Report + future		Arvaniti/Inacio
11:30	0:40:00	114	Discussion	Technical Activities Report+future		C.J.James
12:10	0:05:00	115	Discussion	Workshops - Interactive Session Instructions		Eriksson/Verveckken
12:15	0:20:00	116	Discussion	Workshop and Interactive Session Pitches		WS and IS leaders
12:35	0:01:00	117	Procedural	Recess		Eriksson
12:36	0:04:00	118	Social	Group photo		
12:40	1:00:00		Social	Lunch		
13:40	0:05:00	200	Procedural	Call to Order		Eriksson
13:45	0:15:00	201	Discussion	Sections Congress 2017		Delimar
14:00	2:10:00	202	Discussion	Presentations / Parallel Tracks see separate agenda for parallel tracks (turn page)		All
16:10	0:10		Procedural	Break		
16:20	0:10	203	Discussion	Overview of the results of the Motion for Sections Congress		Verveckken
16:30	0:05:00	204	Procedural	Recess		Eriksson
17:30	1:30:00		Social	Bus ride, guided tour of Stockholm, to dinner location		
19:00	1:00:00		Social	Cocktail reception		
20:00	2:30:00		Social	Dinner and Award Ceremony - Dress code: Formal		Stasopoulos
22:30			Social	Dinner end, bus ride back to Hotel		
Sunday, 26 March 2017						
8:30	0:05:00	300	Procedural	Call to Order and Roll Call		Eriksson/Verveckken
8:35	0:45:00	301	Discussion	President-Elect Candidates' Debate		Piuri/Zurada/Costa
9:20	0:05:00	302	Discussion	Secretary's Report		Verveckken
9:25	0:20:00	303	Discussion	Treasurer's Report		Ralph Kennel
9:45	0:15:00	304	Discussion	Awards & Recognitions		Stasopoulos
10:00	0:20:00		Procedural	Break		
10:20	0:40:00	305	Discussion	Member Activities Report		Antonio Luque
11:00	0:20:00	306	Discussion	Technical Activities & working with Societies		Marina Ruggieri
11:20	0:20:00	307	Discussion	MGA VP's Address+future		Mary Ellen
11:40	0:15:00	308	Discussion	IEEE Region 10		Kukjick Chun

11:55	0:05:00	309	Discussion	Silent Reflection: what to adapt in your own Section Strategic Plan	
12:00	0:20:00		Procedural	Break	
12:20	0:20:00	310	Discussion	Future Conferences (Energycon, Melecon, GCC,Histelcon)	C.J.James
12:40	0:10:00	311	Discussion	Section Development & Vitality	Szabo
12:50	0:05:00	312	Discussion	Silent Reflection: what to adapt in your own Section Strategic Plan	
12:55	0:05:00	313	Info	Next Region 8 Committee Meeting	Delimar/Verveckken
13:00	0:20:00	314	Action	Motions	Erkisson
13:20	0:10:00	315	Info	New Business	All
13:30	0:05:00	316	Action	Adjournment	Eriksson
13:35	1:00:00	317	Social	Lunch	

Consent Agenda

401	Action	Approval of the minutes of the 107th Region 8 Committee meeting
402	Report	Reports

List of Participants

Name	Position
Fadhel Abulhasan	Kuwait Section Secretary
Hamidreza Afzali	Sweden Section Registration Team
Mohammed AL ACHHAB	Morocco Section Treasurer
Ghazi AL SUKKAR	Jordan Section Vice-Chair
Abdullah Al Yousef	Saudia Arabia East Section MD Officer
Amer Al-Hinai	Oman Section Chair
Kiril Alexiev	Bulgaria Section Chair
Adel Alimi	R8 Conference Coordination
Amara Amara	R8 Chapter Coordination
Mohamed Amin	R8 Action for Industry
MARIOS ANTONIOU	R8 Action for Industry
Efthymia Arvaniti	R8 Vice-Chair Student Activities
Conrad Attard	Malta Section Chair
samar baba	Tunisia Section Humanitarian Activities
Sergey Bankov	Russia Section Vice-Chair
Sara Barros	R8 Young Professionals
Karen Bartleson	IEEE President & CEO
Martin Bastiaans	R8 History Activities
Yuval Beck	Isreal Section Secretary
Marc Beebe	IEEE Corporate Staff
Sara BEN RABII	R8 Student Activities
Elena Blokhina	Circuits and Systems Society
Christian Bohm	Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society
Dusanka Boskovic	R8 Strategic Planning
Judith Brady	Area Manager, Europe
Holly Schneider Brown	IEEE Public Imperatives and Corp. Dev. Director
Urban BURNIK	Slovenia Section Chair
Paul Canning	Regional Sales Manager Xplore
Tomislav Capuder	R8 Conference Coordination
Ermanno Cardelli	Magnetics Society
Ermanno Cardelli	Italy Section Membership Development
Gloria Chukwudebe	Africa Area Chair
Kukjin Chun	R10 Director
Rui Costa	R8 Young Professionals
Izael Da Silva	AHCAA Member
Daniela Danciu	Clementina Saduwa Award Winner
Anthony Davies	R8 History Activities
Gordon Day	AHCAA Member
Tobias Degsell	Nobel Representative
Marko Delimar	R8 Sections Congress Coordinator
antonio della corte	Council on Superconductivity
Samarth Deo	Sweden Section Vice-Chair
Flavia Dinca	R8 Young Professionals
Stamatis Dragoumanos	R8 Educational Activities
Boris Dumnić	Serbia and Montenegro Section Vice-Chair
George Eduful	AHCAA Member
Mats Edvinsson	Sweden Section Chair
Younna El Bitar	R8 Women in Engineering
Mohamed El Dallal	R8 Young Professionals
Badr Eddine EL MOHAJIR	Morocco Section MD
Mohammed El Mohajir	Morocco Section Chair
Ibrahim Elamin ElSheikh	Saudia Arabia East Section Vice-Chair
Peeter Ellervee	Estonia Section Chair
Margaretha Eriksson	R8 Director
Theodora Fourou	R8 Assistant Secretary
JOSE JESUS FRAILE-ARDANUY	Spain Section Vice-Chair
John FunsoAdebayo	Nigeria Section Chair
Shashank Gaur	R8 Professional Activities
Mona Ghassemian	R8 Humanitarian Activities

Steven Gold	Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society
Piotr Graca	R8 Awards & Recognition
Aleksandr Gusinski	Belarus Section Chair
Jan Haase	R8 Professional Activities
Ingo Hahn	Germany Section Chair
Adel Ahmed Hamed	Bahrain Section Chair
Josef Hansson	Sweden Section Registration Team SB CTH
Brian Harrington	R8 Past Treasurer
Bakr Hassan	R8 Guest
Michael Heiss	Austria Section Chair
Ali Hessami	UK & Ireland Section Chair
Jaafar Ibrahim	R8 Awards & Recognition
NELSON IJUMBA	AHCAA Member
Ana Ines Inácio	R8 Student Representative
Dinko Jakovljevic	R8 Humanitarian Activities
Christopher James	R8 Vice-Chair Technical Activities
Adam Jastrzebski	Assistant Region Vitality Coordinator
James Jefferies	IEEE President Elect
Vincent Kaabunga	AHCAA Chair
Athanasios Kakarountas	Greece Section Vice-Chair
Habib M. Kammoun	Tunisia Section Chair
Shaun Kaplan	R8 Conference Coordination
Ljupco Karadzinov	Rep of Macedonia Section Chair
Vladimir Katic	Power Electronics Society
Ralph Kennel	R8 Treasurer
Amith Khandakar	Qatar Section Secretary
Andreas Koltas	R8 Voluntary Contribution Fund
Levente Kovács	Hungary Section Chair
Eric Kuada	Ghana Section Chair
Dovile Kurpyte	R8 Strategic Planning
Igor Kuzle	R8 Awards & Recognition
Eileen M. Lach	IEEE General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
David Law	R8 Standards Coordinator
Vinko Lesic	R8 Young Professionals
Alberto Lorento Leal	Sweden Section Registration Team YP
Pascal Lorenz	France Section Treasurer
Antonio Luque	R8 Vice-Chair Member Activities
Albert Lysko	South Africa Section Chair
Jan Machac	Microwave Theory and Techniques Society
Lebogang Madise	R8 Chapter Coordination
Ana Madureira	Portugal Section Chair
Peter Pal Magyar	Industry Applications Society
Mariusz Malinowski	Poland Section Chair
Mohab Mangoud	Bahrian Section Vice-Chair
Skander Mansouri	R8 Young Professionals
Karin Mantynaki	Stockholm City Representative
Vera Markovic	Serbia & Montenegro Section Chair
Maja Matijasevic	Croatia Section Chair
John Matogo	R8 Action for Industry
Toni Mattila	Finland Section Chair
Toni Mattila	Finland Section Chair
Anita Mekwunye	AHCAA Member
Yara Melki	R8 Student Activities
Julia Menz	Assistant to the R8 Treasurer
PAUL MICALLEF	R8 Student Activities
George Michael	R8 Electronic Communications
Nicos Michaelides	Cyprus Section Chair
Jovica Milanovic	Power Electronics Society
Khaled Mokhtar	R8 Strategy Planning
Joseph Mutale	AHCAA Member
Simon Muwowo	Zambia Section Chair

Peter Nagy	R8 Conference Coordination
Cristian Negrescu	Romania Section Vice-Chair
Andreas Neumeier	R8 Action for Industry
Bojan Nikolic	R8 News
Andreas Nylander	Sweden Section Registration Team SB CTH
Martin Nzomo	Kenya Section Chair
Maciej Ogorzalek	Division I Director
RAPHAEL ONOSHKAPOR	Nigeria Section Chair
Alexandros Osana	R8 Humanitarian Activities
David Oyedokun	South Africa Section Secretary
Matej Pacha	Czechoslovakia Section Chair
George Papadimitriou	R8 Student Activities
Daniel Pasquet	R8 Strategic Planning
Maria-Alexandra Paun	Switzerland Section Vice-Chair
Pouya Pelghami	Sweden Section Registration Team
Ana Isabel Pérez-Neira	Signal Processing Society
Ievgen Pichkalov	Ukraine Section Vice-Chair
Vincenzo Piuri	2018 IEEE President-Elect Candidate
E. James Prendergast	IEEE Executive Director & COO
Isa Qamber	Bahrain Section Honorary Chair
Mary Ellen Randall	IEEE Director and VP MGA
Sergio Rapuano	Instrumentation and Measurement Society
Alexey Rodionov	Russia Siberia Section Chair
Andrejs Romanovs	Latvia Section Chair
Marina Ruggieri	IEEE VP, Technical Activities
Carmelina Ruggiero	Nanotechnology Council
Thomas Runarsson	Iceland Section Chair
Roland Saam	R8 News
Magdalena Salazar Palma	R8 Director-Elect
Hadi Sawaya	Lebanon Section Chair
Christian M. Schmid	R8 Past Secretary
Meliha Selak	Bosnia & Herzegovina Section Chair
Josè Miguel Sepulcre	R8 Student Activities
SAMIR SHAHEEN	Egypt Section Chair
Sergey Shaposhnikov	Russia NW Section past Chair
Ahmad Reza Sharafat	Iran Section Chair
Sohaib Qamar Sheikh	R8 Education Activities
Mikhail Shestopalov	Shestopalov
Raed Shubair	Signal Processing Society
Catarina Silva	Portugal Section Vice-Chair
Enrico Silva	Council on Superconductivity
Cheryl Sinauskas	IEEE Director, MGA Geographic Activities
Nihal Sinnadurai	R8 Action for Industry
Athanassios Skodras	R8 Awards & Recognition
Runar Søråsen	Norway Section Chair
Troels Bundgård S	Denmark Section Chair
Costas Stasopoulos	R8 Past Director
Adeel Sultan	R8 Membership Development
PANAYIOTIS SYMEOU	R8 Nominations & Appointments
Aleksandar Szabo	R8 Region Vitality
Babak Taghavi	Sweden Section Registration Team SB KTH
Fatma Taher	UAE Section Vice-Chair
Tiziana Tambosso	Italy Section Chair
Miurell Tercero	Sweden Section Registration Team
Amar Tilmatine	Algeria Section Chair
Maria Trocan	Circuits and Systems Society
Charles Turner	R8 Life Members
Simonetta Turtu'	Council on Superconductivity
Vytautas Urbanavicius	Lithuania Section Chair
Murat Uysal	Turkey Section Chair
Frédérique Vallée	France Section Chair

Dirk Van Hertem	Benelux Section Chair
Elena Vasileva	Sweden Section Registration Team WiE
Jan Verveckken	R8 Secretary
Kathleen Weeks	IEEE Corporate Development Mgr.
Felix Yanovsky	Ukraine Section Chair
Danilo Zanatta	Switzerland Section Treasurer
Ali Hussein Zolait	Bahrain Section Secretary
Jacek Zurada	2018 IEEE President-Elect Candidate

Unapproved Minutes from of the 107th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting held on 24-25 of September 2016 in Porto, Portugal

List of Participants

Last name	First name	Position
Adel	Abdulla	Bahrain Section Chair
Fadhel	Abulhasan	Kuwait Section Secretary
Ghazi	Al Sukkar	Jordan Section Vice Chair
Amer	Al-Hinai	Oman Section Chair
Adel M.	Alimi	IEEE R8 Conference Coordination
Mohammad	Almuhaini	Saudi Arabia East Section Membership Development
Hafidh	Alsammarraie	Saudi Arabia West Vice Chair
Efthymia	Arvaniti	IEEE R8 Student Representative
Nasser	Assem	Morocco Section Vice Chair
Conrad	Attard	Malta Section Vice Chair
Jacob	Baal-Schem	Recipient of Life Member Group Achievement Award
Gaurav	Bajpai	IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Activities in Africa
Sergey	Bankov	Russia Section Secretary
Constantin	Barbulescu	Romania Section Officer
Sara	Barros	IEEE R8 Young Professionals
Martin	Bastiaans	IEEE R8 Past Director
Nazre	Batool	Clementina Saduwa Award 2016 Recipient
Vedad	Beirović	Bosnia and Herzegovina Section Secretary
Dusanka	Boskovic	IEEE R8 Vice Chair, Member Activities
Urban	Burnik	Slovenia Section Chair
Julius	Butime	Uganda Subsection
Ermanno	Cardelli	Italy Section Chair
Pedro	Carvalho	Portugal Section Secretary
Manuel	Castro	IEEE R8 Education Activities
Gloria	Chukwudebe	IEEE R8 Africa Area Chair
Thomas	Coughlin	IEEE R6 Director
Fernando Josè	da Silva Velez	R8 VTS Chapter Coordinator
Marko	Delimar	IEEE R8 Awards
Flavia	Dinca	IEEE R8 Young Professionals
Stamatis	Dragoumanos	Greece Section Representative
Tariq	Durrani	IEEE R8 Director-Elect Candidate
Mats	Edvinsson	Sweden Section Chair
Youmna	El Bitar	IEEE R8 Assistant Secretary
Imad	Elhajj	Lebanon Section Chair
Mircea	Eremia	Romania Section Chair
Margaretha	Eriksson	IEEE R8 Director-Elect
Mahmud	Fotuhi Firuzabad	IEEE R8 N&A Candidate
Jess	Fraile-Ardanuy	Spain Section Vice Chair
John	Funsoadebayo	Nigeria Section Vice Chair
Shashank	Gaur	IEEE R8 Professional Activities
Mona	Ghassemian	IEEE R8 Vice Chair, Student Activities
Steven	Gold	NPSS AdCom
Hanan	Hanjafah	IEEE R8 Industry Ambassador
Brian	Harrington	IEEE R8 Treasurer
Bakr	Hassan	Chair, Gulf Accreditation Committee
Jens	Haubrock	Germany Section Chair
Michael	Heiss	Austria Section Vice Chair
Enrique	Herrera-Viedma	Representative of Coordination Committee
Ali	Hessami	UK and Ireland Section Chair
Feliks	Ianovskyi	Ukraine Section Chair
Jaafar	Ibrahim	Saudi Arabia East Section Secretary
Christopher	James	IEEE R8 OpCom Candidate
Elya	Joffe	IEEE R8 Director-Elect Candidate
Peter	Kadar	Hungary Section Chair
Habib M.	Kammoun	Tunisia Section Chair
Shaun	Kaplan	South Africa Section Chair

Ljupco	Karadzinov	Macedonia Section Chair
Amith	Khandakar	Qatar Section Secretary
Eric	Kuada	Ghana Section Representative
Gunes	Kurt	Turkey Vice Chair
Igor	Kuzle	IEEE R8 Vice Chair, Technical Activities
Ole M	Lauridsen	Denmark Section Chair
Antonio	Luque	Spain Section Chair
Jan	Machac	MTT-S Region 8 Coordinator
Ana	Madureira	Portugal Section Chair
Peter	Magyar	IAS CMD Chair
Mariusz	Malinowski	Poland Section Chair
Vera	Markovic	Serbia & Montenegro Section Chair
Miguel	Marques	Portugal Section Treasurer
Maja	Matijasevic	Croatia Section Vice-Chair
Toni	Mattila	Finland Section Chair, IEEE R8 Industry Ambassador
George	Michael	IEEE R8 Electronic Communications Coordinator
Nicos	Michaelides	Cyprus Section Chair
Hadi	Moradi	Iran Section Secretary
Peter	Nagy	IEEE R8 Conference Coordination
Maciej	Ogorzalek	IEEE Division 1 Director
Raphael	Onoshakpor	Nigeria Section Chair
Alexandros	Osana	IEEE R8 Chapter Coordination Subcommittee
Matej	Pacha	Czechoslovakia Section Chair
Daniel	Pasquet	IEEE R8 OpCom Candidate
Moira	Patterson	EPPI Staff Lead
Maria-Alexandra	Paun	Switzerland Section Vice Chair
Ievgen	Pichkalov	Ukraine Section
Mohamed	Ramdani	France Section Vice Chair
Sergio	Rapuno	Chapter Coordinator of I&M Society
Alexey	Rodionov	Russia Siberian Section Chair
Andrejs	Romanovs	Latvia Section Chair
Marina	Ruggieri	Chair Presidents' Forum
Thomas Philip	Runarsson	Iceland Section Chair
Roland	Saam	IEEE R8 News Editor
Magdalena	Salazar Palma	IEEE R8 Director-Elect Candidate
Christian	Schmid	IEEE R8 Secretary
Samir	Shaheen	Egypt Section Chair
Sergey	Shaposhnikov	Russia NW Section Chair
Linda	Shoop	IEEE President & CEO
Mark	Shtaif	Israel Section Chair
Catarina	Silva	Portugal Section Vice Chair
Josè Pedro	Silva	Portugal Section Vice Chair
Cheryl	Sinauskas	IEEE Director, Geographic Activities
Adrianus Bart	Smolders	Benelux Section Chair
Runar	Såsen	Norway Section Chair
Costas	Stasopoulos	IEEE R8 Director
Georgi	Stoyanov	Bulgaria Section Chair
Adeel	Sultan	IEEE R8 Membership Development
Aleksandar	Szabo	IEEE R8 Region Vitality Coordinator
Tiziana	Tambosso	Italy Section Chair
Kalle	Tammemäe	Estonia Section Chair
Amar	Tilmatine	Algeria Section Chair
Gerald	Too	Kenya Section Representative
Charles	Turner	IEEE R8 Life Member Coordinator
Vytautas	Urbanavicius	Lithuania Section Chair
Jan	Verveckken	IEEE R8 OpCom Candidate
Lawrence	Wong	IEEE Vice President MGA

Saturday, 24 September 2016

100. Call to Order

Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** opened the 107th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting by welcoming everyone and then asked the R8 Secretary, **Christian M. Schmid**, if there was a quorum. The secretary replied in the affirmative.

101. Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers

All Section representatives introduced themselves by stating their name and the Section they represent.

102. Welcome by Portugal Section

IEEE Portugal Section Chair **Ana Madureira** welcomed everybody to Porto and invited the audience to enjoy their stay in Portugal.

103. Introductory Remarks

After Region 8 Secretary **Christian Schmid** provided some logistic information, Director **Costas Stasopoulos** welcomed some special guests:

- **Lawrence Wong**, IEEE Vice President MGA,
- **Maciej Ogorzalek**, IEEE Division 1 Director,
- **Thoma Coughlin**, IEEE R6 Director and
- **Marina Ruggieri**, Vice President-Elect, Technical Activities.

104. Approval of the Agenda

Director **Costas Stasopoulos** presented the agenda (see below) for the meeting. He also informed the committee that items might have to be moved due to travel arrangements of certain speakers. The items in the meeting minutes are documented in the order in which they were presented. The agenda was approved by the committee.

Saturday, 24 September 2016				
8:00	100	Procedural	Call to Order	Stasopoulos
8:05	101	Procedural	Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers	Schmid
8:20	102	Procedural	Welcome by Portugal Section	Madureira
8:25	103	Procedural	Introductory Remarks	Stasopoulos/Schmid
8:30	104	Action	Approval of the Agenda	Stasopoulos
8:35	105	Action	Approval of the Consent Agenda	Stasopoulos
8:40	106	Discussion	IEEE Region 8 Director's Address	Stasopoulos
9:15	107	Discussion	IEEE President's Address	Shoop
9:35	108	Discussion	MGA VP Address	Wong
10:00		Procedural	Coffee Break	
10:20	109	Discussion	IEEE Europe - IEEE European Public Policy Initiative operations and assessment	Marko
11:00	110	Discussion	Student Activities Report	Ghassemian/Arvaniti
11:20	111	Discussion	IEEE Region 8 SYP Congress	Arvaniti/Dinca
11:30	112	Discussion	Best Practices in Region 6	Coughlin
11:40	113	Discussion	Section Development and Vitality	Szabo
11:55	114	Discussion	Technical Activities Report	Kuzle
12:25	115	Discussion	Awards & Recognitions	Delimar
12:35	116	Discussion	Africa Area Report	Chukwudebe
12:45	117	Discussion	Action for Industry	Stasopoulos/Matilla
13:00	118	Procedural	Recess	Stasopoulos
13:01	119	Social	Group photo	
13:05		Social	Lunch	
14:05	200	Procedural	Call to Order	Stasopoulos
14:10	201	Discussion	Sections Congress Presentation Recommendation Instructions	Delimar/ Salazar Palma/ Bastiaans
14:40	202	Discussion	Breakout Sessions	Delimar/ Salazar Palma/ Bastiaans
16:10	203	Discussion	Presentation of Results	Delimar/ Salazar Palma/ Bastiaans
16:40	204	Procedural	Recess	Delimar/ Salazar Palma/ Bastiaans
18:40		Social	Meeting Point for Bus: Outside Hotel	
18:50		Social	Bus tour through Porto	
19:35		Social	Dinner and Awards Ceremony, Dress Code: Formal Taylor's Port Cellars Porto	
Sunday, 25 September 2016				

8:30	300	Procedural	Call to Order and Roll Call	Stasopoulos/Schmid
8:35	301	Discussion	Nominations and Appointments Report and Election Instructions	Bastiaans
8:50	302	Discussion	Candidate Presentations and Discussion	Bastiaans
9:50	303	Discussion	Executive Session	Bastiaans
10:30	304	Procedural	Elections	Bastiaans
10:45		Procedural	Coffee Break	
11:15	305	Discussion	Presentation of Election Results	Bastiaans
11:20	306	Discussion	Secretary's Report	Schmid
11:30	307	Discussion	Treasurer's Report	Harrington
11:50	308	Discussion	Innovation Fund	Harrington
12:05	309	Discussion	Member Activities Report	Boskovic
12:25	310	Discussion	Future Conferences (Energycon, Melecon, GCC)	Kuzle
12:35	311	Discussion	Vision for an Enhanced MGA-TA Synergy 2017/2018	Marina
12:55	312	Discussion	Vision for Region 8 2017/2018	Eriksson
13:10	313	Info	Next Region 8 Committee Meeting	Schmid/Edvinsson
13:20	314	Action	Motions	Stasopoulos
13:35	315	Info	New Business	All
13:55	316	Action	Adjournment	Stasopoulos
14:00	317	Social	Lunch	

105. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- Comment by **Imad Elhadj** on item "303. Treasurer's Report": The secretary omitted the following remark: "**Imad Elhadj** commended Treasurer **Brian Harrington** on his exemplary service."
 - Director **Costas Stasopoulos** and Secretary **Christian Schmid** agreed that this remark was omitted and promised that it will be mentioned in the minutes for this meeting (fulfilled above).

The consent agenda was approved by the committee.

106. IEEE Region 8 Director's Address

Director **Costas Stasopoulos** started by giving a brief overview of important past events in Region 8:

- Milestone in Königs-Wusterhausen,
- IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional (SPY) Congress 2016 in Regensburg,
- the Egyptian Engineering Day 2016 and
- Startup Ole 2016,

Also he commented briefly on progress on Region 8's priorities:

- Industry
 - Survey with Senior members
 - Industry Ambassadors in Sections
 - Mentors from Industry
 - Internships for students
 - Paris, Glasgow, Amman, Birmingham Smart Tech Workshops, **Ali Hessami** shared information and promotional material for the Smart Tech Workshop in Birmingham.
 - Tunisian Forum for Industry Academia Partnership
- Students and Young Professionals
 - Regional Congresses
 - CESYP 8-10 May, Zagreb
 - WESYP 20-24 May, Eindhoven
 - MESBC 4-7 Aug, Amman
 - Egypt Engineering Day 31 Aug, 1 Sep, Cairo
 - Hellenic 30 Oct-1 Nov, Thessaloniki
 - Nordic SYP 6-8 Nov, Stockholm
 - SB and YP groups vitality
 - Region 8 SYP in 17-21 August 2016 in Regensburg, Germany
- Section Vitality
 - The corner stone of Region 8
 - Alive and active Sections – Branches - Affinity groups
 - Democratic Elections Follow the MGA rules (significant progress made)
 - Reporting in time (significant progress made)
 - Sections Cooperating in conferences held in their Region
- Additional Priority: Membership Development
 - Dropping numbers

- Consequences of the economic crisis and the very high dollar
- Efforts being done by the Membership Development team
- Trying to organize a workshop in Region 8
- Should take advantage of the half year dues
- We need your help
- A membership development workshop will be held in Tunisia 18-19 November to address the issue

The director continued by showing the latest membership statistics and by reporting about the newly approved office in Vienna, Austria. He also informed the committee about the Sections Congress in Sydney and the upcoming Region 8 meetings. After touching on

- the Improved Section Vitality Dashboard,
- the new Innovation Fund,
- and the Africa Area,
- challenges with Sections,
- and the presence of Region 8 in higher IEEE positions

he thanked the Region 8 Team for 2015/2016. The complete presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

108. MGA VP Address

MGA Vice President **Lawrence Wong** gave an overview on the Strategy and Membership Numbers. He started by providing the framework to address:

- What is our winning aspiration (Goals)?
- Where will we play?
- How will we win?
- What capabilities must be in place?
- What management systems are required?

The 5 activities areas derived are

- Member Experience
- Geographic Unit Activities
- Membership Operations
- Business Activities
- Volunteer Experience

Lawrence Wong continued by presenting key initiatives (Young Professionals, IEEE Collabratec, Industry Professionals, Women in Engineering) and the 2016 MGA priority projects. The ongoing activities relevant for R8 are:

- Ad Hoc Committee on Europe Public Policy Initiative
- Ad Hoc Committee on Global Strategy
- Ad Hoc Committee on Industry Outreach
- Ad Hoc Committee on Industry Engagement
- Ad Hoc Committee on IEEE in 2030
- Vienna office
- TCS fee
- Yellow Card
- Africa initiative

Afterwards **Lawrence Wong** talked about membership statistics (as found in the presentation on the [meeting website](#)). Membership numbers are declining in all Regions but Region 10. Especially the decline of young professionals and retention rates is worrying.

The 2017 Workplan and Beyond include

- Continuing focus on:
 - Priority geographic areas
 - YP, WIE and professionals in industry
 - Volunteer training –Careers
 - Collabratec
 - MGA presence in global offices
- Improving membership growth and retention
- Areas to be operationalized
- Addressing gaps and new activities?
- Conferences?
- What will MGA be in 2030?

The complete presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

- Comment by **Ali Hessami**: The challenges of IEEE are very similar to the challenges faced by other professional institutions. Out-of-the-box thinking is needed to address this, but can not be seen from the presentation.
 - Answer by **Lawrence Wong**: Agrees about the challenges and that the answers do not exist yet. Believes that young professionals and industry are the solution.
- Question by **Mats Edvinsson**: How are these issues integrated in the 2030 process?

- Answer by **Lawrence Wong**: At the moment not, as the constitutional amendments are not approved yet. Needs to be addressed after the decision about the amendments.
- Comment by **Mats Edvinsson**: Changing the structure of IEEE is inwards looking. Word of advice: Bring an out-side in view into the equation.
- Answers by **Lawrence Wong**: This is done by using segmentation data.
- Question by **Michael Heiss**: Why is the retention rate for higher grade members so low? E.g., it is hard to get there and then you cancel?
 - Answer by **Lawrence Wong**: Retention of senior members is higher, but not for regular, higher grade members.
- Comment by **Charles Turner**: One should look at the segmentation data when analyzed by age. MGA reports massive losses of older members. MGA should proactively address this issue.
- Question by **Antonio Luque**: Can you please elaborate on the changes in the TCS fee?
 - Answer by **Lawrence Wong**: There was a big discussion already last year. The cost to MGA is substantial.
- Comment by **Ole Lauridsen**: IEEE needs to look closer at the value that IEEE brings to members.
 - Answer by **Lawrence Wong**: This is exactly what the segmentation data is for.
- Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: The TCS fee also has to be look at from a copyright perspective. When publications are given to IEEE explore, also copyrights are given to IEEE which they use to make money.

112. Best Practices in Region 6

After a short introduction, Region 6 Director **Thomas Coughlin** gave an overview about the following topics:

- Chapter Recording Initiative, an initiative to record and share meetings.
- Maker Faire - a faire for thousands of makers in Region 6 and beyond.
- The Web Site - increased activities and conferences, and some social networking helped to increase web site traffic.
- Monthly notice and Volunteers - a monthly newsletter going out to all Region 6 members.
- Region 6 PACE - an important tool in showing the value of IEEE membership in the US.
- Conferences - some of the most important conferences held in Region 6.
- MentorNet - connecting mentors and mentees.
- Membership and Senior Membership - tackling declining membership numbers with senior member evaluation.
- Other Initiatives - such as breakfasts with local industry, corporate awards and Region 6 milestones.
- Making IEEE Cool - the cool Region 6 shirts can be ordered on the Region 6 websites.

More information on all the topics can be found in Tom's presentation on the [meeting website](#).

113. Section Development and Vitality

IEEE R8 Region Vitality Coordinator **Aleksandar Szabo** started by highlighting the need for reporting as a means for showing and measuring activities. Reminders about reporting are sent out via e-mail frequently and should be taken seriously. It is the duty of section officers to report about the officers themselves (within 20 days of the election and appointment) and reporting about activities of the Section, Chapters and Affinity Groups. To receive the rebate Sections should have at least 5 meetings a year and there is a bonus for 10 or more meetings. Affinity Groups should have a minimum of two meetings with a bonus for 6 or more meetings. Financial reports are due by the last day of February 2017 and the other reports are due by 15 March 2017. A bonus of 10% can be claimed when all reports are in by 17 February 2017. Exceptions for payments of the dues rebate to those units submitting the reports after the deadlines shall be at the discretion of the R8 Director, and 10% penalty shall be applied to all such exceptions. A helpful "Section Vitality Checklist" can be found here: <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/section-vitality/>. **Aleksandar Szabo** specifically pointed out the need for elections, which is supported by electronic tools in v-tools. At any rate: The consecutive period of service in any one office should not exceed 4 years. All officers shall not serve in any one position, in any single organizational unit, more than 6 years.

He concluded by discussing the need for Section officers to train themselves and other Section officers by making use of the "Center of Leadership Excellence", the "MGA Operations Manual", the "R8 Bylaws and Operations Manual" and the "Section Vitality Dashboard". All of these documents can be found online by Google search. The presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

- Question by **Adel Abdulla**: The Section receives the rebates for the Section, the Chapters and all Affinity Groups. Does this money have to be shared in accordance to the activities and allowance to these groups?
 - Answer by **Aleksandar Szabo**: The money to Chapters and Affinity Groups should of course be given to the specific OUs. However the Section can decide how to spend it's money on members for example through other OUs.
 - Comment by **Costas Stasopoulos**: It is encouraged to spend Section money on very active OUs.
 - Comment by **Aleksandar Szabo**: Usually Chapters can get additional funding through Societies as well, so spending more money on affinity groups is encouraged.
- Question by **Bart Smolders**: It is often hard to convince IEEE members to become active Section Officers. Is this a general problem and how can it be dealt with?
 - Answer by **Aleksandar Szabo**: This question is best to be discussed with the other Section chairs. At any rate e-voting is the preferred tool to make use of, as it gives every member of the Section the right to vote.

Mats Edvinsson about Best Practices in the Sweden Section

After a short coffee break, Sweden Section Chair Mats **Edvinsson** gave a short presentation, that was not part of the main agenda. His presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

109. IEEE Europe – IEEE European Public Policy Initiative Operations and Assessment

Marko Delimar introduced the topic by giving some historic background how in 2001 the IEEE Board of Directors made a strategic decision to make IEEE a truly international society. As a result of this Region 8 derived one of the primary priorities in 2011: “Cooperation with European Institutions and Agencies”. Activities and achievements connected to this have been reported a total of 12 times in all Region 8 Committee meetings since, with the European Public Policy Initiative (EPPI) being driven by many Region 8 volunteers such as

- Marko Delimar (Chair),
- Martin Bastiaans,
- Christopher James,
- David Law,
- Maciej Ogorzalek,
- Axel Richter,
- Marina Ruggieri,
- Stefan Sauermann,
- Gianluca Setti,
- Costas Stasopoulos,
- Dirk Van Hertem and
- Gordon Day (Corresponding Member)

Like on the level of Region 8, also the global IEEE level picked up the topic, e.g., for “IEEE in 2030”. After an outreach and consultation with IEEE members in Region 8, the need for more activities in the area of public policy became clear and the EPPI was consolidated and formed in 2013 as an Ad Hoc Committee supported by the new initiatives committee. Many activities and successes have been reported since. At the same time EU officials have reached out to IEEE to get opinions about policies in technology.

The key components of the EPPI are

- Brussels representation - this guarantees visibility to high level officials in the European Union.
- Policy Working Groups (Energy and ICT) - their job is to create politically neutral papers on technological issues. There are 12 members per group that are selected from more than 200 applications in a peer-reviewed process.
- Events for direct engagement between members and EU officials (Annual Summits)

There are many benefits for IEEE members that include

- The opportunity to help shape public policy in Europe for the benefit of the profession and humanity
 - Papers, consultations, & events provide critical information on technology considerations to the policy community
- Opportunities to participate in peer-selected, volunteer Working Groups, and organization of policy-related events
 - Over 200 applications to fill open seats
 - Deepen knowledge of public policy issues affecting our profession, our employers, and our families.
 - Engage with community of European IEEE members interested in public policy
- Future opportunities
 - To opt-in to review and comment on WG output
 - To receive Brussels policy updates (email; possibly webinars)

To continue the work of the EPPI there is the need for

- 1) An organizational home for governance and oversight,
- 2) local staffing (Brussels or Vienna) and
- 3) a sustainable funding model.

There exist several options for the organizational home within IEEE:

- Region 8
- MGA
- Global Public Policy Committee
- Corporate Activities

The costs for the EPPI include

- 1) Brussels representation & presence (about USD 145k)
- 2) Policy Working Groups (about USD 200k) - this part must be funded by members, as it ensures independence.
- 3) Events for direct engagement between members and EU officials (USD 165k)

Based on the workshop with the Region 8 Section Chairs held in Monte Carlo, **Marko Delimar** proposed an assessment of members in EU and EFTA countries of USD 5, to ensure a sustainable base for the policy working groups.

The complete presentation is available on the [meeting website](#).

- Question by **Peter Kadar**: How would the USD 5 effect the membership numbers in say Hungary?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: To answer this question **Marko Delimar** showed a pie chart how USD 160 (current membership due) would be distributed within IEEE when the dues were to be increased to USD 165. This effects are minor, however the additional USD 5 would ensure the independence of the working groups.
- Question by **Jaafar Ibrahim**: Are the USD 5 going to be a yearly fee or only once and is it only going to be for the EU?

- Answer by **Marko Delimar**: Yes, the USD 5 will be charged every year, however only members in the EU and 4 additional EFTA countries will be effected, as only they will benefit from the EPPI. However if the program is successful and if others would like to copy it, this will have to be discussed again by the affected parties. For instance the Africa area is also looking into options for localized programs and if there is a champion in the Middle East this could also lead to such a program.
- Question by **Charles Turner**: Also national organizations are trying to find their way into Brussels. How would this effect the EPPI?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: The EPPI has been talking to a few of the national societies. However the EU has contacted the IEEE looking for opinions that are not biased by one or another nation.
- Comment by **Marina Ruggieri**: It is really important for IEEE to create a localized but nationally unbiased, honest framework for engaging with policy makers.
- Question by **Bart Smolders**: IEEE is seen as a very rich organization, could it be possible to ask members for a voluntary contribution for this initiative?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: This is one possible way forward, however a stable and sustainable foundation is needed to go forward. Surveys already showed that there is a big interest from members for this program and that USD 5 is a sensible and acceptable price tag. In order to clearly show the independence of the working group and the opinions, the funding for the working groups should not come out of cooperate IEEE.
- Comment by **Martin Bastiaans**: He is clearly in favor of the program. However it is not his opinion that counts, but the members' opinion. Recent member surveys clearly showed that members in the EU and EFTA are asking for such programs and voice support. The survey results give clear guidance for the leaders of IEEE in favor of the EPPI and the proposed assessment.

In a next step **Marko Delimar** showed a draft text for a motion reading

Members of the IEEE Region 8 committee residing in EU/EFTA countries hereby express support for:

- *forming a new IEEE Organisational Unit tentatively called "IEEE Europe" to work on public policy matters on behalf of IEEE members residing in EU/EFTA countries through Working Groups that will be selected from EU/EFTA members by an independent nominations and selections process; and*
- *collecting an assessment in the amount of 5 USD from members residing in EU/EFTA countries that is to be used to partly cover the activities of this unit and ensure the independence of the creation and delivery process of public policy statements under the IEEE Policies.*

The discussion continued

- Comment by **Imad Elhadj**: Sees the strong support for the motion, however warns about the speed of the decision making on an issue that leads to the increase of fees. Especially as the motion came without prior notice, e.g., was not circulated beforehand. He is also concerned, that 5 USD and Europe are only the starting point and could lead to higher fees and issues in low income countries. The issue is the precedence of trying to embed an initiative into membership dues. If this is very important to IEEE and the Region it should be funded independently from other sources.
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: He understands the concerns. Nobody likes to touch membership dues. However, such a model is not unprecedented: IEEE USA (around USD 40) and Japan (around USD 25) are just two examples. Also it should be noted, that the USD 5 were discussed intensively in the past 12 meetings, e.g., in a 90 minutes workshop in Monte Carlo (106th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting). Nobody reaches out to members' money easily. Whether this also has a future in other countries as well depends on the people on these other countries.
- Question by **Ole Lauridsen**: Denmark fully supports the initiative. However, how can it be made clear that the EPPI is seen as independent, with IEEE being an American organization?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: The question is the only reason why we are asking for USD 5. In order to make sure that the working groups are independent and will also be seen as independent.
- Question by **Alexandros Osana**: Could the costs of the working group be decreased or could the needed 5 USD be cut from another portion of the budget to eliminate the increase in membership fees?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: The 5 USD cover the basic cost of the document creation process. Intensive studies have been made about other amounts, but 5 USD came out to be the optimal amount. Simply reshuffling the budget, would not lead to the conscious decision that is required to enable fully independent working groups.
- Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: Is afraid that starting IEEE Europe will result in IEEE Middle East and so on. The name should be directed towards the initiative and not towards breaking Region 8 into smaller entities.
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: Ensures to the committee that there is no intention to break apart Region 8. The name is tentative and other examples (IEEE USA) show that this is not about breaking apart Region 8.
- Comment by **Ali Hessami**: Money should not be the center point of the discussion. The question is: Where is the demand for an EPPI coming from within the EU?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: The European Commission has approached IEEE multiple times. But IEEE is not in the position of a paid consultant, but provides independent opinions. Member surveys clearly show that our members see a demand for interaction with public policy makers.
- Comment by **Brian Harrington**: Where would the organizational home of the working groups be?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: As shown during the presentation the organizational home is still to be clarified. At this point in time the working groups report to the EPPI which is an IEEE Ad Hoc committee.

- Question by **Jens Haubrock**: How are the societies involved?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: In the consultation and review process, societies are contacted by the working groups.
- Question by **Michael Heiss**: If motion passes and the initiative does not have the expected impact, how would we proceed in 5 years from now?
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: The exit strategy is very simple. The OU would be dissolved and the fees would decrease again.
- Comment by **Imad Elhajj**: A motion of this caliber should have been circulated earlier. The initiative is important and overdue, however increasing the fees is problematic. The concern is that any future new initiative may potentially lead to an increase in membership fees. He hopes that the affected Section chairs have been aware of this motion and have clarified this with their constituents. Suggests to focus on the first part of the motion and leave out the part about the membership fee.
 - Answer by **Marko Delimar**: The issue was discussed and reiterated in the past 12 meetings. True, the 5 USD were discussed in Monte Carlo (106th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting) for the first time. If we want to create an independent body, we need to ensure independent empowerment. Thus the two parts of the motion should not be separated.
- Comment by **Imad Elhajj**: The concern is the principle of an initiative to push down costs to members directly.
- Comment by **Eric Kuada**: Has a problem to vote, because he can not speak for the members in Europe. The current fee is already too high. There was an initiative to reduce the fee in Rwanda, but Ghana was left out. He would never allow for an increase in fees speaking as a representative for Ghana.
 - Comment by **Costas Stasopoulos**: You have the right to abstain.
 - Comment by **Marko Delimar**: There is no reason to worry. Never would Region 8 increase the fees in Africa without a request coming directly from Africa. On the contrary, volunteers from Region 8 have been fighting against increases of membership fees and for reduced fees in low income countries for years.

The informal vote from the affected Section chairs (EU and EFTA) showed 3 votes against and a majority in favor of the draft text for a motion.

110. Student Activities Report

IEEE Region 8 Vice Chair, Student Activities **Mona Ghassemian** thanked the Region 8 committee as well as the Region 8 Student Activities Committee (R8 SAC) for the support during the past two years. She continued to give an overview on some of the highlights including:

- the Student Branches revitalization program,
- Cross-Sectional Congresses and Region 8 SYP Congress
- Awards and Contests, such as MadC, Mind the Gap! and the Student Paper Contests
- Electronic Communications on platforms such as Collabratec, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, the R8 SAC website and eNotices
- Monitoring of Industry Relations

Special successes on social media include over 7000 likes on Facebook, a new Instagram Account and lots of new and relevant information on the Region 8 website <http://www.ieeer8.org/student-activities>.

R8 Student Representative **Efthymia Arvaniti** took over to present the numbers of student branches, student chapters and affinity groups. The total number organizational units has grown over 50 % in the past 20 months. The support of the Sections for their student, especially to attend IEEE student congresses was a key factor for this success. **Efthymia Arvaniti** thanked all Section chairs for their support.

Mona Ghassemian presented the awards campaign and the submission numbers for all student awards. The “IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Awards” for 2016 go to:

- IEEE Student Branch Eindhoven (Benelux Section)
- IEEE Student Branch Zagreb (Croatia Section)
- IEEE Student Branch Passau (Germany Section)
- IEEE Student Branch University of Patras (Greece Section)
- University of Thessaly Lamia Student Branch (Greece Section)
- IEEE Hashemite University Student Branch (Jordan Section)
- University of Ljubljana Student Branch (Slovenia Section)
- Osmangazi University Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- IEEE Bogazici University Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- IEEE Koc University Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- Middle East Technical University Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- Suleyman Demirel University Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- Izmir Institute of Technology Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- IEEE Istanbul Technical University Student Branch (Turkey Section)
- IEEE University of Southampton Student Branch (UK & Ireland Section)

All IEEEExtreme 9.0 winners were from Region 8:

- 1st place “Team Name” from Iran
- 2nd place “EPFL1” from Switzerland
- 3rd place “Powerhouse” from Romania

The following teams were announced as winners of the IEEE madC contest:

- 1st Place: Team Pinlist (R8 - Croatia Section)
- 2nd Place: iCode (R9 – El Salvador Section)
- 3rd Place: Talkinenglish (R10 – Indonesia Section)
- Young Professional Special Prize: Collegiate (R8 - Germany Section)
- Computer Society Special Prize: School-Carpooling (R10 – India)

Project coordinator **Younna El-Bitar** announced the winners of the The Mind the Gap! Contest (<http://mtg.ieeer8.org>) out of 17 competing teams from 10 countries:

- 1. Zlatko Ofak and Meri Tukac (Croatia) for “Escape the Gap!”
- 2. Joao Santos, Carina Fonseca, Diogo Mesquita, and Miguel Dias (Portugal) for “Giving Agency”
- 3. Wafa Ben Hmida and Ikbel Azaiez (Tunisia) for “GG-M: Generation Gap Mobile”
- 4. Skander Mansouri, Slim Bouakez, and Ahlem Jedidi (Tunisia) for “Break the Gap Camp”.

Upcoming contest and competition include:

- IEEEExtreme 10.0, <http://sites.ieee.org/xtreme/>
- Minde the Gap!, <http://mtg.ieeer8.org>
- The Region 8 Student Paper Contest, <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/student-activities/awards-and-contests/student-paper-contest/>

Kádár Péter reminded the Section chairs about the voluntary contribution fund, which supports travel grants and student branch activities.

Finally **Mona Ghassemian** thanked all Section chairs again for their support. The R8 SAC presentation can also be found on the [meeting website](#).

111. IEEE Region 8 SYP Congress

Region 8 Student Representative **Efthymia Arvaniti** and Region 8 Young Professionals Chair **Flavia Dinca** showed a video summary of the Region 8 Student and Young Professionals Congress 2016, which was held between 17th and 21st of August 2016 at OTH Regensburg, Germany. Some statistics of the event:

- 627 total registrations
- 220 cancellations
- 407 active participants
 - 186 Region 8 funded participants
 - 357 attended
 - 50 no-shows
- Total budget: 176.603,47, main expenses:
 - Accommodation: 66,673
 - Gala dinner: 30,820.52
 - Opening ceremony and Danube cruise: 25,014.60
- Amount covered by sponsors: 45,865.12
- The congress featured
 - IEEE-related workshops
 - Technical lectures
 - Soft-skills workshops
 - Social events

Students and Young Professionals are the future of IEEE and **Efthymia** and **Flavia** thanked all Section chairs for their support of these IEEE members.

116. Africa Area Report

Africa Area Chair **Gloria Chukwudebe** delivered a presentation about activities in the Africa area, which was approved during the Region 8 Committee meeting in March 2016.

- Background
- What we have done so far
 - Inaugural Meeting using Skype
 - Digital Africa conference in Nigeria (Non IEEE)
 - Meetings at PES Conference in Zambia
 - Meetings in South Africa
 - Other Activities Challenges
- Increasing IEEE Activities in Africa

The Africa Area committee consists of

- Gloria Chukwudebe, Nigeria,
- Ahmed Darwish, Egypt,
- Shaun Kaplan, South Africa,
- Habib M. Kammoun, Tunisia,
- Bellingtone C. Kabwe, Zambia,

and includes the following Sections

- Algeria,
- Egypt,
- Morocco,
- South Africa,
- Ghana,
- Kenya,
- Nigeria,
- Tunisia,
- Zambia,

and the following subsection

- Alexandria,
- Botswana,
- Sudan,
- Tanzania,
- Uganda and
- Mauritius.

During an Inaugural Meeting using Skype the committee discussed possible activities which include

- Introduce Section Competition,
- Encourage Paper Contest for students,
- Activities help to retain members and recruit new ones,
- TISP,
- Section Vitality List,
- Training Workshops,
- Use of Vtools,
- Collaboration with national associations, institutions and industry, and to establish partnerships in the focus areas of the Committee.

Further highlights include:

- Digital Africa Conference in Abuja, Nigeria,
- Meetings at PES Conference in Zambia,
- Africa Area Meeting in Cape Town, with the IEEE President **Barry Shoop**,
- Skype meetings with Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** and
- Industry connect.

She also highlighted a couple of issues and challenges:

- Africa is diverse there may not be a one-model solution that may fit all countries.
- Cost of membership and fluctuating exchange rate
- Youth unemployment
- Growing volunteers
- Industry Academia Disconnect
- Engineering education is theoretical
- Poor fundamental science background from high school
- Management Skills are required because of differences in cultures
- Participation from professional Engineers after they leave University
- Internet cost for ordinary Members

Gloria Chukwudebe closed with a success story about the “IEEE President Change the World competition of 2009”. Her complete presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

107. IEEE President’s Address

IEEE President **Barry Shoop** thanked the Region 8 Committee for their contributions to IEEE. In particular he highlighted the Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress as a role model, that has been exported to the US in the form of the IEEE USA future leaders forum. He congratulated Region 8, but also encouraged the committee to continue to think outside the box and not to stagnate.

Barry Shoop continued to talk about his number one priority “Industry engagement”. Statistics show that in 2000 60% of the IEEE members worked in industry, while in 2016 industry members are in the 30%-range. IEEE needs to react to this shocking facts. IEEE’s history shows that industry is where IEEE originated from. However over the years, practitioners have found IEEE less relevant.

While IEEE is doing a good job with journals, conferences and standards, it lack providing value to the mid range, e.g. engineers working in small or medium-sized companies. This needs to be turned this around, otherwise IEEE will become irrelevant to practitioners. Steps that IEEE has taken in this direction include:

- Global Spec has been purchased as service for bench level engineers.
- Partnership with IP.com
- Ad Hoc Committee on Industry Engagement

- Reach out to industry leaders: What can IEEE do to provide more value to industry partners and IEEE members in industry?

In summary IEEE globally and the Region has to continue to tackle the industry challenge and to think outside the box.

- Comment from **Alex Osana**: Shares the concern about industry. Three important elements have been identified during the chapter coordination meeting as relevant for industry:
 - 1) Access to the state of the art
 - 2) Opportunities for networking
 - 3) Access to academic knowledge
- Answer by **Barry Shoop**: What we've heard from industry is that the large companies are very interested in academic research. But there is a need for more distilled information, such as trend papers.

114. Technical Activities Report

Vice Chair **Igor Kuzle** introduced the technical activities sub-committees

- Chapter Coordination: **Nazih Khaddaj Mallat**,
- Conference Coordination: **Adel Alimi**,
- Educational Activities: **Manuel Castro**,
- Action for Industry: **Nihal Sinnadurai**, and
- Standards: **David Law**.

He went on to delivered the standards coordinator report on behalf of **David Law**, with the following highlights:

- Targets: Arrange both individual speakers on standards and/or whole standards tracks at major IEEE R8 conferences. Collaborate with Standards Education Committee (SEC) to arrange workshops on standards in parallel with conferences or as independent events
- Status:
 - Looking for potential opportunities for potential individual speakers and/or whole standards tracks.
 - June 2016: IEEE-SA Standards Board held its second meeting of the year in Berlin.
 - October 2016: The IEEE-SA is planning outreach to Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda the first week of October, in cooperation with the local Sections.
 - Plans include:
 - Meetings with national standards organizations.
 - Roundtables in Kenya and Uganda on standards activities in ICT and renewable energy.
 - Standards Education lecture at Strathmore University in Nairobi.

The following chapters were identified as inactive and subject to termination, in case of ongoing inactivity:

- BT02 (Romania), C16 (Greece, Kenya), COM19/C16 (Ghana), C16/COM19/PE31 (Mauritius), CIS11 (Finland), E25 (Italy), IA34/PEL35 (Russia Northwest), OE22 (Italy, Norway), SSC37 (Switzerland), VT06 (Israel)
- Life Member (Germany, Italy), Women in Engineering (Slovenia)

Alexandros Osana gave an overview of the Chapter Coordination Subcommittee. The activities include

- New Chapters /SB Chapters / Council Approved since Jan. 19 th , 2015
 - 32 Chapters
 - 1 Council
 - 165 → 290 (125 New Student Branch Chapters)
- Updated S/C R8 Chapter Coordinators Roster Operation Manual in collaboration with the past Chair (Elya Joffe)
- Formation, Operation and reporting manual for SB Chapters
- Getting Closer to Industry

Pèter Nagy provided a summary of the Conference Coordination Subcommittee activities. The mission of the sub-committee includes:

- Get/stay in contact with conference organizers who are interested in R8 TCS/FCS. Examine applications for R8 co-sponsorship.
- Find organizers and bids for upcoming R8 flagship conferences (Eurocon, Africon, Melecon, Energycon). Review and examine these bids for flagship conferences and advise the R8 Opcom about which one to choose.
- Discuss plagiarism cases.

He pointed out that a huge portion of all IEEE Conferences are held in Region 8 (36.6% of all IEEE conferences in 2016). The plans for 2016 are as follows:

- 1) Ensure IEEE R8 TCS conferences papers' quality by checking all papers for plagiarism (<http://CrossCheck.ieee.org>)
- 2) Ensure the nomination of a conference coordinator in each R8 section.
- 3) Coordinate with the sections chairs/conference coordinators about all the upcoming IEEE conferences in their sections (booth, etc.)
- 4) Creating a new R8 flagship conference: Gulf Conference.
- 5) Attract industrials by ensuring at least one Industrial Panel in each R8 co-sponsored conference (coordinate with IAS)
- 6) Attract students by ensuring at least one best student paper award in each R8 co-sponsored conference
- 7) Increase organizing IEEE conferences in Africa (coordinate with Africa Committee).

The flagship conferences are:

- EnergyCon'2016, 4-8 April, Leuven, Benelux
- MeleCon'2016, 18-20 April, Limassol, Cyprus
- EuroCon'2017, Macedonia
- Africon'2017, Cap Town, South Africa

Conferences Looking for organizers to host: EnergyCon 2018. An open issue is the TCS fees introduced by TAB.

Manuel Castro presented the report of the Educational Activities sub-committee. The focus of the sub-committee is on

- High Education activities and accreditation,
- Pre-University (TISP and community projects), and
- Continuous Education (and Life-Long Learning Activities) and Employment.

Major activities include:

- TISP and EPICS 2016
- Increase of the Education Activities, visibility and synergies with the IEEE Education Activities Board
- Organize more Seminars and Webinars
- EAB Section Educational Outreach Committee (SEOC).

The complete presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

117. Action for Industry

Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** and **Toni Mattila** delivered the presentation on behalf of **Nihal Sinnadurai**, which focused on one of the priorities of Region 8 to “Get Closer to Industry”.

The first step was to approach IEEE Senior Members and Fellows in Industry, which is tricky because the IEEE database does not include affiliation information. About 20 mentors were approached to bring companies and IEEE closer. Further steps and progress include:

- Our R8 Industry Ambassadors have worked intensively and with Section Industry Ambassadors (SIAs) and have established effective and friendly contact with many companies across Region 8, and obtained Internship offers.
- We have had excellent contributions from a number of Section Chairs and Section Industry Ambassadors. We seek more involvement.
- At SYP 2016, a number of YPs volunteered to join with their SIAs to support the Afl programme
- A number of companies have recognised the value of the Afl initiative and willingly contributed to our plan.
- At SYP a participating global company volunteered that they will provide 60 Internship offers across Region 8 in 2017
- New MoUs are being agreed in Africa and Middle-East

A highlight of the subcommittee’s work is the Internship program, which has attracted and served numerous companies and students.

Information about the action for industry activities can be found here: <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/action-for-industry/>.

201. Sections Congress Presentation

Marko Delimar presented Sections Congress, which will be held in Sydney, 11 – 13 August 2017. The goals and objectives are as follows:

- Increase member engagement and Section vitality
- Provide training to
 - Develop leadership skills
 - Enable and nurture volunteering efforts
 - Share best practices
 - Learn about available programs
- Build on partnership opportunities with Technical Activities
- Provide for networking opportunities at grass-roots level
- Learn about IEEE products and services

The costs per person are estimated to be:

- Airfare: \$2,000+
- Hotel – 4 nights: \$1,000
- Ground Transportation: \$200
- Registration: \$350
- Daily Meal Reimbursement (7 meals not to exceed \$200 total reimbursement): \$200
- TOTAL: \$3,750

The financial model is as follows:

- No Region Subsidies
- MGA will compensate all Primary Sections Congress Delegates one additional travel day covering:
 - Hotel and Meals
- Primary Sections Congress delegates will receive reimbursement for all incremental meals outside of the registration
 - Not to Exceed \$200 total meal expense
- Expense reports for all travel and meal expenses submitted to MGA for reimbursement after the Congress
 - All submissions to MGA will be made using the IEEE expense report template

- Allocations for Primary Section Delegates unable to attend are not transferable

More information can be found on the Sections Congress Website: <http://www.ieee.org/sc>.

All delegates will be involved in the creation of recommendations during Sections congress. Region 8 will start the process to create recommendations during the meeting in Stockholm. All Region 8 members are encouraged to think about recommendations before the Stockholm meeting.

- Comment form the audience: Invitations for the Sections congress and meetings in general should be sent out as soon as possible to reduce travel costs.
 - Answer from **Marko Delimar**: The registration website will go online in February. Invitations will thus not be sent out earlier.

IEEE Europe – IEEE European Public Policy Initiative Operations and Assessment

Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** proposed a change in the agenda and to have further informal discussions about “IEEE Europe – IEEE European Public Policy Initiative Operations and Assessment” instead of working on the recommendations for Sections congress through agenda items 202 and 203. IEEE Region 8 Secretary **Christian Schmid** put forward a motion “To remove items 202 and 203 and make room for an informal discussion on IEEE Europe”. The motion was seconded by **Imad Elhajj** and adopted by the Region 8 Committee.

As the discussion continued in an informal manner and as not all Region 8 Committee members participated in the discussion (some chose to leave the room and not be part of it) the content is not included in the minutes.

Sunday, 25 September 2016

300. Call to Order and Roll Call

Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** asked the R8 Secretary, **Christian M. Schmid**, if there was a quorum. The secretary replied in the affirmative.

301. Nominations and Appointments Report and Election Instructions

Past Director **Martin Bastiaans** gave an overview of the N&A process for the Region 8 elections with the following candidates

- 2017-2018 Secretary
 - Jan Verveckken (Benelux)
- 2017-2018 Treasurer
 - Ralph Kennel (Germany)
- 2017 Vice Chair, Member Activities
 - Antonio Luque (Spain)
 - Adeel Sultan (UAE)
- 2017 Vice Chair, Student Activities
 - Efthymia (Femia) Arvaniti (Austria)
 - Oyewole (John) Funso-Adebayo (Nigeria)
- 2017 Vice Chair, Technical Activities
 - Christopher James (UK and Ireland)
 - Daniel Pasquet (France)

and

- N&A Subcommittee members
 - Mahmud Fotuhi-Firuzabad (Iran)
 - Ali Hessami (UK and Ireland)
 - Ljupco Karadzinov (Rep of Macedonia)
 - Panayiotis Symeou (Cyprus)

with the following candidates:

The election process itself was described as follows:

- There will be presentations from the candidates running for the first 5 positions.
- The tellers committee will be composed of **Marina Ruggieri** and **Maciej Ogorzalek**.
- For the first 5 positions committee members may choose one candidate.
- For the N&A positions, committee members may choose up to three candidates.
- Discussions about the candidates and voting will be done in executive session.

The following questions were raised before the presentations started:

- Question from **Imad Elhajj**: What is the reason that there is only one candidate for the Secretary and Treasurer positions respectively? Was this due to the lack of candidates?
 - Answer by **Martin Bastiaans**: The nomination process is not disclosed.
 - Comment by **Imad Elhajj**: In the case of only one candidate, the N&A committee effectively exercised an appointment.

- Comment by **Martin Bastiaans**: Everything was done according to the rules and there would have been the possibility of a candidate running by petition, which was not the case.
- Comment by **Imad Elhajj**: Proposing one candidate only is in contrast to the argumentation when 3 candidates were proposed for the slate of director-elect position.
- Comment by **Martin Bastiaans**: It is important to understand, that the Secretary and Treasurer are not policy making positions, but positions supporting the Director. As the cooperation and relationship between these supporting positions and the director is crucial, one may even argue that it might make sense to appoint these positions, which is what most of the other Regions do. However this would require a change of the bylaws. He again pointed out the the process is fully in compliance with the rules.
- Comment by **Costas Stasopoulos**: The Secretary is an assistant to the Director, so it makes sense that this should become an appointed position. He will bring this suggestion to the Region 8 Committee in the future. However it is out of the scope for this meeting.

302. Candidate Presentations and Discussion

All candidate presentations can be found on the [meeting website](#).

303. Executive Session

All discussion were held in a closed executive session.

304. Elections

Elections were held with **Marina Ruggieri** and **Maciej Ogorzalek** serving as the tellers committee.

305. Presentation of Election Results

The following candidates were elected:

- 2017-2018 Secretary
 - Jan Verveckken (Benelux)
- 2017-2018 Treasurer
 - Ralph Kennel (Germany)
- 2017 Vice Chair, Member Activities
 - Antonio Luque (Spain)
- 2017 Vice Chair, Student Activities
 - Efthymia (Femia) Arvaniti (Austria)
- 2017 Vice Chair, Technical Activities
 - Christopher James (UK and Ireland)
- N&A Subcommittee members
 - Ali Hessami (UK and Ireland)
 - Ljupco Karadzinov (Rep of Macedonia)
 - Panayiotis Symeou (Cyprus)

306. Secretary's Report

Region 8 Secretary **Christian Schmid** reiterated the mission of the Region 8 Secretary:

- To support you, the Region 8 Committee, as professionally as we can in order to allow you to pro-actively and efficiently work on the big issues of our organization.

Region 8 Electronic Communications Coordinator **George Michael** demoed the new Region 8 website <http://www.ieeer8.org> and asked for feedback from the committee.

307. Treasurer's Report

After presenting the Expense Form (can be found on the [meeting website](#)) Region 8 Treasurer **Brian Harrington** presented the financial position of Region 8 as of September 2016.

- As at August / September 2016 Total Assets held by Region 8: \$ 1,319,572:44
- Capital and Reserves: \$ 941,660:66
- From Profit and Loss Account \$ 377,911:78 +

Region 8 is technically over-capitalised. Some care is needed with cash-flow. **Brian Harrington** went on to present the budget proposal for 2017. Sections Congress and the Region 8 Development Fund were pointed out as special positions.

The three main concerns of the treasurer are:

- 1) The Critical Mass,
- 2) The Diversity, and the
- 3) Communications Structure

The main issues are:

- 1) Membership Development and Retention
- 2) Greater Investment in the Vice Chair operations
- 3) Streamline the administration required of volunteers

Out of this **Brian Harrington** derived his three objectives:

- 1) Maintain Cash Position. Cash flow in Region 8 can be sensitive. This is improved, but needs care.
- 2) Promote the Region 8 “Initiative” strategy. Offer of up to \$30,000 for Section or Chapter projects
- 3) Improve Section and Chapter Reporting process

The Treasurer’s written report and the presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

- Comment by **Imad Elhadj**: Again thanked and commended Brian Harrington for the quality and excellence of his work. He recommended the Region and the incoming OpCom to have a “Past Treasurer” position to support the incoming treasurer and to keep Brian Harrington engaged.
- Comment by **Costas Stasopoulos**: Indeed Brian Harrington’s work is greatly appreciated.
- Comment by **Margaretha Eriksson**: Thanked **Imad Elhadj** for his comment. Brian will be kept on the team to support the new treasurer for a smooth transition.
- Comment by **Brian Harrington**: The system is in place for a smooth hand-over.

308. Innovation Fund

Region 8 Treasurer **Brian Harrington** went on to present the idea of the Innovation fund to empower chapters, students, young professionals, Section chairs and others to run innovative projects. He presented the innovation fund application form which fits on a two A4 page. Similar programs have also been launched successfully outside of IEEE. The complete presentation can also be found on the [meeting website](#).

- Question from **Christopher James**: What are the measurable outcomes?
 - Answer by **Brian Harrington**: KPIs would have to be established in a dialog. But also some risks need to be taken. But of course there needs to be a report after each project.
- Question from **Ali Hessami**: How will continuity work, and how will this be handed over to the new treasurer?
 - Answer by **Brian Harrington**: Continuity is always an issue in IEEE.
- Question from **Aleksandar Szabo**: In the application form there is a start date, what about an end date?
 - Answer by **Brian Harrington**: There needs to be a sensible approach to this and projects need to be reviewed through progress reports.
- Comment by **Imad Elhadj**: Thanked OpCom for approving the idea, although the fundings seem to be low.
 - Answer by **Brian Harrington**: Discussions about increasing funds can be discussed over time.
- Comment by **Costas Stasopoulos**: Section chairs are encouraged to think about new innovations! However this fund must not be used for traditional activities, like meetings.
- Comment from **Ali Hessami**: A platform needs to be established to share success stories of this initiative.

311. Vision for an Enhanced MGA-TA Synergy 2017/2018

Marina Ruggieri her perspective as VP-elect technical activities:

- In 2016 she focused on the Presidents’ Forum and N&A (IEEE and TAB).
- In 2017 she will focus on “One IEEE” through
 - Launch of New Topics
 - Enhanced Cooperation MGA-TA
 - Enhanced Cooperation with other OUs
 - Closer Interconnection among Committees
- In 2018 she will focus on Strategic Alignment

The complete presentation can also be found on the [meeting website](#).

309. Member Activities Report

Vice Chair **Duřanka Bořković** introduced the membership activities subcommittees and handed over to **Alexandros Osana** for the Humanitarian Activities (HuAc) report.

Highlights of the HuAc subcommittee include:

- 7 new groups around Region 8 (4 in Africa, 2 Europe, 1 Middle- East)
- Discussion on projects in 3 Sections (South Africa, UK&I, Turkey)
- SIGHT Get-to-Know Workshop in SYP 2016

Information on SIGHT, in order to create sustainable programs, can be found online at <http://ieee-sight-toolkit.org>.

Shashank Gaur delivered the professional activities presentation on behalf of **Ana Katalinic**. The main points are as follows:

- Speakers Program
 - 10+ Speakers over different topics
 - Workshop/Tutorials on Soft Skills
 - Cross Sectional SYPs, Region 8 SYPs
 - Conferences, Individual events
 - Interested OUs can email to r8pasc@ieee.org
- Online Resources, Webinars, CLE, etc.
 - Work on Collabratec, CareersConnect-Europe community
 - Tutorials and Resources related to PA

- Future direction
 - Enrich Speakers Program with diversity in topics and geographical location
 - Communication with PA officers, help organize events using Speakers program
 - Provide support to Student and Young Professionals events

Antonio Luque gave an overview of the latest membership status. Region 8 is losing members and retention is still an issue. He also presented the membership goals for the individual Sections and congratulated the ones who have achieved the goal. The following efforts are on the way to improve membership development:

- Direct & frequent communication with Section Chairs & MD Officers to start aggressive campaign for 2017 renewal & new memberships
- Working closely with MRRC to ensure R8 sections are aware of (and plan accordingly) towards their respective Recruitment & Retention Goals
- Working with section Industry ambassadors to tap into that important area of memberships
- Encouraging the volunteers to utilize new tools like MentorCentre, Resume Lab, GoogleApps@IEEE, for their campaigns
- MD workshop in November 18/19, Tunisia

All Sections are encouraged to send MD officers to the workshop in Tunisia and to make sure that MD officers get appropriate training.

Young Professionals (YPs) chair **Flavia Dinca** presented some statistics regarding YP:

- Total of 47 Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8
- Currently, only one dormant YP AG in Region 8
- New AGs since March 2016: Israel, Bahrain, Palestine, Republic of Macedonia
- YPs represent 34.71% of total Region 8 membership (as of end of August 2016)
- Significant increase from 28.99% in February 2016

Highlights of the YP activities include:

- SYP Congress 2016
- EuroSim 2016
- Representation at the Egyptian Engineering Day 2016

The plan for the rest of the year is to

- Support organization of elections in AGs that need a new Chair
- Updated GOLD Book - a new guide on how to successfully run YP AGs
- Revise R8 SYP Manual
- IEEE Day 2016

Roland Saam pointed out the importance of the printed Region 8 News and encouraged the committee to send in articles for the Region 8 News.

All presentations can also be found on the [meeting website](#).

310. Future Conferences (Energycon, Melecon, GCC)

Vice chair **Igor Kuzle** presented the 2016 flagship conferences:

- 4th ENERGYCON 2016, Leuven/Ghent, Belgium, 4-8 April
- 18th MELECON 2016, Limassol, Cyprus, 18-20 April

The flagship conferences in 2017 will be

- 17th International conference on smart technologies IEEE EUROCON 2017 – Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia, 6-8 July 2017, <http://www.eurocon2017.org>
- 13th AFRICON 2017 – Cape Town, South Africa, 18-20 September 2017
- 4th HISTELCON 2017 – University of Hyogo, Kobe, Japan, 7-8 August, 2017

The status for 2018 is as follows:

- MELECON 2018, Marrakesh, Morocco – Mohammed El Mohajir, IEEE Morocco Section Chair
- EnergyCon 2018: we didn't get adequate bid yet, we have announcement of the Cyprus section
- EuroCon 2019: no bids yet!
- EnergyCon 2020, Tunis - Gammarth, Tunisia – Habib Kammoun, IEEE Tunisia Section Chair

He also announced a change in dates of for the GCC2017 to 6-9 May 2017.

Adel Abdulla announced that the Bahrain Section has now been officially registered. He specially thanked the Bahrain Government, the IEEE President, the IEEE Legal and Compliance Department, the Region 8 Director, and all who supported. **Mohammad Almuahini** gave a detailed presentation about GCC. **Ali Zolait** invited the members of Region 8 to submit and participate in the conference. **Hanan Hanjafah** showed some pictures of the venue. More information can be found on the GCC website <http://ieec-gcc.org/>.

312. Vision for Region 8 2017/2018

IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect **Margaretha Eriksson** shared what the Strategic Planning committee had worked on. She pointed out, that the Region 8 Strategy has to be in Line with the global IEEE 2030 strategy:

- Create a Nimble, Flexible, Forward-looking Organization
- Foster Public Imperatives
- Foster Diverse Technical Communities with Industry, Government, and Academia
- Empower the Discovery, Development and Delivery of Cutting-edge Products and Services

Out of this and Region 8's past strategic goals, **Margaretha Eriksson** derived the following strategic goals:

- Closer to Industry
- Attract and support future members
- Section Vitality
- IEEE in Africa
- Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

These goals are an extension of the previous Region 8 priorities. She also pointed out the importance of the Section officers, to derive the strategy and action plan for the Section in line with the Region 8 Strategy. **Margaretha Eriksson** concluded by putting out the challenge to increase membership by 1%. E.g., can you recruit just 1 new member?

The complete presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

- Question from **Runar Såsen**: How can the Vienna office contribute to the strategic goals of Region 8?
 - Answer by **Margaretha Eriksson**: This is the question to the committee. The mode of collaborations can be shaped based on the needs.
- Comment by **Aleksandar Szabo**: The membership numbers problem is not just a problem of recruiting new members but of retention.
 - Answer by **Margaretha Eriksson**: Agrees, we must also focus on retention.
- Comment by **Eric Kuada**: Membership dues is a major factor and major issue.
 - Answer by **Margaretha Eriksson**: The Sections should work strategies to deal with that.
- Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: In Egypt students have access to publications through the schools, this has lead to a drop in membership, as they have all the access they need without an IEEE membership. New membership models need to be discussed.
 - Answer by **Margaretha Eriksson**: Is open for future discussion.

313. Next Region 8 Committee Meeting

Mats Edvinsson invited the R8 Committee to Stockholm, Sweden, where the next IEEE Region 8 meeting will be held 25-26 March 2017. More information will be published on the meeting website.

314. Motions

- **Costas Stasopoulos** proposed a motion "to approve the treasurer's budget". The motion was approved.
- **Martin Bastiaans** presented a motion to "Members of the IEEE Region 8 committee residing in EU/EFTA* countries hereby express support for: forming a new IEEE Organisational Unit tentatively called "IEEE Europe" to work on public policy matters on behalf of IEEE members residing in EU/EFTA countries through Working Groups that will be selected from EU/EFTA members by an independent nominations and selections process."
 - Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: More information should have been prepared and distributed beforehand. We can not establish a unit without a proper name and proper structure.
 - Answer by **Martin Bastiaans**: This is a motion to express the support and not form a new unit.
 - Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: The Middle East also needs such a group, so this should not be discussed in Region 8. "Region 8 should discuss things about Region 8, otherwise why am I here?"
 - Answer by **Martin Bastiaans**: This is just the first step. For sure there will be something for the Middle East, for sure there will be something for Africa. However, this motion only addresses EU/EFTA.
 - Comment by **Imad Elhadj**: Initially he was supporting the idea. However, the rewording made him turn against it. In addition he felt rushed at the end of a two day meeting, as some people had already left the meeting and as there is no more room for adequate discussion. "If we think this Region has to be divided, then it might as well be. Let's set up a task force on how to break up the Region."
 - Answer by **Martin Bastiaans**: This is not about dividing the Region.
 - Comment by **Imad Elhadj**: "This is what we have been doing the past two days. We have only been asking the EU/EFTA members, we have been lobbying only EU members."
 - Answer by **Martin Bastiaans**: Assured that the moment Africa came up with a proposal it would be discussed in a similar manner and supported.
 - Question by **Runar Såsen**: Is it in accordance with the rules to have a motion that focuses on a specific part of the Region? Also is there even such a thing as an informal motion?
 - Answer by **Martin Bastiaans**: Yes it is.
 - Answer by **Costas Stasopoulos**: This is a motion, there is no such thing as an informal motion.

Costas Stasopoulos proposed to table the motion, which was adopted by the Region 8 committee.

- **Martin Bastiaans** presented a motion to "IEEE Region 8 Committee endorses forming a new IEEE Organisational Unit tentatively called "IEEE Europe" to work on public policy matters on behalf of IEEE members residing in EU/EFTA*"

countries through Working Groups that will be selected from EU/EFTA members by an independent nominations and selections process”

- Comment by **Duřanka Bořković**: Expressed understanding of those opposing the motion and agreed that Region 8 should not be divided. However, when a certain group in Region 8 is asking for support and is overruled, this may also create borders rather than bridges. She did not see a way to divide the Region through the motion.
- Comment by **Charles Turner**: Proposed deleting the text after “IEEE members”.
- Comment by **Marko Delimar**: Accepted the amendment, after which the motion reads: “IEEE Region 8 Committee endorses forming a new IEEE Organisational Unit tentatively called “IEEE Europe” to work on public policy matters on behalf of IEEE members”.
- Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: Proposed removing the part “tentatively called “IEEE Europe””.
- Comment by **Marko Delimar**: Such an organization already exists within IEEE in the form of the “Global Public Policy Committee”. Asked to go back to the original form of the motion and to call for the vote. That way Region 8 clearly states that it does not want Public Policy in EU and EFTA countries.

The motion failed.

Comment by **Samir Shaheen**: Postpone the discussion to Stockholm.

315. New Business

No new items were suggested.

316. Adjournment

Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** thanked everyone who organized and attended the meeting before entertaining a motion to end the Region 8 Committee meeting. The motion was adopted.

Section/Subsection Officers d.d. 28 February 2017

Current Section and Subsection officers – with their position start dates – as available from SAMIEEE on 28 February 2017, in the order: Chair, Chair-Elect, Vice Chair, Secretary, Secretary/Treasurer, Treasurer, Past Chair, and other officers (in alphabetical order). If mistakes are found, corrections can be made via <http://officers.vtools.ieee.org>, or an email may be sent to scs-officer-report@ieee.org. This email alias is monitored by several staff, so all inquiries/issues are addressed and the sender is advised of any issues and/or the action that has been taken. Note that only members with an **active** membership status can be officers.

Section/Subsection	Position	Start Date	Name
Algeria	Chair	21-11-15	Amar Tilmatine
Algeria	Vice Chair	28-12-15	Abdelouahab Mekhaldi
Algeria	Secretary	28-12-15	Fatma zohra CHELALI
Algeria	Treasurer	28-12-15	Noureddine Chaib
Algeria	Conference Coordinator	21-11-15	Mouloud Challal
Algeria	Editor-in-Chief	21-11-15	MohamedLamine Tounsi
Algeria	Industry Relations Coordinator	21-11-15	Ahmed Boubakeur
Algeria	Membership Development	16-08-16	Fateh Krim
Algeria	Nominations	21-11-15	Amina Chentir
Algeria	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	21-11-15	Messaouda AZZOUZI
Austria	Chair	20-02-17	Michael Heiss
Austria	Vice Chair	20-02-17	Reinhard Pfliegl
Austria	Secretary	05-12-14	Thomas Iganx Strasser
Austria	Treasurer	01-01-09	Thilo Sauter
Austria	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-11-06	Albert N Treytl
Austria	Chapter Coordinator	30-10-14	Werner R Drexel
Austria	Coordinator	01-01-17	Torsten Andre
Austria	Educational Activities	01-02-12	Wilfried Kubinger
Austria	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-09	Reinhard Pfliegl
Austria	Membership Development	05-03-14	Stefan Soucek
Austria	Newsletter Editor	01-09-12	Wilfried Elmenreich
Austria	Organization	01-01-14	Friederich Kupzog
Austria	Professional Activities	01-01-11	Gerhard Zucker
Austria	Public Relations	01-09-12	Wilfried Elmenreich
Austria	Student Activities	01-01-12	Norbert Eidenberger
Austria	Student Representative	05-12-14	Torsten Andre
Austria	Webmaster	01-10-13	Friedrich Praus
Austria	Women in Engineering	01-02-12	Nicole Brosch
Bahrain	Chair	01-01-15	Adel Ahmed Hamed
Bahrain	Vice Chair	01-01-15	MOHAB A MANGOUD
Bahrain	Secretary	12-03-16	Ali Hussein Zolait
Bahrain	Treasurer	19-09-16	Wael Mohamed El-Medany
Bahrain	Assistant	03-02-17	Asim Mehmood
Bahrain	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Wael Mohamed El-Medany
Bahrain	Industry Relations Coordinator	14-11-15	Hanan Hasan Saleh
Bahrain	Professional Activities	01-01-16	Sana Almansoori
Bahrain	Student Activities	01-03-15	MOHAB A MANGOUD
Belarus	Chair	01-01-16	Aleksandr V Gusinski
Belarus	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Yuri Y Bobkov
Belarus	Secretary/Treasurer	01-01-16	Alexander Chizh
Belarus	Membership Development	01-01-17	Sergei A Malyshev
Benelux	Chair	19-01-17	Dirk Van Hertem
Benelux	Vice Chair	19-01-17	Mark J Bentum
Benelux	Secretary	19-01-17	Pieter Tielens
Benelux	Treasurer	17-01-12	Dirk Rabaey
Benelux	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	22-04-13	Jef Beerten
Benelux	Committee Chair	31-01-13	Stoyan N Nihtianov
Benelux	Consulting Member	04-02-15	Claude P Oestges
Benelux	Consulting Member	04-02-15	Luc A Vandendorpe
Benelux	Coordinator	01-01-08	K Van T Klooster
Benelux	Electronic Communications Coordinator	01-01-11	Dirk Van Hertem
Benelux	Membership Development	01-02-15	Valentijn De Smedt
Benelux	Professional Activities	01-01-11	Valentijn De Smedt

Benelux	Student Activities	01-01-11	Dirk Van Herthem
Benelux	Student Representative	04-01-13	Lieneke Kusters
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Chair	01-01-17	Meliha B Selak
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Tatjana V Pesic
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Secretary	01-01-15	Vedad Becirovic
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Treasurer	01-01-15	Dusanka Boskovic
Bulgaria	Chair	01-01-17	Kiril M Alexiev
Bulgaria	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Rossitza I Goleva
Bulgaria	Treasurer	01-01-17	Valentina Markova
Bulgaria	Industry Relations Coordinator	19-02-15	Ivan S Uzunov
Bulgaria	Professional Activities	11-07-16	Seferin Todorov Mirtchev
Bulgaria	Webmaster	01-01-17	Tsvetan V Filev
Croatia	Chair	01-01-17	Maja Matijasevic
Croatia	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Ana Katalinic
Croatia	Secretary	01-01-17	Vinko Lesic
Croatia	Treasurer	01-01-17	Matea Filipovic
Croatia	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-17	Josip Balen
Croatia	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-17	Aleksandar Szabo
Croatia	Conference Coordinator	01-01-17	Mario Kusek
Croatia	Coordinator	01-01-17	Marko Delimar
Croatia	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Tomislav Jagust
Croatia	Electronic Communications Coordinator	01-01-17	Vlatka Paunovic
Croatia	Membership Development	01-01-17	Mislav Grgic
Croatia	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-17	Mislav Grgic
Croatia	Professional Activities	01-01-17	Vedran Podobnik
Croatia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Jelena Bozek
Croatia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Sinisa Tomic
Croatia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Vlatka Paunovic
Croatia	Student Activities	01-01-17	Dinko Jakovljevic
Croatia	Student Representative	01-01-17	Diego Susanj
Croatia	vTools Coordinator	01-01-17	Sinisa Tomic
Croatia	Webmaster	01-01-17	Vlatka Paunovic
Cyprus	Chair	01-01-16	Nicos C Michaelides
Cyprus	Vice Chair	28-02-14	Elias Kyriakides
Cyprus	Secretary	01-01-16	Aikaterini Papanikolaou
Cyprus	Treasurer	01-01-16	Nikolas Flourentzou
Cyprus	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-15	PANAYIOTIS C SYMEOY
Cyprus	Educational Activities	01-02-16	Vasos Vassiliou
Cyprus	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-02-17	Maria Georgiou Efthimiou
Cyprus	Membership Development	01-09-16	Eirini Schiza
Cyprus	Newsletter Editor	01-01-15	Michalis P Michaelides
Cyprus	Professional Activities	01-01-15	Charalambos A Pavlides
Cyprus	Student Activities	01-01-15	Nikolas Flourentzou
Cyprus	vTools Coordinator	01-01-12	George Michael
Cyprus	Young Professionals (YP) Member	01-02-16	Konstantinos Michail
Czechoslovakia	Chair	01-01-15	Matej Pacha
Czechoslovakia	Secretary	01-01-10	Tomas Fryza
Czechoslovakia	Treasurer	01-01-10	Jan Sisteck
Czechoslovakia	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Roman Marsalek
Czechoslovakia	Membership Development	01-01-15	Norbert Herencsar
Czechoslovakia	Membership Development	01-01-17	Elena Cocherova
Czechoslovakia	Newsletter Editor	01-01-17	Jiri Sebesta
Czechoslovakia	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-15	Matej Pacha
Czechoslovakia	Professional Activities	01-01-15	Matej Pacha
Czechoslovakia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-14	Tomas Fryza
Czechoslovakia	Student Activities	01-01-13	Roman Marsalek
Czechoslovakia	vTools Coordinator	01-01-15	Tomas Fryza
Czechoslovakia	vTools Coordinator	01-01-16	Miroslav Cupal
Czechoslovakia	vTools Coordinator	01-01-16	Ondrej Zach
Denmark	Chair	01-01-17	Erik Stilling
Denmark	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Knud Erik Skouby
Denmark	Secretary	01-01-17	Troels B Sorensen
Denmark	Secretary/Treasurer	01-01-17	Florin Iov
Denmark	Industry Relations Coordinator	06-05-13	Ole M Lauridsen

Denmark	Membership Development	02-05-16	Erik Stilling
Denmark	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Erik Stilling
Denmark	Student Activities	12-01-17	Xiongfei Wang
Egypt	Chair	01-01-16	Samir I Shaheen
Egypt	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Ahmed Hassan Yousef
Egypt	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Mohamed M Khairy
Egypt	Treasurer	01-01-16	Islam A Eshrah
Egypt	Past Chair	01-01-16	Ahmed M Darwish
Egypt	Assistant	01-01-16	Mohamed M Khairy
Egypt	Educational Activities	17-11-14	Tamer M Nassef
Egypt	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-15	Mohamed Amin
Egypt	Membership Development	03-01-11	Ahmed F Shalash
Egypt	Professional Activities	23-09-14	Muhammad Alaaaldeen Kamal
Egypt	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-15	Hossam Mohamed Fahmy
Egypt	Student Representative	19-07-16	Esraa Fawzy Seleem
Egypt	Vice Chair, Technical Activities	01-01-16	Ahmed Hassan Yousef
Egypt	vTools Coordinator	31-12-14	Hossam Mohamed Fahmy
Estonia	Chair	01-01-17	Peeter Ellervee
Estonia	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Margus Pedaste
Estonia	Secretary	22-02-15	Maie Bachmann
Estonia	Treasurer	01-11-16	Reeno Reeder
Estonia	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-15	Vello Kukk
Estonia	Committee Chair	23-02-15	Marko Koort
Estonia	Educational Activities	01-01-10	Vello Kukk
Estonia	Membership Development	01-01-07	Urmet Janes
Estonia	Professional Activities	01-01-10	Urmet Janes
Estonia	Student Activities	10-10-15	Yar Muhammad
Estonia	Student Representative	10-10-15	Siavoosh Payandeh Azad
Estonia	Webmaster	01-02-08	Urmet Janes
Finland	Chair	01-01-16	Toni Tuomas Mattila
Finland	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Andrei Gurtov
Finland	Secretary	01-01-16	Arttu Ollikkala
Finland	Past Chair	01-01-16	Rafal Pawel Sliz
Finland	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-16	Perttu Parkatti
Finland	Student Activities	01-01-16	GAURAV PRAVIN KHAIRKAR
Finland	YP Representative	01-01-16	Joonas Kustaa Kokkonen
France	Chair	01-01-17	Frederique M Vallee
France	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Mohamed Ramdani
France	Secretary	03-02-14	Frederique M Vallee
France	Secretary	01-01-17	Helene Tonchia
France	Treasurer	01-01-17	Pascal Lorenz
France	Assistant	01-01-17	Bernadette R Bouchon Meunier
France	Assistant	01-01-17	Maria Trocan
France	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-17	Victor Fouad-Hanna
France	Conference	01-01-17	Hikmet Sari
France	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-17	Amara Amara
France	Student Activities	01-02-08	Abderrahim Benslimane
Germany	Chair	01-01-17	Ingo Hahn
Germany	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Jan Haase
Germany	Secretary	01-01-94	Volker B Schanz
Germany	Treasurer	01-01-17	Omid Forati Kashani
Germany	Coordinator	01-09-15	Ana Cigaran Romero
Germany	Gold Representative	05-04-13	Arne Redl
Germany	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-13	Dirk Westermann
Germany	Membership Development	12-06-13	ARNE ELLERBROCK
Germany	Professional Activities	01-01-13	EvaMaria Gutmiedl Lang
Germany	Public Relations	01-01-13	Gerald Anleitner
Germany	Student Activities	01-04-15	Thomas Stieglmaier
Germany	Webmaster	01-10-14	Michael Schoen
Ghana	Chair	01-01-17	Eric Kuada
Ghana	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Miriam Eduful
Ghana	Secretary	01-01-17	Kofi Arhin
Ghana	Treasurer	01-01-15	Kingsford Joseph Akwasi Atanga
Ghana	Past Chair	01-01-17	George Eduful

Ghana	Professional Activities	01-01-17	Quist-Aphetsi Kester
Ghana	Student Activities	01-01-17	Maxwell Darko Addison
Greece	Chair	01-01-16	Nectarios G Koziris
Greece	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Athanasios Kakarountas
Greece	Secretary/Treasurer	01-01-16	Kostas Karpouzis
Greece	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-10	Costas D Vournas
Greece	Educational Activities	01-05-14	Stamatis Dragoumanos
Greece	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-05-13	Emmanouil P Georgantas
Greece	Membership Development	10-10-12	Ioannis E Pratikakis
Greece	Newsletter Editor	01-01-10	Athanasios Kakarountas
Greece	Professional Activities	01-01-10	Ioannis M Stephanakis
Greece	Publicity Chair	01-08-16	Dora Fourou
Greece	Student Activities	01-01-10	Kostas Karpouzis
Greece	Student Representative	01-07-15	George Papadimitriou
Hungary	Chair	01-01-17	Levente Kovacs
Hungary	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Tamas Haidegger
Hungary	Secretary	01-01-17	Zsolt Csaba Johanyak
Hungary	Treasurer	01-01-05	Aniko Szakal
Hungary	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	17-09-13	Krisztian Lamar
Hungary	Gold Representative	01-01-15	Domokos Esztergar-Kiss
Hungary	Industry Relations Coordinator	16-02-17	Arpad Takacs
Hungary	Membership Development	16-02-17	Daniel Andras Drexler
Hungary	Professional Activities	16-02-17	Gyorgy Eigner
Hungary	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	16-02-17	Gyorgy Eigner
Hungary	Student Activities	16-02-17	Gyorgy Eigner
Iceland	Chair	11-03-15	Thomas P Runarsson
Iceland	Secretary	11-03-15	Jon Gudnason
Iceland	Treasurer	01-01-17	Runar Unnthorsson
Iceland	Past Chair	01-01-17	Saemundur E Thorsteinsson
Iceland	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-17	Kristinn Andersen
Iceland	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-11	Saemundur E Thorsteinsson
Iceland	Membership Development	01-01-11	KARL S GUDMUNDSSO
Iceland	Professional Activities	01-01-14	KARL S GUDMUNDSSO
Iceland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-07-02	Jon A Benediktsson
Iceland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-06	Saemundur E Thorsteinsson
Iran	Chair	01-01-17	Ahmad R. Sharafat
Iran	Secretary	01-01-17	Farzaneh Abdollahi
Iran	Treasurer	21-09-15	S. Mohammad Razavizadeh
Iran	Committee Chair	17-02-15	Majid Sanaye-Pasand
Iran	Committee Chair	31-12-15	Hamid Soltanian-Zadeh
Iran	Membership Development	11-03-15	Alireza Fereidunian
Iran	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-09	Reza Faraji-Dana
Iran	Professional Activities	04-02-15	Hamid Soltanian-Zadeh
Iran	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Hussein Shirvani
Iran	Student Activities	10-03-15	Reza Sarvari
Iran	Women in Engineering	01-01-13	Masoumeh Nasiri-Kenari
Iran	YP Representative	01-01-16	S. Mohammad Razavizadeh
Iraq	Chair	01-01-15	Nidaa Abdual Muhsin Abbas
Iraq	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Sattar Bader Sadkhan
Iraq	Secretary	01-01-17	Dr. Ali A. Ahmed Abed
Iraq	Treasurer	01-01-17	Saad Jasim Mohammad
Iraq	Membership Development	01-01-17	Ahmed Hikmat Burhan
Iraq	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-06-15	Shavan Askar
Iraq	Student Activities	01-01-15	Safanah Mudheher Raafat
Iraq	Webmaster	01-01-17	Ahmed Hikmat Burhan
Israel	Chair	01-05-15	Mark Shtauf
Israel	Secretary	01-05-15	Yuval Beck
Israel	Assistant	13-09-10	Jacob Baal-Schem
Israel	Assistant	13-09-10	Raphael Hoyda
Israel	Student Activities	01-04-15	Itshack Bergel
Italy	Chair	06-09-16	Tiziana Tambosso
Italy	Vice Chair	06-09-16	Bernardo Tellini
Italy	Secretary	06-09-16	GIAMBATTISTA GRUOSSO
Italy	Treasurer	06-09-16	Sergio Rapuano

Italy	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	06-09-16	Paolo Maresca
Italy	Chapter Coordinator	06-09-16	Bernardo Tellini
Italy	Conference Coordinator	06-09-16	GIAMBATTISTA GRUOSSO
Italy	Coordinator	06-09-16	Antonio Savini
Italy	Educational Activities	15-10-13	Daniela Proto
Italy	History	07-09-16	Antonio Savini
Italy	Industry Relations Coordinator	06-09-16	Pietro Erratico
Italy	Information Management Coordinator	07-09-16	Stefano Ferrari
Italy	Liaison	07-09-16	Dario Petri
Italy	Membership Development	06-09-16	Ermanno Cardelli
Italy	Newsletter Editor	06-09-16	Daniela Proto
Italy	Professional Activities	06-09-16	Alberto Reatti
Italy	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	06-09-16	Tiziana Tambosso
Italy	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Stefano Zanero
Italy	Student Activities	15-10-13	Marco D Santambrogio
Italy	YP Representative	15-10-13	Ferdinando Nunziata
Jordan	Chair	01-01-16	Gheith A Abandah
Jordan	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Ghazi M AlSukkar
Jordan	Secretary	01-01-16	Ali Younis Maqousi
Jordan	Secretary	01-01-16	Esam A. Qaralleh
Jordan	Treasurer	09-08-15	Khalid Mohammad Jaber
Jordan	Treasurer	01-01-16	Khalid Mohammad Jaber
Jordan	Historian	25-06-14	Mohammed Z Mohammed
Jordan	Membership Development	05-07-11	Feras M Diab
Jordan	Professional Activities	01-06-14	Esam A. Qaralleh
Jordan	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-14	Gheith A Abandah
Jordan	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	17-01-16	Mohamed K Abdelazeez
Jordan	Webmaster	01-03-13	Feras M Diab
Kenya	Chair	23-01-17	Martin M Nzomo
Kenya	Vice Chair	23-01-17	Nelson S Wasilwa
Kenya	Secretary	23-01-17	ESTHER WAGAKI MUCHIRI
Kenya	Treasurer	11-01-16	Esther Wairimu Kagunya
Kenya	Historian	12-09-16	Victor N Oyula
Kenya	Immediate Past Chair	23-01-17	Humphrey M Muhindi
Kenya	Membership Development	05-09-16	Timothy Gitau
Kenya	Nominations	02-02-15	Kinyua Frederick Wachira
Kenya	Nominations	02-02-15	Wilfred N Mwema
Kenya	Professional Activities	12-09-16	Christopher Njuguna
Kenya	Representative	11-01-16	John Baptist Matogo
Kenya	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	07-05-12	Wilfred N Mwema
Kenya	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	23-02-17	Humphrey M Muhindi
Kenya	SIGHT Chair	05-09-16	Robert Macharia Wanyoike
Kenya	Student Representative	19-09-16	Sarah Wanjohi
Kuwait	Chair	01-06-90	A K Alghunaim
Kuwait	Vice Chair	04-02-14	Adel A Zerai
Kuwait	Secretary	04-02-14	Fadhel H Abulhasan
Kuwait	Treasurer	01-01-13	Fadhel H Abulhasan
Kuwait	Committee Chair	01-01-16	Hanan A Al-Awadhi
Kuwait	Educational Activities	01-01-16	Mohammad S Alfares
Kuwait	Membership Development	01-01-12	Fadhel H Abulhasan
Kuwait	Membership Development	04-02-14	Khuloud Abdullah Al-hendi
Kuwait	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	14-02-12	Fadhel H Abulhasan
Kuwait	Student Activities	01-01-16	Mohammad S Alfares
Latvia	Chair	01-01-16	Andrejs Romanovs
Latvia	Treasurer	01-01-16	Nadezhda Kunicina
Latvia	Membership Development	01-10-16	Anna Litvinenko
Latvia	Professional Activities	01-01-16	Arturs Aboltins
Lebanon	Chair	01-01-17	Hadi Edmond Sawaya
Lebanon	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Bachar Ahmad EL HASSAN
Lebanon	Secretary	01-01-17	Nazih Moubayed
Lebanon	Treasurer	01-01-15	Hadi Youssef Kanaan
Lebanon	Assistant	01-01-17	Youssef Nasser
Lebanon	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-15	Sara Abou Chakra
Lebanon	Membership Development	01-01-17	Jacques Demerjian

Lebanon	Professional Activities	01-01-17	Saeed M. Raheel
Lebanon	Representative	01-01-15	Mohamad Awad
Lebanon	Student Activities	01-01-17	Michel J Owayjan
Lebanon	Student Representative	01-01-17	Rayan Hanna
Lithuania	Chair	01-01-15	Vytautas Urbanavicius
Lithuania	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Dalius Navakauskas
Lithuania	Secretary	01-01-17	Darius Plonis
Lithuania	Treasurer	01-01-17	Irina Naidionova
Lithuania	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-16	Dalius Navakauskas
Lithuania	Educational Activities	01-01-16	Sarunas Paulikas
Lithuania	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-15	Irina Naidionova
Lithuania	Membership Development	01-01-17	Justinas Janulevicius
Lithuania	Professional Activities	01-01-13	Dalius Matuzevicius
Lithuania	Student Activities	01-01-16	Darius Plonis
Lithuania	Student Representative	01-02-16	Eldar Sabanovic
Lithuania	Webmaster	01-01-16	Gediminas Stankevicius
Malta	Chair	01-01-17	Conrad Attard
Malta	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Edward J Gatt
Malta	Secretary	01-01-17	Gianluca Vincenzo Valentino
Malta	Treasurer	30-11-16	Josef Magri
Malta	Membership Development	16-06-16	Jordan Lee Gauci
Morocco	Chair	01-02-16	Mohammed El Mohajir
Morocco	Vice Chair	28-01-16	Nasser Assem
Morocco	Secretary	28-01-16	Abdellatif Kobbane
Morocco	Treasurer	28-01-16	MOHAMMED AL ACHHAB
Morocco	Conference Coordinator	02-01-17	Mohamed EL KAMILI
Morocco	Gold Representative	02-01-17	Zoubida Alaoui Mdaghri
Morocco	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-10-16	Badr Eddine El Mohajir
Morocco	Membership Development	01-05-09	Badr Eddine El Mohajir
Morocco	Student Activities	01-10-15	Zoubida Alaoui Mdaghri
Nigeria	Chair	01-01-16	Rapheal M Onoshakpor
Nigeria	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Oyewole J Funso-Adebayo
Nigeria	Secretary	01-01-16	Ifeyinwa E Achumba
Nigeria	Treasurer	01-01-16	Kennedy Chinedu Okafor
Norway	Chair	01-01-16	Runar Soeraasen
Norway	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Kaveh Niayesh
Norway	Treasurer	01-01-16	Stephen T Long
Norway	Membership Development	01-01-16	Filippo Sanfilippo
Norway	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Filippo Sanfilippo
Oman	Chair	01-01-17	Amer Saif Al-Hinai
Oman	Secretary	01-01-17	Arnold Nolasco Santos
Oman	Treasurer	01-01-17	Ramakrishna K Muthavaram
Oman	Awards	13-04-15	Andrzej W Ordys
Oman	Membership Development	13-04-15	Mohammed M Beit-Suwailem
Oman	Publicity	13-04-15	Ahmed S Al-Maashari
Oman	Student Activities	01-01-17	Ashraf Saleem
Oman	Technical Activities	13-04-15	Salah M. Al-Majeed
Oman	Women in Engineering	05-04-16	Hanan Mahdi Abdulkareem
Poland	Chair	01-01-16	Mariusz Malinowski
Poland	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Adam Dabrowski
Poland	Secretary	01-01-16	Sebastian Michal Stynski
Poland	Treasurer	01-07-99	Andrzej Miekina
Poland	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	14-03-14	Eugen M Yashchyshyn
Poland	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-16	Pawel Pawlowski
Poland	Conference Coordinator	01-01-16	Marek Tomasz Jasinski
Poland	Educational Activities	01-01-16	Jacek Rabkowski
Poland	Membership Development	29-06-10	Grzegorz L. Pankanin
Poland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Grzegorz L. Pankanin
Poland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Mariusz Malinowski
Poland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Pawel Pawlowski
Poland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Sebastian Michal Stynski
Poland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-12-16	Anna Burek
Poland	Student Activities	01-06-15	Slawomir Kula
Poland	Student Activities	01-01-16	Konrad Henryk Markowski

Poland	vTools Coordinator	01-01-16	Sebastian Michal Stynski
Poland	vTools Coordinator	13-02-17	Krzysztof P Sozanski
Poland	YP Representative	16-05-16	Piotr Graca
Portugal	Chair	01-01-15	Ana M Madureira
Portugal	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Jose Sobreiro Furtado Silva
Portugal	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Catarina S Silva
Portugal	Secretary	01-01-16	Pedro Simeao Carvalho
Portugal	Treasurer	01-01-15	Miguel Marques
Portugal	Chapter Coordinator	01-05-16	Pedro Tavares Pinho
Portugal	Conference Coordinator	19-02-17	Telmo R Fernandes
Portugal	Coordinator	01-05-16	Joana Pereira
Portugal	Educational Activities	01-05-16	Paulo S Andre
Portugal	Historian	18-02-15	Joao Pedro Boavida
Portugal	Industry Relations Coordinator	18-02-15	Custodio J Pais Dias
Portugal	Membership Development	20-02-17	Paulo Ferreira
Portugal	Nominations and Appointments Chair	18-02-15	Pedro Tavares Pinho
Portugal	Professional Activities	01-05-16	Joao Nuno Gaspar Apura
Portugal	Student Activities	01-05-16	Tomas Fernandes Brandao Tavares
Portugal	Student Representative	01-11-16	Ines Jorge Ferreira
Portugal	Webmaster	01-05-16	Jorge Silva
Qatar	Chair	20-05-15	Somaya Ali Al-maadeed
Qatar	Vice Chair	20-05-15	Noora Fetais
Qatar	Secretary	20-05-15	Amith khandakar
Qatar	Treasurer	20-05-15	JOYAL JOHN PETER
Qatar	Industry Relations Coordinator	06-02-17	Amith khandakar
Qatar	Membership Development	15-06-16	Amith khandakar
Republic of Macedonia	Chair	22-01-14	Lupco Karadzinov
Republic of Macedonia	Vice Chair	22-01-14	Snezana S Cundeva
Republic of Macedonia	Secretary	01-01-16	Mare Srbinovska
Republic of Macedonia	Treasurer	16-02-14	Pero S Latkoski
Republic of Macedonia	Past Chair	22-01-14	Goce L Arsov
Republic of Macedonia	Membership Development	11-05-16	Mare Srbinovska
Republic of Macedonia	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-09-15	Dimitar Dimitrov
Republic of Macedonia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-14	Lupco Karadzinov
Republic of Macedonia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	16-01-14	Goce L Arsov
Republic of Macedonia	Student Activities	15-02-14	Vesna Ojleska
Romania	Chair	01-02-14	Mircea Eremia
Romania	Vice Chair	01-02-14	Cristian Negrescu
Romania	Secretary	01-02-14	Lucian Toma
Romania	Treasurer	01-02-14	Ciprian Dobre
Romania	Past Chair	01-02-14	Radu N Dobrescu
Romania	Chapter Coordinator	27-02-16	Corneliu Burileanu
Romania	Committee Chair	01-02-16	Adriana Florescu
Romania	Educational Activities	01-02-16	Mihai O Popescu
Romania	Historian	01-02-16	Elena Helera
Romania	Industry Relations Coordinator	09-03-16	Federenciu Dumitru
Romania	Membership Development	01-02-16	Liviu Goras
Romania	Membership Development	01-02-16	Vladimir I Cretu
Romania	Membership Development	29-02-16	Leonardo-Geo Manescu
Romania	Professional Activities	01-02-16	Nicolae D Tapus
Romania	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	27-02-16	AdrianValentin Boicea
Romania	Student Activities	01-02-14	Florin Pop
Romania	Technical Activities	27-02-16	Mihai Gavrilas
Romania	Training Coordinator	27-02-16	Constantin Barbulescu
Russia	Chair	09-02-15	Sergei A Nikitov
Russia	Vice Chair	29-12-16	Sergey Bankov
Russia	Treasurer	15-12-10	Alekseev Georgievich Sergey
Russia (Northwest)	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Dmitry V Kholodnyak
Russia (Northwest)	Secretary	01-01-14	Maxim A Sokolov
Russia (Northwest)	Treasurer	18-12-16	Yurij I Sepp
Russia (Siberia)	Chair	01-01-16	Alexey S. Rodionov
Russia (Siberia)	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Vladimir Vladimirovich Shakhov
Russia (Siberia)	Secretary/Treasurer	20-03-15	Grigorii Khazankin
Russia (Siberia)	Committee Chair	01-01-14	Alexander B Markhasin

Saudi Arabia	Chair	14-09-11	Muhammad I Al-Dhamen
Saudi Arabia	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Ibrahim M Elamin
Saudi Arabia	Secretary	01-01-15	Jaafar M Al-Ibrahim
Saudi Arabia	Treasurer	01-01-15	Khaled A Al-Fawaz
Saudi Arabia	Educational Activities	01-08-16	Ibrahim M Elamin
Saudi Arabia	Membership Development	01-01-17	Mohammad M Al-Muhaini
Saudi Arabia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Mathai T Kalathil
Saudi Arabia	vTools Coordinator	01-01-16	Mathai T Kalathil
Saudi Arabia	Webmaster	01-01-16	Mathai T Kalathil
Serbia and Montenegro	Chair	03-02-15	Vera V Markovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Vice Chair	03-02-15	BORIS P DUMNIC
Serbia and Montenegro	Secretary	03-02-15	Mladen T Koprivica
Serbia and Montenegro	Treasurer	01-01-07	Mladen T Koprivica
Serbia and Montenegro	Past Chair	02-02-15	Natasa Neskovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Assistant	01-01-16	Aleksandar Neskovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-16	Branimir D Reljin
Serbia and Montenegro	Conference Activities	01-01-11	George S Paunovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Educational Activities	28-12-13	Natasa Neskovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Gold Representative	01-01-11	BORIS P DUMNIC
Serbia and Montenegro	Membership Development	28-12-12	Mladen T Koprivica
Serbia and Montenegro	Professional Activities	28-12-12	Zoran I Veljovic
Serbia and Montenegro	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-01	George S Paunovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Student Activities	28-12-12	Danijel Dankovic
Serbia and Montenegro	Student Representative	28-12-12	Majda Petric
Slovenia	Chair	01-01-14	Urban Burnik
Slovenia	Vice Chair	01-01-14	Matjaz Debevc
Slovenia	Secretary	01-01-14	Matevz Pogacnik
Slovenia	Treasurer	01-01-14	Andrej Trost
Slovenia	Membership Development	01-01-16	Matevz Kunaver
Slovenia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-01	Andrej Zemva
Slovenia	Student Representative	08-11-16	Primož Kočevar
South Africa	Chair	01-01-17	Albert Lysko
South Africa	Vice Chair	10-01-17	Darryn Cornish
South Africa	Vice Chair	10-01-17	Olayinka Daud Ayanda
South Africa	Secretary	01-07-15	David T Oyedokun
South Africa	Treasurer	01-03-16	Moin Hanif
South Africa	Past Chair	01-01-17	Shaun Kaplan
South Africa	Assistant	01-01-13	Willem A Cronje
South Africa	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	04-02-16	Albert Lysko
South Africa	Conference Coordinator	01-01-10	Gerhard P Hancke
South Africa	Educational Activities	15-03-14	Brett Ryan Terespolsky
South Africa	Electronic Communications Coordinator	08-05-15	Alex Mhungu
South Africa	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-10-15	Nico Coetzee
South Africa	Membership Development	10-01-17	Seyi Stephen Olokede
South Africa	Nominations and Appointments Chair	12-01-17	Shaun Kaplan
South Africa	Professional Activities	30-03-15	Komla A Folly
South Africa	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	06-01-17	Shaun Kaplan
South Africa	Student Representative	01-04-15	Darryn Cornish
Spain	Chair	16-02-16	Antonio Luque Estepa
Spain	Vice Chair	16-02-16	Jesus Fraile-Ardanuy
Spain	Secretary	16-02-16	Alfonso Lago
Spain	Treasurer	23-02-15	Fernando Munoz Manrique
Spain	Past Chair	16-02-16	Emilio Santiago Corchado
Spain	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	16-02-16	Salvador Munoz Ros
Spain	Chapter Coordinator	16-02-16	Jaime LloretMauri
Spain	Committee Chair	16-02-16	Antonio Perez Yuste
Spain	Conference Activities	16-02-16	Ana Collado
Spain	Coordinator	19-01-17	Emilio Santiago Corchado
Spain	Coordinator	19-01-17	Jesus Fraile-Ardanuy
Spain	Educational Activities	16-02-16	Hector D Puyosa
Spain	Industry Relations Coordinator	16-02-16	Luis M Torres
Spain	Life Member Chair	15-02-14	Jose A Delgado-Penin
Spain	Member-At-Large	16-02-16	Magdalena Salazar-Palma
Spain	Membership Development	16-02-16	Jose M De La Rosa

Spain	Nominations and Appointments Chair	16-02-16	Manuel Castro
Spain	Professional Activities	16-02-16	Francisco J. Escribano
Spain	Student Activities	15-02-12	Juan Jesus Yubero Rodriguez
Spain	Student Representative	16-02-16	Jose Miguel Alfonso Sepulcre
Spain	Technical Activities	16-02-16	Oscar M Bonastre
Spain	vTools Coordinator	16-02-16	Francisco J Falcone
Spain	Women in Engineering	10-06-16	Julia Merino
Spain	YP Representative	16-02-16	RAMON CARRASCO BORREGO
Sweden	Chair	01-01-14	Mats Edvinsson
Sweden	Vice Chair	17-03-16	Luis Guillermo Martinez Ballesteros
Sweden	Secretary	17-03-16	Samarth Deo
Sweden	Treasurer	17-03-16	Christofer Silfvenius
Sweden	Industry Relations Coordinator	17-03-16	Viacheslav Izosimov
Sweden	Membership Development	01-01-13	P Rune H Persson
Sweden	Newsletter Editor	17-03-16	P Rune H Persson
Sweden	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-01	P Rune H Persson
Sweden	Student Representative	17-03-16	Nasim Farahini
Sweden	Women in Engineering	17-03-16	Nasim Farahini
Sweden	YP Representative	01-09-16	Alberto LorenteLeal
Switzerland	Chair	31-03-15	Andreas Koschak
Switzerland	Vice Chair	31-03-15	Maria-Alexandra Paun
Switzerland	Secretary	31-05-13	Maria-Alexandra Paun
Switzerland	Treasurer	31-03-15	Danilo Zanatta Filho
Switzerland	Past Chair	31-03-15	Andreas C Doering
Switzerland	Past Chair	31-03-15	Volker M Koch
Switzerland	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	21-03-13	Mauro M Ciappa
Switzerland	Coordinator	31-05-13	Hugo F Wyss
Switzerland	Coordinator	31-05-13	Mauro M Ciappa
Switzerland	Educational Activities	31-05-13	Urs Roethlisberger
Switzerland	Industry Relations Coordinator	26-03-14	Heinz Mathis
Switzerland	Member-At-Large	01-01-12	Harry Rudin
Switzerland	Member-At-Large	31-05-13	Hanspeter Schmid
Switzerland	Member-At-Large	31-05-13	Wladyslaw Grabinski
Switzerland	Membership Development	20-10-09	Andreas C Doering
Switzerland	Publicity	01-01-11	Marco Giordina
Switzerland	Student Activities	31-05-13	Hans-A Loeliger
Switzerland	Webmaster	01-01-11	Sara Grassi
Switzerland	YP Representative	01-12-15	Jaison A Sabu
Tunisia	Chair	07-07-15	Habib M Kammoun
Tunisia	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Adel M Alimi
Tunisia	Secretary	01-01-17	Bilel Dekhili
Tunisia	Treasurer	01-01-17	Mohamed Neji
Tunisia	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-17	Hassnene Seddik
Tunisia	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-17	Sana Khalifa
Tunisia	Coordinator	01-01-17	Samar Baba
Tunisia	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Fdhila Raja
Tunisia	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-17	nihel ben yousef
Tunisia	Member	01-01-17	Boudour CHERIF AMMAR
Tunisia	Member	01-01-17	Mohamed Najeh Lakhoua
Tunisia	Member	01-01-17	Olfa Jemai
Tunisia	Member	01-01-17	Tarek Bejaoui
Tunisia	Membership Development	01-01-17	Randa HAMMAMI
Tunisia	Newsletter Editor	01-01-17	Amin ZRIBI
Tunisia	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-17	Mourad Loulou
Tunisia	Student Activities	01-01-17	Mehdi Bouguerra
Tunisia	Student Representative	01-01-17	Islem Cherif
Tunisia	Student Representative	01-01-17	Ons Zaidi
Tunisia	Technical Activities Coordinator	01-01-17	Mouna Kammoun
Turkey	Chair	01-01-16	Murat Uysal
Turkey	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Gunes Karabulut
Turkey	Secretary/Treasurer	13-01-17	Tuncer Baykas
Turkey	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	14-04-16	Tolga Mete Duman
Turkey	Coordinator	15-04-16	Serhat Erkucuk
Turkey	Educational Activities	14-04-16	Tuncer Baykas

Turkey	Student Activities	14-04-16	Hasan F Ugurdag
Turkey	Student Representative	25-08-16	Daglar KAPLAN
Turkey	Technical Activities Coordinator	14-04-16	Ali E Pusane
Turkey	YP Representative	14-04-16	Ayhan Epik
Ukraine	Chair	01-01-16	Felix J Yanovsky
Ukraine	Vice Chair	17-02-14	Evgen Sergeevich Pichkalyov
Ukraine	Chapter Coordinator	02-02-16	Yuliya Averyanova
Ukraine	Educational Activities	02-02-16	Oleksandr Mokin
Ukraine	Electronic Communications Coordinator	27-08-16	Kateryna Ivanko
Ukraine	Historian	02-02-16	Revaz S Zaridze
Ukraine	Industry Relations Coordinator	02-02-16	Anton A Popov
Ukraine	Membership Development	02-02-16	Mariya S Antyufeyeva
Ukraine	Nominations and Appointments Chair	02-02-16	Alexander I Nosich
Ukraine	Student Activities	02-02-16	Daryna Pesina
United Arab Emirates	Chair	01-01-17	Essa I Basaeed
United Arab Emirates	Vice Chair	01-01-17	fatma Mohammed Taher
United Arab Emirates	Secretary	01-01-17	Mohammed Ali Alzaabi
United Arab Emirates	Assistant	01-01-12	Eesa M Bastaki
United Arab Emirates	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-08-14	Eesa M Bastaki
United Arab Emirates	Chapter Coordinator	01-06-14	Nazih Khaddaj Mallat
United Arab Emirates	Conference Coordinator	01-06-14	Mahmoud A AlQutayri
United Arab Emirates	Educational Activities	01-06-14	Mahmoud A AlQutayri
United Arab Emirates	eNotice Coordinator	09-08-16	Essa I Basaeed
United Arab Emirates	Membership Development	01-01-07	Adeel Sultan
United Arab Emirates	Newsletter Editor	01-06-14	Manar Abu Talib
United Arab Emirates	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-16	Kahtan A Mezher
United Arab Emirates	Professional Activities	01-06-14	Adeel Sultan
United Arab Emirates	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	15-12-13	Nazih Khaddaj Mallat
United Arab Emirates	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	16-08-16	Essa I Basaeed
United Arab Emirates	Student Activities	19-06-14	Wathiq M Mansoor
United Arab Emirates	Technical Activities	01-09-13	Abdul R Al-Ali
United Arab Emirates	vTools Coordinator	09-08-16	Essa I Basaeed
United Arab Emirates	Webmaster	22-02-17	Yasser A Al-Bahandy
United Kingdom and Ireland	Chair	01-01-16	A G Hessami
United Kingdom and Ireland	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Michael G Hinchey
United Kingdom and Ireland	Secretary	11-11-16	Cyril Onwubiko
United Kingdom and Ireland	Treasurer	01-09-16	Matthew Gream
United Kingdom and Ireland	Assistant	01-01-16	Lee Crudgington
United Kingdom and Ireland	Assistant	01-06-16	Lai Bun Lok
United Kingdom and Ireland	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-03-12	Jan Sykulski
United Kingdom and Ireland	Conference Coordinator	11-10-12	Roy C Ediss
United Kingdom and Ireland	Educational Activities	01-01-11	Oussalah Mourad
United Kingdom and Ireland	eNotice Coordinator	06-01-16	Stephen J Nightingale
United Kingdom and Ireland	Historian	01-01-10	Peter C J Hill
United Kingdom and Ireland	Membership Development	23-03-12	Wim J Melis
United Kingdom and Ireland	Newsletter Editor	01-01-16	C W Turner
United Kingdom and Ireland	Nominations and Appointments Chair	11-10-12	Paul A Vertannes
United Kingdom and Ireland	Professional Activities	16-10-13	Patrick C Luk
United Kingdom and Ireland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	10-12-07	C W Turner
United Kingdom and Ireland	Student Activities	01-04-15	Veronika Nesheva
United Kingdom and Ireland	Student Activities	01-01-16	Lee Crudgington
United Kingdom and Ireland	Webmaster	01-01-16	Nick Wainwright
Western Saudi Arabia	Chair	01-01-14	Mohamed A T Turki
Western Saudi Arabia	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Hafidh S Al-Samarrai
Western Saudi Arabia	Industry Relations Coordinator	03-03-15	Noureddin M Ibrahim
Western Saudi Arabia	Newsletter Editor	01-10-16	Adnan M Al-Bar
Western Saudi Arabia	Professional Activities	01-10-16	Adnan M Al-Bar
Western Saudi Arabia	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	03-03-15	Hafidh S Al-Samarrai
Western Saudi Arabia	Student Activities	25-01-17	Basem Abdel Jalil Abu Zneid
Zambia	Chair	09-01-17	Simon Shangwa Muwowe
Zambia	Vice Chair	09-01-17	Ariel H Phiri
Zambia	Secretary	09-01-17	Percy Chisanga
Zambia	Secretary/Treasurer	09-01-17	Edith Mwale Munungwe
Zambia	Treasurer	09-01-17	Mpaisha Phiri

Zambia	Immediate Past Chair	09-01-17	Bellington C Kabwe
Zambia	Membership Development	01-01-09	Kingfrey Kaoma
Alexandria Subsection	Chair	01-01-15	Mohamed R Rizk
Alexandria Subsection	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Mohamed I Elbanna
Alexandria Subsection	Secretary	01-01-15	Roshdy A Abdelrassoul
Alexandria Subsection	Secretary/Treasurer	01-01-12	Roshdy A Abdelrassoul
Alexandria Subsection	Treasurer	01-01-15	Roshdy A Abdelrassoul
Alexandria Subsection	Newsletter Editor	01-01-15	Mohamed R Rizk
Alexandria Subsection	Student Activities	03-01-15	Ziad A El-Sahn
Alexandria Subsection	Webmaster	01-01-15	Mohamed R Rizk
Botswana Subsection	Chair	15-11-08	George O Anderson
Botswana Subsection	vTools Coordinator	23-10-15	Ezekiel U Okike
Mauritius Subsection	Vice Chair	18-09-13	NEECHARL RAMPROSAND
Mauritius Subsection	Secretary	19-08-13	NEECHARL RAMPROSAND
Mauritius Subsection	Secretary	19-02-16	Eswaren Chetty Allaghery
Mauritius Subsection	Treasurer	19-02-16	Allen LoChunAh
Mauritius Subsection	Treasurer	19-02-16	Sameerchand Pudaruth
Mauritius Subsection	Membership Development	19-02-16	Eswaren Chetty Allaghery
Mauritius Subsection	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-02-16	Hansley J Chadee
Palestine Subsection	Chair	16-07-16	Tamer T.N. Khatib
Palestine Subsection	Vice Chair	16-07-16	Wadea Abdul-Hadi Suleiman
Palestine Subsection	Secretary	16-07-16	Muath Izat Lahlabat
Palestine Subsection	Treasurer	16-07-16	Hussam Malhis
Palestine Subsection	Nominations & Appointments Chair	13-02-16	Abdel Salam Sayyad
Palestine Subsection	vTools Coordinator	01-06-16	Abdel Salam Sayyad
Sudan Subsection	Vice Chair	13-12-15	Tarig A Khalid
Tanzania Subsection	Chair	09-08-06	Zaipuna O Yonah
Tanzania Subsection	Secretary	18-08-06	CHRISTINE MWASE
Tanzania Subsection	Treasurer	18-08-06	Peter R Ulanga
Uganda Subsection	Chair	21-11-15	Julius Butime
Uganda Subsection	Treasurer	02-01-17	Olema Vincent

Membership d.d. 28 February 2017

Membership dd 28-02-2017	Total	AF	StM	GSM	S	A	M	LM	SM	LS	F	LF	Non-S
Algeria	93	2	15	16	31	.	39	.	23	.	.	.	62
Austria	1065	63	82	156	238	26	677	14	83	9	12	6	827
Bahrain	106	1	28	6	34	1	53	1	17	.	.	.	72
Belarus	33	.	4	8	12	.	17	.	4	.	.	.	21
Benelux	2757	118	101	438	539	32	1648	93	293	32	87	33	2218
Bosnia and Herzegovina	175	1	39	46	85	1	83	.	5	1	.	.	90
Bulgaria	111	2	3	8	11	1	88	1	9	1	.	.	100
Croatia	595	6	50	115	165	3	341	13	64	9	.	.	430
Cyprus	202	2	35	33	68	1	98	2	30	2	1	.	134
Czechoslovakia	494	13	15	58	73	10	325	.	85	.	.	1	421
Denmark	719	24	14	100	114	15	458	29	81	11	9	2	605
Egypt	761	2	175	149	324	1	283	10	111	28	2	2	437
Estonia	151	1	37	39	76	1	60	2	12	.	.	.	75
Finland	804	25	39	164	203	10	451	14	101	7	10	8	601
France	2826	120	175	295	470	69	1689	50	429	25	73	21	2356
Germany	6284	338	284	1120	1404	123	3840	112	608	45	98	54	4880
Ghana	95	1	6	15	21	1	70	.	3	.	.	.	74
Greece	1299	34	405	146	551	9	542	16	150	11	19	1	748
Hungary	315	5	34	39	73	4	191	5	23	8	6	5	242
Iceland	59	3	5	2	7	3	38	1	9	.	1	.	52
Iran	915	5	300	282	582	3	227	2	97	1	3	.	333
Iraq	125	1	7	33	40	1	58	.	26	.	.	.	85
Israel	839	28	57	76	133	12	384	50	159	43	31	27	706
Italy	3695	147	198	448	646	61	2075	83	640	22	127	41	3049
Jordan	522	2	383	10	393	1	94	.	30	3	.	1	129
Kenya	135	1	38	11	49	2	78	1	5	.	.	.	86
Kuwait	139	2	30	10	40	1	77	.	20	.	.	1	99
Latvia	103	1	19	17	36	2	55	1	8	1	.	.	67
Lebanon	886	.	549	90	639	5	185	2	50	4	1	.	247
Lithuania	99	2	17	12	29	1	51	1	17	.	.	.	70
Malta	119	1	13	20	33	2	72	2	10	.	.	.	86
Morocco	198	1	83	38	121	.	68	.	8	1	.	.	77
Nigeria	286	6	33	37	70	2	186	.	27	1	.	.	216
Norway	779	30	9	66	75	15	558	25	82	17	5	2	704
Oman	174	.	65	8	73	.	71	.	30	.	.	.	101
Poland	772	19	38	50	88	13	492	8	145	11	12	3	684
Portugal	899	33	137	143	280	5	405	8	176	10	15	.	619
Qatar	178	1	17	15	32	3	100	1	40	.	2	.	146
Republic of Macedonia	123	2	29	16	45	.	42	1	31	2	2	.	78
Romania	770	16	44	81	125	5	539	5	88	6	1	1	645
Russia (Northwest)	241	3	39	42	81	4	126	1	25	3	1	.	160
Russia (Siberia)	173	7	25	15	40	3	111	1	16	1	1	.	133
Russia	587	20	44	86	130	21	398	4	31	2	1	.	457
Saudi Arabia	694	10	228	55	283	10	325	3	65	8	.	.	411
Serbia and Montenegro	616	3	60	110	170	2	397	6	33	5	3	.	446
Slovenia	262	7	6	22	28	7	195	8	15	8	1	.	234
South Africa	665	6	20	62	82	4	461	11	96	6	3	2	583
Spain	2836	108	318	255	573	33	1565	41	565	20	34	5	2263
Sweden	1633	43	13	272	285	23	902	47	284	41	35	16	1348
Switzerland	2391	107	67	247	314	47	1558	146	212	22	69	23	2077
Tunisia	1323	1	1045	145	1190	1	86	.	46	.	.	.	133
Turkey	1239	11	371	232	603	2	490	4	115	7	15	3	636
Ukraine	293	4	28	46	74	4	160	3	47	2	2	1	219
United Arab Emirates	730	5	191	67	258	4	351	1	112	2	.	2	472
United Kingdom and Ireland	7661	192	304	1065	1369	103	4718	180	1023	66	151	51	6292
Western Saudi Arabia	332	6	116	50	166	4	118	1	40	2	1	.	166
Zambia	115	3	.	2	2	5	107	1	113
Outside Sections	641	3	242	46	288	5	303	2	41	2	.	.	353
APO/FPO	50	1	.	5	5	3	37	.	5	.	.	.	45
Region 8 total	53182	1599	6729	7240	13969	730	29216	1013	6600	508	834	312	39213

Note that only members with an active membership status are counted.

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Secretary	51

Director

Margaretha Eriksson

Goals

- **Getting Closer to Industry**
We focus on the needs of the present and future engineers and professionals and to define and adapt IEEE products and services for them. The aim is to give IEEE more relevance in industry.
- **Future Members - attract and keep Students and Young Professionals**
Establish strong teams in our Students and Young Professionals Committees who are able to increase activity and give value to our younger members. Conduct regional SYP Congresses that reach and stimulate our students and YPs, and create motivating and interesting events for exchange of ideas, networking and friendship. Create new competitions and develop paths for a smooth transition from Student to Young Professional.
- **Section Vitality – our measure of progress**
Section vitality is a key indicator and the result of great activity from active members in Sections and Chapters. Leaders at all levels are in charge of supporting live and active Sections, Chapters, Affinity groups and Student branches. We want to establish active and diverse Section Executive Committees with a mix of involved young and experienced older members, members from academia and industry. Establishing IEEE in Africa is a top priority. We also have a challenge to grow the total number of members by 1% during 2017 = add 1 member per 100 members.
Specific activities
 - Help Sections to report in due time to receive MGA rebate from MGA
 - Assist with the legal registration of Sections where required
 - Explore the possibility for new Geographic Units in parts of the region where no Sections exist.
 - Create Membership development workshops to increase the number of members.
 - Introduce new membership dues in extremely low income countries.
- **IEEE Office in Vienna**
We want to define how the IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria can support R8 members in many ways

Status

- **Getting Closer to Industry**
We are increasing IEEE involvement with members in Industry, and in Sections and Chapters in R8. We appoint and support Industry Ambassadors and continue to work with the successful “Action for Industry” project. We establish internships for bright and practical IEEE students, and create a panel of mentors from experienced IEEE Industry Seniors and Fellows.
The “Action for Industry” project received the MGA Award 2016!
- **Future Members - attract and keep Students and Young Professionals**
Students and Young professionals are key members to grow and develop the region. Their committees increase activity and support and deliver relevant value to younger members. Regional SYP Congresses reach and stimulate students and YPs, and provide events for exchange of ideas, networking and friendship.
We develop new competitions and ways for a smooth transition from Student to Young Professional. Creating interesting activities in chapters, affinity groups and sections are vital.
- **Section Vitality – our measure of progress**
Section vitality is due to active members in Sections and Chapters and a key indicator for activity. Active Sections, Chapters, Affinity groups and Student Branches create activities. We have active and diverse Sections where the Executive committee is a team of capable young and old members, and academics and industry people. Leaders of Chapters, Affinity groups and Branch chairs are invited to Executive committee meetings.
A mix of professionalism, technical knowledge and positive atmosphere attract new volunteers.

Outlook

The forming of an **IEEE Technology Office in Vienna, Austria** will support R8 members in many ways, exactly how we will define during 2017.

IEEE in Africa will work according to the program roadmap and aim to grow membership further from present 6000 members in 9 sections and 6 subsections. The project will support activities in African Sections to attract and support future members, as in participating in UNESCO Africa Engineers Week and other events.

Milestone events are planned, some of them in the final stage.

Life Members are planning to form new Life Member Affinity Groups

Upcoming major events in Region 8 R8:

- Committee meeting, Stockholm, Sweden, 25-26 March 2017
- R8 Committee meeting, Sydney, Australia, 9-10 August 2017
- EUROCON 2017, Skopje, FYROM, 6-8 July 2017
- and more information on the R8 web site.

Points of Concern

We have a challenge to grow the total number of members by 1% during 2017 = 1 new member per 100 members.

We have about 70 000 members in R8 - You can invite 1 new member, can't you?

Past Director

Costas Stasopoulos

Region 8 Bylaws, R8-3.1.4: On the expiration of his/her Regional Director's term, the Director shall serve on the Region 8 Committee as Past Director for a two-year term. The Past Director shall be the focal point for the following activities in Region 8:

- Nominations and Appointments (Chair Costas Stasopoulos)
- Strategic Planning (Chair Magdalena Salazar Palma)
- Awards and Recognition (Chair Costas Stasopoulos)
- Questions concerning R8 Bylaws and R8 Operations Manual
- Human Resources Development and Training

Additional responsibilities may be assigned by the Region 8 Director.

Past Director's Calendar Since 20 September 2016

- IEEE Region 8 Meeting - Porto, Portugal, 24-25 September
- IEEE Board of Directors meeting - New Brunswick, USA 17-20 November
- Meeting with local Section in Moscow - Russia, 28-30 November
- IEEE OpCom meeting - Athens, Greece, 10-11 December

V/C Member Activities

Antonio Luque

Goals

The VC Member Activities coordinates the following activities:

- Membership Development
- Professional Activities
- Region 8 News
- Electronic Communications
- Affinity Group Activities (Young Professionals, Life Members, Women in Engineering)
- Humanitarian Activities

Being them diverse in nature and in membership target, a good cooperation among them is the primary goal of the VC MA. Member Activities aim to provide members with non-technical initiatives, groups, and services intended to engage them. The mission of IEEE is to advance technology for humanity, but this cannot be accomplished without a strong, committed and involved membership.

One of the long-term goals of MA must be to increase the level of volunteering among all members, so that new activities and programs can be initiated and maintained.

Status

Below, some highlights from the different subcommittees under MA are summarized. Please refer to the specific reports for full status descriptions and goals for the year.

- Membership Development. Membership is still decreasing, although with some positive issues (see Points of concern below). There is a new MD workshop planned for the first half of 2017.
- Young Professionals. The team coordinates the diverse YP AGs in each Section. Operation manuals for different activities have been created. Region supports several cross-section SYP congresses.
- Professional Activities. One of the goals is to increase the number of PA officers. Also, the plan is to organize PA events in R8 flagship conferences.
- r8news. All issues of r8news have been created and distributed on time. There are plans to also produce epub and/or mobi formats.
- Life Members. New affinity groups have been created. It is natural to collaborate with History Activities, for example for the proposal and inauguration of milestones in the Region.
- History Activities. A new milestone was unveiled in Milan. HISTELCON 2017 will take place in August in Japan. The Global History Network has been transitioned to ETHW. It is difficult to find volunteers for championing milestone proposals.
- Humanitarian Activities. The number of SIGHT groups in the Region has grown from 3 to 7. The goal is to increase awareness of the program and possibilities of funding.

A mailing list (r8mac@ieeer8.org) for all SC coordinators has been created early this year. A conference call with all SC chairs and coordinators took place on January 19th 2017.

Outlook

The primary goal will be to strengthen the cooperation among SCs under MA, and of course with other committees and volunteers in the Region. Having an updated communication channel for all of them, and with the membership will be fundamental.

Some specific aims have been listed above:

- Organize an MD workshop to train MD officers in the Region.
- Support Section YP AGs, and help them in their funding requirements.
- Organize PA events in R8 flagship conferences.
- Distribute r8news in e-reader-friendly format.
- Increase the number of LM groups and their activities.
- Promote milestones in the Region.
- Increase the number of SIGHT groups and their funding.

Points of Concern

Membership in the Region continues decreasing, with significant losses in HG and GS members. Still, this is a global trend (except for R10), and R8 is the Region with the smaller decrease among all shrinking Regions. Recruitment of new members is stable, except for GSM, where we are facing difficulties in recruiting members. On the bright side, our retention rates are better than one year ago in all member categories, including first-year members (maybe product of having a smaller base).

Humanitarian Activities has been an AdHoc committee for a few years now, and we should look for a definitive place for it to solidly establish humanitarian and development activities within the Region.

WIE supports a great level of activity in some areas of the Region, and has the capability to grow significantly in others. A team is definitely needed to grow sustainably, and a proper structure should be provided to this team.

Having one more member in PASC would help to better organize the activities.

V/C Student Activities

Efthymia Arvaniti

The Team

- Ines Inacio (Student Representative),
- Sarra ben Rabii (Student Branch Coordinator),
- Jose Miguel Sepulcre (Electronic Communications Coordinator),
- Yara Melki (Awards and Contests Coordinator),
- Paul Micallef (Student Paper Contest Coordinator),
- George Papadimitriou (Projects and Initiatives Coordinator),
- Mona Ghassemian (Past Chair).

Goals

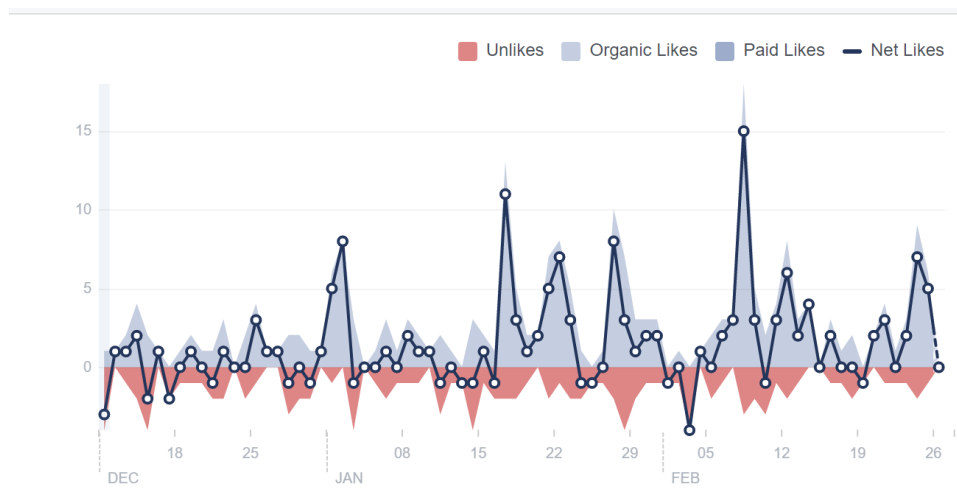
The Student Activities Committee has set some common goals for the years 2017, during the first online committee meeting in January. These goals will serve as a motive for all SAC members, and through our pre-set KPIs, the progress and the deliverables of the team will be easily measured and monitored. The main goals are listed below:

- Continue the Student Branch Revitalization Project and follow the activities of the newly formed and revamped Student Branches.
- Support and encourage the Students to organize/attend the Sectional, Cross-Sectional Student and Young Professional Congresses (MESYP, HSYP, CEuSYP, WESYP, GCCSYP, NSYP).
- Organize and release the Call for Proposals for the IEEE R8 SYP Congress 2018, as well as to provide feedback to the applicants and evaluate the final proposals.
- Prepare the Cross-Sectional SYP Congress guide together with the Young Professional Team.
- Design the Student Awards and Contests Campaign and evaluate the award submissions.
- Engage with the Region 8 Students through the social media channels.
- Restructure and enrich the R8 SAC Website.
- Support the Regional Student Paper Contest.
- Create a database and a network with all the contacts of Section SACs and Section Representatives, as well as an up-to-date file with all the Student Branches' emails.
- Work closely with the Section SACs of the Sections that have lower member retention percentages to find strategies and best practices that will lead to higher membership numbers, in addition to the efforts towards assisting more volunteers from the Africa area.
- Approach and collaborate with the AFI and Young Professionals Subcommittee to increase the industry involvement in the student level (e.g. establish student internships).
- Increase the IEEE Footprint by continuing successful programs (e.g. Mind the Gap) and introducing new and exciting projects.
- Create a volunteer pool where students will be able to see open projects that they can apply and help, or introduce their own idea or project and seek for motivated volunteers.

The Committee has decided on a quarterly-divided timeline, which by the end of each trimester, the current status and progress of the aforementioned goals are calculated according to the KPIs.

Status

- **Awards and Contests – Yara Melki**
This year, the aim is to promote the awards through the designed campaign, as well as the release of the E-notice to encourage the R8 students and student branches to apply for the IEEE Student Awards. Moreover, it is highly important to proceed with an effective way of judging the award submissions on time. For the global contests (e.g. IEEE Xtreme), the committee will advertise and support when needed. As mentioned previously, each task is measured by KPIs. For the awards, the KPIs are the following:
 - 1) Increase the number of applicants by 30%. In 2016, 35 award applications were received. This year's goal is 45, a number that should be achieved through the promotion that took place from January until the deadline (extended).
 - 2) Ensure that each member of the SAC shares the posters through their social media profiles during the awards campaign to increase the audience and encourage the students to submit their applications within the deadline.
- **Electronic Communications – Jose Miguel Sepulcre**
Following the trend that wants the students to mostly follow the news through the social media channels, the R8 SAC team strongly supports the communication through them. The R8 SAC Facebook page has a total of 7.358 page likes as of 26th Feb 2017, with an increase of approx. 500 likes within three months.



To continue the efforts of the previous years, the R8 SAC Website, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter accounts are also being regularly updated with content. The website will be slightly changed and restructured into a more user friendly interface.

- **Projects and Initiatives – George Papadimitriou**

After two successful pilot years or launching the Mind the Gap Contest, the R8SAC will continue the Initiative for the third consecutive year. The following timeline shows the important dates of the contest promotion and implementation:

- 1) 17th of March 2017: Promotional Campaign Month-Starting Date
- 2) 17th of May 2017: Submissions Deadline
- 3) 17th of June 2017: Winners' Announcement
- 4) 31st of July 2017: Deadline for the MtG ideas evaluation
- 5) 17th of August 2017: Implementation Period Begins (6 months duration)

In addition to the preparation of the MtG Contest, new Ideas and Projects will be designed for this year.

- **Students and Student Branches – Ines Inacio and Sarra Ben Rabii**

This year's highlight is the creation of a database that gathers all SB emails, as well as a database for all Section SACs and Section Student Representatives. This will help to achieve a better communication between R8 SAC and the Student Branches.

According to SAMIEEE Records, the current number of Student Branches is 463 and Student Branch Chapters is 250. The next main goal is to prepare and release the call for Proposals for the 2018 edition of the famous R8 SYP Congress, in collaboration with the R8 Young Professionals, and a social media campaign will also be designed, in order to ensure better reach. In the meantime, the evaluation criteria of both the decision of the host and the funded participants will be reviewed and adapted to the current needs.

Together with the previous points, the continuation and monitoring of the R8 Student Branch Revitalization Project comes as a priority item, whose results will be presented at the upcoming R8 Meeting in Sydney, Australia, as well as through the website and social media channels.

- **Student Paper Contest – Paul Micallef**

Ten papers were submitted for this year's contest. The deadline for submission was December 22, 2016. The papers are now being reviewed and marked by the five jury members which consists of Prof. Paul Micallef from Malta, Prof Samir Shaheen from Egypt, Dr. Mohamad Awad from Lebanon, Dr. Christos Schizas from Cyprus and Prof Anastas Mishev from Macedonia. By the end of February, the marks should be received and the overall results will be announced. The authors of the five best papers will be invited to EUROCON2017 in July at Ohrid, Macedonia. The results will also be presented during the Stockholm Meeting.

Outlook

In the upcoming months, the R8 SAC should work on the actions described throughout the report document and keep track of all the activities in the Region. In addition, the team has managed to keep the max. of two days' rule of replying to the requests and emails, which is an effort that it is worth maintaining.

For the future, it is advisable to design posters for awards and contests minimum for 20 days prior to the deadline day, and start the advertising campaign through emails, website and social media channels as early as possible. Moreover, there is a lack of a guidance document that describes the roles of the Region and Section SAC Members, which will hopefully be completed within 2017.

Points of Concern

Currently, no major struggles have been faced within the Committee's organization, but in respect to the students' needs, R8 SAC would like to highlight the need to support the Africa Focus Group in facilitating students in Sections with low income. Additionally, some points of concern are mentioned below:

- 1) The highly increasing number of participants in the R8 SYP Congress should be controlled in order to deliver a worthy and successful event, that will add value to the Regional Activities. Some thoughts on how to deal with this are already been made, and the R8 SAC together with the YP Subcommittee and OpCom will work on finding the best solution.

- 2) In every R8 SYP Congress, R8 SAC is allocating budget to support funded students to attend. In the last Congress in Germany, the amount of students that the Region could afford was doubled. The eligibility criteria that one student per Student Branch should fulfil in order to receive funding should and will be re-evaluated.
- 3) Student Membership Renewals/Retention. How can IEEE be more attractive for the students of the Region, and what possibilities it can offer prior and post studies? A need to become more competitive as an Organization starts to arise.

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.

Treasurer

Ralph Kennel

The treasurer's report will be delivered during the Region 8 meeting by past treasurer Brian Harrington.

Secretary

Jan Verveckken

Goals

The job of the IEEE Region 8 Secretary Team is to support the committee and the Region 8 OpCom to accomplish its mission for the members of IEEE Region 8. Interactive, efficient and fun meetings are at the core of this effort, as is efficient communication and timely support regarding issues reported by members of the community.

Status

The team of 2017 consists of

- Dora Fourou, Assistant Secretary – Social Media and Web pages, dfourou@gmail.com
- George Michael, Electronic Communications, xeirwn@ieee.org
- Christian M. Schmid, Past Secretary, c.schmid@ieee.org
- Jan Verveckken, Secretary, jan.verveckken@ieee.org

It is a crucial success factor that the meeting agendas are aligned with the priorities of Region, as developed by the Strategic Planning subcommittee. Building upon the successful formula, agendas and reporting structures will be geared towards promoting these priorities.

The 2017 Secretary team would like to thank the previous team, Youmna El Bitar, George Michael and Christian M. Schmid, for handing over a well oiled organization, for their continued efforts for Region 8, as well as their availability for advice and guidance to the current team.

Outlook

The secretary team will work on

- helping to organize the upcoming Region 8 meetings in August, in Sydney, and in the beginning of 2018,
- and on creating more smooth coordination between the sub-committees and the vice chairs,
- and on creating a communication channel from Region 8 committee towards Region 8 members and general public,
- and on the clarification of the relation of Region 8 and the Vienna Office.

Points of Concern

A late OpCom meeting, for the Director handover, implicated a quickened start of the year for the freshly selected subcommittee members and chairs. The organization of the upcoming Region 8 Meeting, in Sydney, poses a challenge to this team, as hotel reservation, site inspection, and other tasks that this team normally performs to organize a smooth meeting, can not be cost effectively be performed by team-members. Good collaboration with the organizers of Sections Congress, and preparation will be key to a successful meeting.

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Action For Industry (AfI)

Marios Antoniou

Goals

During 2017 Region 8 Action for Industry (AfI) subcommittee will aim to expand the internship program of the Action for Industry initiative in more countries and to include more companies. Mentoring program can be expanded as well. In order to do so, support and involvement of Section leadership is needed. A primary indicator of success is the number of Sections that have appointed an Industry Ambassador team. Another success indicator is the number of internship positions secured in each country. At the end of the year AfI subcommittee will be successful:

- 1) if more than 40% of the countries in Region 8 have assigned an Industry ambassador and have organized one event for industry
- 2) more than 150 internship positions have been secured in Region 8.

Status

Certificates of Appreciation were issued to all companies that participated in Action for Industry initiative during 2016. Certificates were issued also to their respective company champions. STMicroelectronics in Italy and U-TX in Cyprus while receiving their Certificates of Appreciation have offered internship positions for 2017. Each Section will organize the delivery of the Certificates of Appreciation to companies and their respective champions. A list of the Industry ambassadors already appointed by the Sections was delivered to the AfI subcommittee members. A letter addressed to Region 8 Section Chairs asking for their contribution in AfI initiative will be sent by Region 8 Technical Activities Vice Chair. Region 8 AfI subcommittee members will contact Sections and ask them to contribute in the AfI initiative. Region 8 Young Professional subcommittee chair and Region 8 Student Representative were invited to participate and contribute in AfI initiative.

Outlook

Our next steps are:

- 1) Consolidate and continue the Internships and Mentoring. Gain kudos from successful internships with bright IEEE students proving to be highly capable.
- 2) Bring willing companies into R8 initiatives.
- 3) Expand AfI initiative in new countries. Appointment of new Section Industry Ambassadors.
- 4) Hold IEEE forums for entrepreneurs and small and medium sized companies. Encouragement of Local IEEE Section to participate in Entrepreneurship events such as Startup Weekend,. Local IEEE Sections can sponsor these events or have their members participate as mentors.
- 5) Provide industry tracks allowing more (non advertising) industry oriented presentations. Support in the organization of Industry Events by local IEEE Sections

Points of Concern

Support: We need the continuing commitment of R8 OpCom to support the team and its objectives. R8 Director has agreement from MGA that:

- 1) the Membership Renewal form will have tick boxes for all members to show whether they are in Industry, Academia, Government, Other.
- 2) vTools to be adjusted to change the Section role from IRO to Section Industry Ambassador (SIA)

Sections in R8 should put as a priority to get closer with industry and organize events with industry. Region 8 committee should ask Sections to participate and contribute in AfI initiative. Section Chairs should not only appoint at least an Industry Ambassador but also set budget for events during which industry people and companies can discuss their plans and their thoughts for the future. Section Industry Ambassador team should have at least one Young Professional.

The biggest challenge so far for AfI initiative is to create a critical mass of members who are involved in this initiative. In order to do so at least 2 people should be involved and contribute in small Sections and at least 5 people in big Sections.. IEEE should recognize members as well as Sections that are participating and contributing in the Action for Industry initiative. Region 8 can also organize during a future Region 8 meeting a workshop during which Section Industry Ambassadors can share their experiences and best practices.

Africa Area

Gloria Chukwudebe

Goals of IEEE Africa Area

- To provide a centralized coordinating unit for IEEE activities in Africa.
- To support and provide guidance to the members on how to use IEEE's tools, products and network to enhance the engineer in Africa.
- To grow IEEE's presence in Africa to benefit all volunteers.
- To address the specific opportunities and challenges in Africa.

Status

IEEE Africa Area Chair is appointed by the IEEE Region 8 Director and supported by a small committee

- 1) Gloria Chukwudebe – Nigeria - Chair
- 2) Shaun Kaplan – South Africa
- 3) Habib M. Kammoun - Tunisia
- 4) Kabwe Bellington - Zambia

Africa Area Now

- Africa has eight Sections: Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria, Tunisia, Kenya, Morocco, South Africa, Zambia
- Six Sub-Sections- Alexandria, Botswana, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Algeria.
- About 6,000 active members across the continent's 54 countries.

Major Activities

- 1) IEEE Virtual Conferences on Cybersecurity- October 2016 and on Green ICT – December 2016 (Nigeria, Ghana, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia).
- 2) African Sections participated in IEEE Region 8 TISP week in October 2016.
- 3) Egypt and Tunisia Engineering Day.
- 4) 2016 IEEE Computer Society Chapter Conference in Nigeria.
- 5) Africa Area Committee meeting at Porto with African Section Chairs Outcome of Meeting at Porto- Establishment of WhatsApp group for ease of communication and networking. Many issues have been discussed and clarified using the WhatsApp group
- 6) Kenya 2017 Symposium and First distinguished lecture series.
- 7) Workshops in Algeria, Uganda, Nigeria, etc
- 8) Africa Area Committee meeting with Skype in January 2017.
 - Outcome of Skype meeting in January 2017:
 - Request for Africa Area website granted and established.
 - Shared preliminary assessment of Africa Section Websites and agreed to organize a Website competition to motivate Sections to update their websites.
 - Agreed on modalities for paper contest and finalists to present at Africon 2017.

Growing IEEE Presence in Africa

- There are efforts by South Africa Section to help Botswana's Subsection to grow.
- South Africa is also helping Ethiopia to form a subsection, to start soon with funds realized from a Conference in Ethiopia.
- Tunisia Section Chair, Habib M. Kammoun facilitated IEEE participation at Corte de Voire's Cybersecurity Conference in 2016.
- Eric Kuada, current Ghana Chair volunteered and attended Corte de Voire's Cybersecurity Conference to showcase IEEE and recruit new members, discussions are ongoing.
- There has been exchange of emails to form Libya subsection

Upcoming Conferences

- 1) 2017 IEEE PES PowerAfrica Conference, Ghana, 27 – 30 June, 2017.
- 2) IEEE AFRICON 2017, Cape Town, South Africa, 18 - 20 Sept 2017.
- 3) IEEE NIGERCON 2017, Nigeria, November 7-19, 2017.

What are primary indicators of success?

There are much more activities and networking amongst IEEE members in Africa since 2016.

Challenges

- There are few active volunteers who are willing to work at Section level. Some others who are willing to work have not been able to renew due to issues with foreign currency.
- Some Sections cannot use the money of the IEEE credit card due to the need of local authorization.
- Access to Internet and Power are still issues for sub-Saharan Africa.
- Payment of membership fees in dollar currency, many cannot afford the dues.

Outlook

- Introduce Section Competition to improve Section vitality.
- Encourage Paper Contest for African students.
- Introduce innovative activities to retain members and recruit new ones.
- Improve on TISP.
- More Training Workshops on soft-skills and professional development.
- Collaboration with national associations, institutions and industry, and to establish partnerships in the focus areas of the Committee.

Points of Concern

- No finances to support Africa Area activities.
- Africa Chair requires access to vtools to meet some of the stated goals above.

Awards & Recognition Subcommittee (A&RSC)

Costas Stasopoulos

Awards and Recognition Subcommittee

- Costas Stasopoulos (Cyprus), Chair, ex-officio
- Jaafar M. Al Ibrahim (Saudi Arabia)
- Igor Kuzle (Croatia)
- Marko Delimar (Croatia)
- Piotr Graca (Poland)
- Athanasios Skodras (Greece)

IEEE Region 8 Awards, Deadline 15 February 2017

- <http://www.ieeer8.org/awards>
- The Region 8 Volunteer Award
- The Region 8 Outstanding Section Award (categories: Small and Large)
- The Region 8 Chapter of the Year Awards (categories: Small/Middle and Large)
- The Region 8 Student Branch Chapter of the Year Award
- The Clementina Saduwa Award
- The Region 8 Young Professionals Exceptional Volunteer Award
- The Region 8 Outstanding Young Professionals Affinity Group Award
- Additional Region 8 Student and Young Professionals Awards (award deadlines may vary)

Upcoming award deadlines and calls for nominations

- IEEE awards
- For details on IEEE level awards, including Medals, Technical Field Awards, Recognitions, Joint and External Awards, please visit <http://www.ieee.org/awards>.

Chapter Coordination Subcommittee (ChCSC)**Amara Amara****Goals**

- Involve the Chapters in IEEE Humanitarian Activities in low income countries in R8
- Revitalize chapters not active or not enough active
- Encourage inter-chapters workshops
- Involve more the Societies and Council in chapters revitalization

Indicators:

- Number of revitalized chapters
- Number of chapters involved in Humanitarian activities
- One or two chapters tours led by Society/Council Officers
- One inter-chapter workshop

Status

The subcommittee is new; first we are planning a meeting on March 24th to discuss some issues that are related to goals presented above. This is the agenda of the meeting:

- 1) Presentation Paul Cunningham: Humanitarian Activities Committee.
- 2) Discussion on how chapters could be involved in Humanitarian activities (all, but split into small groups, oral and written reports)
- 3) How Societies and Councils are helping chapters: specific actions and initiatives (selected examples)
- 4) Conditions of the the SB Chapter formation: presentation by Majyar + discussion
- 5) Exchange of best practices (small groups), reporting at the end of the discussions
- 6) Conclusions
- 7) Adjourn

Outlook

The main focus will be revitalization of our chapters. An emphasis will be put on defining with the subcommittee members of a strategic plan. Funding from the Societies/Council is essential, and an effort will be put on involving the Societies/Council leaders.

Points of Concern

As I mentioned above funding is essential. I would like the R8 and MGA to assign a specific budget to chapter activities in addition to the very small funding provided by the Societies/Councils.

Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC)

Péter Nagy

Goals

- 1) Improve Information sharing, Regular news to relevant organizers, webinars,
- 2) Well documented processes, TCS requirements, yearly cmte plan
- 3) Recruiting good candidates for flagships, supporting them, new conferences (?)
- 4) Good relation with MGA, MCE, other regional conference coordinators.

How to Collaborate

All documents are shared on Google Drive to be worked on collaboratively. Monthly Skype call to discuss the ongoing tasks. Regular feedback from flagship conference organizers.

Website is Up-to-Date

The website is kept current with the list of upcoming R8 flagship conferences, upcoming webinars (and listings of older ones) and other information relevant to our members and conference organizers.

Link: <http://www.ieeer8.org/technical-activities/conference-coordination/conference-coordination-subcommittee-cocsc/>.

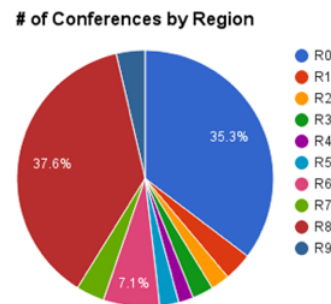
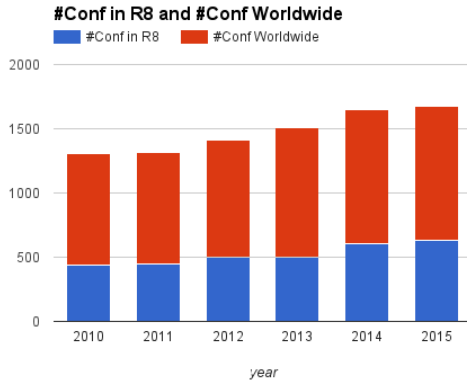
The website will be kept updated with the most recent information and guidelines based on feedback from organizers. Below is a screenshot showing some of the key parts of the website.

Business as Usual

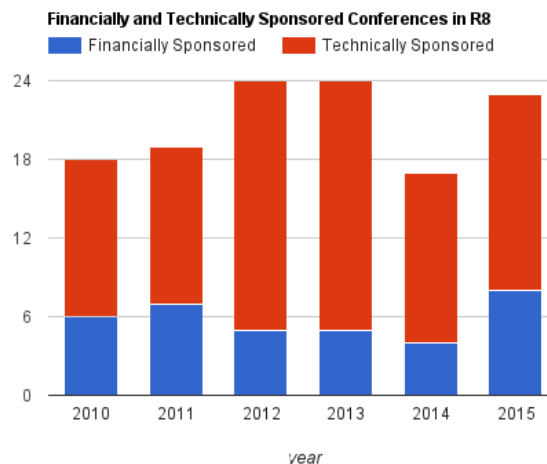
We identified 20 individual tasks of the committee and we shared among us. Some results are already out, some will be finished by the end of this year. It helps a lot to overview the committee diversity. There are tasks which are related to business-as-usual (web, calls, minutes, reports), we focus to Technical Co-Sponsorship and eNotice requests, we help the flagship conferences and looking for new locations, teams. We try to spread the conference organizers' experience to newcomers and those who looking for information, guidelines.

Technical Co-Sponsorship Request Review

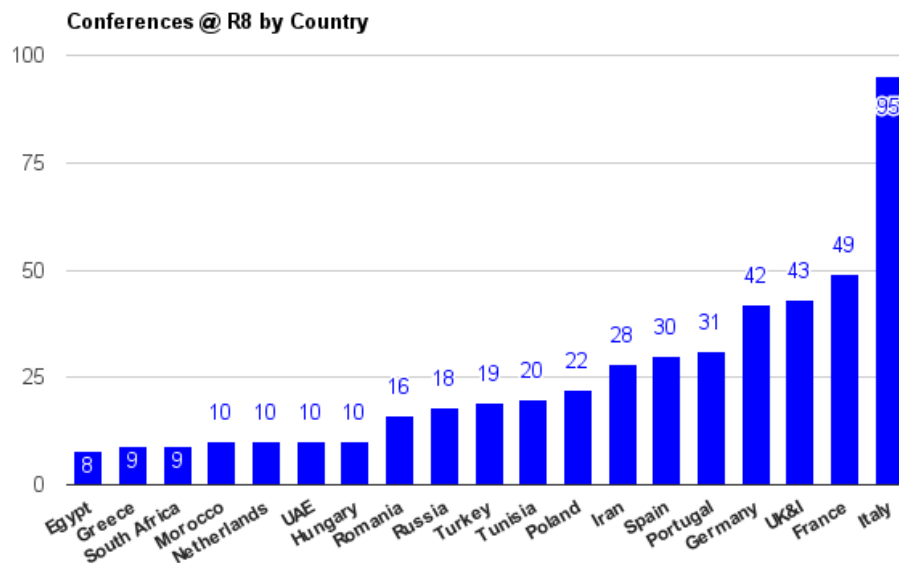
- The number of conferences sponsored by IEEE units in Region 8 is increasing and Region 8 is still leading in terms of the number of IEEE conferences organized in its different Sections:



- The Figure below represent the evolution of the number of conferences sponsored by IEEE R8 in the last years:



- The top sections organizing conferences financially or technically co-sponsored by IEEE units in Region 8 on 2015 were:



The Region 8 requirements are on the committee website. In a nutshell: We require high quality conference, International committees, Region 8 involvements. We offer publicity, eNotice service, which costs 500 USD for the conferences.

Region 8 Flagship Conferences

- IEEE EUROCON 2017: <http://eurocon2017.org>
will be held in Macedonia from 6-8 July. Papers submitted by 4 February: 180. Reviewing underway and have the challenge of getting more submissions.
- IEEE AFRICON 2017: <http://africon2017.org>
is being hosted in Cape Town, South Africa from the 18 to 20 September. The venue is a new conference centre attached to the aquarium with views into the predator tank. Call for papers has been sent and work is ongoing.

Experience and Information Sharing

Webinars are held regularly by MCE and are advertised on the website. They are fully free to attend. The recent ones are listed here.

- 24 February: “Expanding Your Team With Local Resources” by Beth Surmont, CAE, CMP Senior Manager, Strategic Programs, Michael Shannon, Director, Business Development, Northeast for Business Events Canada.
- 19 January: “Working with Organizations that Benefit Your Conference” by IEEE Volunteer Tommy W, Mayne, IEEE PES VP Meetings and Conferences.
- 1 December: “10 Simple Ways to Innovate Your Next Conference” by Susan Root, Director of Conference Business Services and Strategic Programs, Beth Surmont, CAE, CMP, Senior Manager, Strategic Programs.

The presentations are available at <https://iee-elearning.org/CLE/course/index.php?categoryid=24>.

IEEE MCE (Meetings, Conferences & Events) send Conference Organizers’ News regularly. You can see the last 2 edition here:

- [February 2017](#)
- [January 2017](#)

You can subscribe here: http://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/organizers/organizers_newsletter.html.

IEEE POCO 2017

The next Panel of Conference Organizers (POCO) will be organized in Sydney Australia 8-9 August 2017. Right before the Region 8 meeting. POCO is the annual event for leading scholarly conference organizers around the world. Join organizers from more than 31 countries to discover, discuss, and design new innovations for your conference. The event is strongly advised those, who organize IEEE (co-)sponsored conferences.

POCO 2018 will be in Berlin, Germany. Relevant links:

- POCO Website: <http://ieeepoco.org>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ieeeforumconferences/organizers/>
- Summary of POCO 2016: <http://ieeepoco.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/POCO2016PostEventSummary.pdf>

External Relations

The MGA Region Conference Coordinator Meeting is scheduled on 17 March. It is an opportunity to learn from other Regions and we can share our experiences with them. The results will be presented at the Region 8 meeting in Stockholm.

Important Links

- 1) Starting a New Conference
http://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/organizers/starting_new_conference.html
You have decided to hold a conference. The information on this page will help you get started, set up the business arrangements, manage the conference, and make sure you have met all IEEE requirements.
- 2) Conference Education Program
http://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/organizers/conference_organizer_education.html
 - What: Learn more about critical organizing, concepts, skills, and resources with educational courses and webinars
 - Who: Various conference roles
 - When: Varies by area of responsibility
- 3) IEEE Center for Leadership Excellence
<https://iee-elearning.org/CLE>
The Center for Leadership Excellence (CLE) is a learning resource aimed at meeting the self-improvement needs of professionals as well as those who are preparing to enter professional practice in the electro-technology fields served by IEEE. All IEEE members — practitioners, students, volunteers, and non-volunteers — are encouraged to make use of CLE resources.

Outlook

- 1) Recruiting good locations / organizers for upcoming flagship conferences (Africon 2019, Melecon 2020)
- 2) Easy access to lessons learned

Points of Concern

- 1) New TCS fee: what will be implemented and what deadline?
- 2) R8 Administrative fee: how to collect effectively?

Peter Nagy, Adel Alimi, Tomislav Capuder, Shaun Kaplan

Educational Activities Subcommittee (EASC)

Sohaib Qamar Sheikh

Goals

The Sub-Committee's mission is to coordinate educational activities programs in the Region and create public awareness of engineering, technology and other relevant topics within IEEE's fields of interest, and we aim to achieve this mission by organizing targeted events and programs which are:

- 1) Aligned with Region 8 strategic goals;
- 2) Focused on improving the experience and knowledge of our members; and
- 3) Introduce IEEE educational offerings to industry professionals, educators and the general public.

The Sub-Committee has discussed and agreed on the following goals for 2017:

- 1) Support Educational activities officers in Sections by organizing at least one online meeting with them this year;
- 2) Organize a TISP Week program of Section-level TISP workshops for educators in the Region;
- 3) Re-vitalize EPICS-in-IEEE and IEEE Academic programs by organizing online workshops activities and participating in at least one Section or sub-Regional Student and Young Professional Congress;
- 4) Collaborate with EAB to organize an online Early Career Faculty Development workshop in the Region;
- 5) Explore accreditation opportunities in Region 8 by working with the Section Chairs and EAB, and organizing one workshop. This goal is dependent on EAB moving forward with the workshop program;
- 6) Increase the visibility of IEEE's continuing education offerings to the industry by participating in or organizing at least one industry event.
- 7) Organize four webinars covering relevant technical and soft skills topics for professionals;
- 8) Conduct a Region-wide Pre-University activities competition to foster local program ideas;

In addition to the items listed above, we will also be working on the following activities:

- 1) Support Section level educational programs;
- 2) Liaise with relevant units within EAB to align our activities and programs;
- 3) Liaise with Region 8 Action for Industry team to explore further opportunities for continuing education programs;

Status

Planning is in initial stages for the following programs and events:

- 1) Educational Activities Officer Meeting – tentatively scheduled for June 2017;
- 2) Early Career Faculty Development Workshop – EAB is on-board; Region 8 team to start finalizing the program, date and speakers;
- 3) TISP Week – Initial strategic discussion started for TISP Week in the second half of this year;

Outlook

Our focus this year is to make all areas of educational activities - Pre-University Education, University Education, Accreditation, and Continuing Education – active and optimized towards offering maximum value to our members. This involves a combination of promotional efforts, organizing face-to-face and online events, exploring partnership opportunities inside of IEEE and externally, and supporting Section level efforts.

The focus of next year's committee should be to capitalize on the momentum built this year and creating stronger partnerships with the Sections by working collaboratively with them and understanding their needs further. Key yearly events should also be continued. These include:

- 1) TISP Week;
- 2) Early Career Faculty Development Workshop;
- 3) Workshops in Section and Regional Student and Young Professional Congresses;

Points of Concern

The Region is vast with varying educational needs. One of the critical elements is to work closely with external entities, especially for accreditation and continuing education, which demands a longer time frame than one or two years. This is a major challenge as both of these areas have been inactive for a number of years and we are currently building our strategy to create strong offerings in these areas which provide value to our members. The Sections and Region are requested to share ideas, contacts, resources and local examples of programs and partnerships in these areas.

Electronic Communications Coordinator (ECC)

George Michael

The Region 8 Electronic Communication Coordinator's job is to facilitate communication, both between members of the Region 8 Committee, and between this committee and present or future IEEE members.

Mobile application for Committee Meeting

A mobile application was developed for our next committee meeting. This application holds all the reports and basic information of the 108th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting to be held in Stockholm on 25-26 of March 2017. Specifically it contains:

- The Agenda Book
- All available OpCom reports
- All available Committee reports
- All available Section reports
- Meeting schedule
- Order of the day
- Travel information
- Photos and contact information of the OpCom so that new participants can identify them more easily

The biggest advantage of the application is that all content is available to the user without any internet connection, so it can be used by anyone while abroad.

A sample application for Porto committee meeting was created and it is available for Android hand-held devices from Google Play <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=net.bytefreaks.ieeer8meetingporto>.

The link to the application for Stockholm committee meeting is also available through the meeting website <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2017-march-stockholm/>. A similar application for Apple (iOS) devices is being published as well, its link will be made available from the meeting website as well.

Presentation Tools

- The on screen clock / counter we use at the Region 8 meetings is available for download here <http://link.ieeer8.org/timer2>
- The Android and Windows applications that allow users to control PowerPoint presentations via their smartphones and tablets are available for download here <http://link.ieeer8.org/clicker>.

Articles cross posting

Our website offers the service to automatically post articles to multiple services. We can post to social network services like Facebook groups and pages, Twitter accounts, Google+ accounts and to other Wordpress or Blogger websites. If you are interested to receive our articles automatically, please contact me for details. I would like to thank the Sections that are participating in this service with their Facebook groups.

Redirects

To make it easier for our volunteers to promote the content they post on the website, we created redirects for their pages to shorten the URLs and make them more user friendly. For example our news feed can be accessed from this URL <http://news.ieeer8.org>, Student activities from <http://student.ieeer8.org> and <http://students.ieeer8.org>. The same functionality is being applied to sections, for example <http://cyprus.ieeer8.org> translates to <http://iee.org.cy> Sections and groups that want to use this functionality, please contact me.

IEEE Region 8 website (<http://www.ieee.org/r8>)

The IEEE Region 8 website serves as a common reference point for all information regarding our Region. It supports besides hosting of articles, the hosting of photo galleries and document repositories. From the website you can get information about: latest news regarding R8, offers and services from IEEE, jobs, the full section roster and links to the sections' websites, links to important conferences, IEEE related important links and many more. We are always accepting new articles so feel free to let us know of what your Section is doing so that we can let the whole Region know. We updated our theme to be mobile friendly and modified the structure of the menus as requested to provide easier access to certain categories.

Categories under own subdomains

To enhance the user experience of our online users, we added the functionality of enabling the conversion of any category of our website into its own subdomain. This way we can minimize the length of the urls and make them more user friendly. For example <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/educational-activities/easc-info/> became <http://easc.ieeer8.org/easc-info/>.

Statistics

According to the monitoring tool that has been installed on our websites these are the statistics that were obtained over the period from the 23rd of August 2016 to the 7th of March 2017. Over this period, near 41,900 people visited the website and over 84,750 pages were viewed with our homepage receiving more than 34,00% of the traffic with more than 28,950 page views. On an average visit, a user stays nearly two minutes. Our visitors come from 150 countries/territories all around the world, many of whom are outside Region 8. Our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2490621134/> has more than 6,900 members! Our Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/ieeer8>) receives the posts from our website. Right now we have 260 followers and counting.

Mailing Lists (<http://listserv.ieee.org/>)

It is the responsibility of the ECC to maintain the Region's mailing lists - depending on the type of group or list - this means adding/deleting members if subscribing is not permitted or reviewing/editing messages if moderating is required. Important lists for volunteers can always be found at the homepage of our site.

vTools (<http://vtools.ieee.org/>)

vTools abbreviation stands for "Volunteer Tools". vTools simplify the administrative tasks to our volunteers via use of online tools, reduce time spent managing activities, and assist in member development. vTools are developed and made possible by IEEE volunteers. The toolbox simplifies administration by offering web based software, reduces time spent managing activities, and assists in member development.

Reports

During this period we are still testing various methods to receive the reports of the committee. For this reason a survey is being used to collect section reports at <http://surveys.vtools.ieee.org> and a word document with limited formatting capabilities is used by the rest of the members of the committee. The final version of the Agenda Book and the individual reports were converted to Latex to improve their quality of typesetting. As the incoming reports are not in Latex, this process takes significant amount of time to complete. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Christian M. Schmid for his invaluable help and the many hours dedicated for the completion of this task!

Please contact with me at xeirwn@ieee.org for more information or assistance.

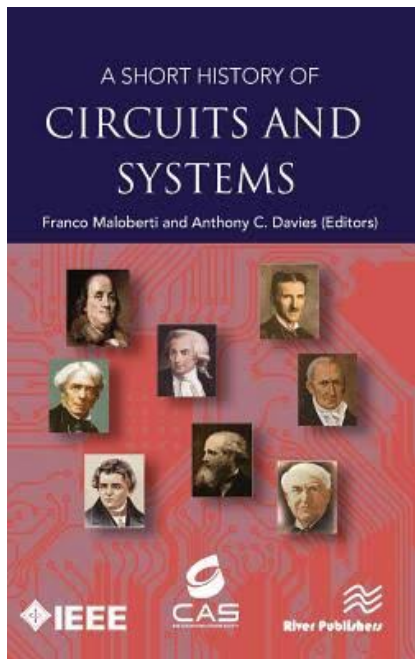
History Activities Coordinator

Anthony Davies

- **Primary mission:** to encourage recognition of achievements and inventions in science and engineering fields related to the scope of IEEE which took place in R8 and to promote awareness of them and their significance.
- **Secondary mission:** to persuade Sections and Chapters in R8 to preserve the history of their committee minutes and their events and maintain availability via web access..
- **Purposes:**
 - 1) Encouraging students and young professionals to take an interest in the historical development of science and engineering enables them to be better prepared for “inventing the future”, a central aspect of IEEE’s humanitarian mission.
 - 2) Documenting the historical record of matters relevant to IEEE R8.

Status

In early 2016, I co-edited with Franco Maloberti an IEEE book “A Short History of Circuits and Systems” which is now available in print for ~\$40 and free to all as an e-book.



A substantial task was planning and preparation for the unveiling on 26th January 2017 of a History Milestone in London to commemorate the world’s first public demonstration of television, by John Logie Baird, on 26th January 1926 (e.g. the 91st anniversary) and on 27th January 2017, a highly successful all day technical symposium “THE EVOLUTION OF TELEVISION FROM BAIRD TO THE DIGITAL AGE“ was held in the Royal Institution of Great Britain, London. A grandson of John Logie Baird participated in these events. Photos and other details are on the UK and I Section website. A video recording of the unveiling is available. Several other proposals for History Milestones are under discussion in the UK and I Section Life Members Affinity Group.

In 2016, a Milestone for the Dadda Multiplier was unveiled in Milan, Italy. After a long delay, it is hoped that the unveiling of a Milestone in Kharkiv, Ukraine will take place in mid-2017 for “Zenit Parabolic Reflector L-band Pulsed Radar, 1938“. Also approved and awaiting unveiling are the Gotland 1954 HVDC link in Sweden and Otto Lehmann’s 1889 discovery of liquid crystals at Karlsruhe, Germany. Not yet finally approved but in process are one in Norway (Object oriented programming) and one in Benelux (The birth of Wi-Fi, 1987).

Outlook

The former GHN (Global History Network) website has now become a part of ETHW, which is no longer the sole responsibility of IEEE, with many other (mainly USA) organizations involved (ASME, ASCE, AIChE). Maintaining the IEEE contribution is important, as is liaison between R8 and the IEEE History Center and the IEEE History Committee. This is also important in presenting an international perspective which would otherwise seem limited in ETHW.

HISTELCON 2017 is taking place on 7-8 August 2017 at the University of Hyogo, Kobe Campus for Information Science, 7-1-28, Minatojima-minamimachi, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Japan. This is the 5th HISTELCON, and the first time it has been held outside R8, and so is an example of the international context in which R8 is able to operate.

Points of Concern

There are many topics deserving IEEE History Milestones in R8, but it is difficult to find ‘champions’ who will do the work to prepare proposals and see them through to approval by the IEEE History Committee. The R8 History Activities subcommittee has a responsibility to ensure that historical claims and proposals for Milestones are valid and accurate.

Some relevant contributions from me in 2016

- “Relic Hunting: TV Towers in Region 8” in IEEE History Center Newsletter, November 2016, pages 6-8.
- “Manpacks and Mobiles WW2 and after” – presented at Defence Electronics History Society (DEHS) Symposium at the Steam Museum, Swindon, 6th October 2016
- “The Interwar Years: A comparison of British Navy, Army and Air Force Telecommunications Developments” – presented at conference at IET, Savoy Place, London, 10th August 2016

Remember

A forgotten tool of the past (?) – from ~ 1960. At the Computer Museum in Swindon.



R8 History Activities Subcommittee

- Chair: Tony Davies (UK and I Section), tonydavies@ieee.org
- Corresponding members:
 - Martin Bastiaans (Benelux Section), M.J.Bastiaans@tue.nl
 - Roland Saam (UK and I Section), r.saam@ieee.org
- Immediate-past Corresponding members:
 - Antonio Savini (Italy Section), antonio.savini@unipv.it
 - Antonio Perez-Yuste (Spain Section), antonio.perez@upm.es

Humanitarian Activities Subcommittee

Alexandros Osana

Goals

- The Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Committee is responsible for raising awareness of the IEEE SIGHT programme, overseeing and fostering the development of local SIGHT groups and providing development opportunities to members.
- Success within this operational unit is indicated by the formation of local SIGHT groups and the successful submission of project proposals to the steering committee.
- A second metric of success is the impact of Humanitarian Technology projects to the local community in which they take place. That is also the reason why HuAC's activity must receive continuous attention also from other IEEE units.

Status and Past Contributions

- The number of SIGHT groups in the region has raised from 3 to 7 during the last year, with new groups in Africa (1), Middle East (1) and Europe (2).
- Geographic updates:
 - IEEE UK and Ireland Section SIGHT formation; and drafting of a new project in partnership with UNICEF UK. Proposed an online mobile application to locate emergency facilities for young people in need of emergency aid.
 - IEEE Croatia Section SIGHT group is conducting project called MCER (Missing Children Emergency System). Technical solution is in final stage and now it is prepared for testing.
 - South Africa Section is working of the formation of a Sectional SIGHT Group
 - Tunisia SIGHT group with its project on "Internet Inclusion" has attracted attention of the SIGHT program management team and is evolving in a case study for implementation to many other sections around the world. Members of the SIGHT Steering committee will join the R8 Meeting in Stockholm and discuss with the local r8 SIGHT Coordination team on ways to proceed with this issue.
 - Greece Section SIGHT group has already conducted 3 volunteer education workshops and is now preparing the proposal to be submitted for SIGHT project funding.
 - Nigeria Section has assembled a team to create a SIGHT group, already having conducted research for 3 possible SIGHT projects.
- Committee Activity updates:
- The committee is building a plan to make larger outreach in Region 8, including social media, and through the network of technical chapters related to the projects' main emphasis.
- The R8 SIGHT website is used to update all the news regarding our activities. We are updating resources according to the IEEE Humanitarian Committee (HAC)
https://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/humanitarian_activities_committee.html
- Introducing new members of the committee with their tasks and our goal.
- Face-to-face meeting of Alex Osana with SIGHT program Chair, Timothy Lee, in the context of Board of Directors Meeting in New Orleans (February '17). where the two chairs shared the status of SIGHT globally, made suggestions on how to align their actions and how to establish a communication channel to share updates during the whole year.
- A special dedicated sub-division of the committee is dedicated in the Africa Area, seeking and uncovering possibilities and active groups, able to take upon a SIGHT project, given the funding. This division will also approach and foster collaboration with Africa Ad-Hoc committee of Region 8.

SIGHT is a program that can contribute significantly in IEEE membership development, since SIGHT groups are consisted from both IEEE members and non-members. Thus, IEEE's name and culture is promoted through these activities as well as the community impact there is.

Outlook

Our implementation Model is 4 fold:

- 1) Increase awareness of the SIGHT program and the funding opportunities and thus increase the number of groups and project within Region 8. To that direction, we aim to:
 - Foster closer integration with the student activities committee, young professionals and relevant technical chapters within the Region, in order to promote the formation of active SIGHT groups.
 - Examine the evolution of existing and successful EPICS-in-IEEE programs to SIGHT initiatives in order to qualify for funding to complete more ambitious tasks.
 - Dedicate a media officer who, in communication with SIGHT Steering committee will commit to the online SIGHT promotion and dissemination activities via Social media and eNotice.
 - Participate in IEEE summits in the region and to conduct workshops on how to form and run a SIGHT group
 - Increase awareness of the SIGHT programme within industry, by means of close collaboration with section, chapter and affinity group partnerships.
- 2) Establish a functional and effective relationship with SIGHT Steering committee to share information and align activities for SIGHT growth. To achieve this:
 - An extensive face-to-face meeting will be held in the following region meeting between a delegation of the Steering committee and r8 HuAC.
 - A digital mechanism of permanent data sharing concerning region 8 will be developed to allow monitoring of existing groups.

- The R8 HuAC will contribute in the evaluation of SIGHT project proposals to uncover difficulties of certain groups and offer custom assistance.
- 3) Monitor/ assist existing groups, encourage and provide them with tools to proceed in community projects. To do this, we are:
- Working on program which will recognize quality projects and give them visibility and outreach. Awards & recognition program similar to Exemplary Student Branch Award in SAC are examined.
 - Drafting and continued support of a full package of documentation to describe the SIGHT group formation process specific to Region 8, including reports on completed projects, essential contacts, potential partner organizations and development guidelines.
- 4) Increase extroversion by initiating discussions and collaboration with other NGOs within Region 8. To manage this, we aim to:
- Foster collaboration with Regional NGOs, by identified areas of common interest.
 - Foster collaboration with engineering4change and EPICS-in-IEEE

Points of Concern

In order for HuAC to achieve the above goals and implement the given plan, it is required:

- Financial Support to HuAC members to participate in a limited number of events within the region in order to establish healthy SIGHT groups and spread awareness of the nature of this noble IEEE program.
- Collaboration for Promotion of the SIGHT initiative via publicity channels and section chapter chairs, in order to raise awareness of potential programmes to pursue.
- Allowance to establish an Annual Regional Humanitarian Activities Award.

Life Member Coordinator**Charles Turner****Status**

There are now 12 Life Member Affinity Groups in the Region, with another 2 or 3 in prospect of formation this year. Many Sections do not realise that the process of formation is extremely simple. It involves finding a willing volunteer, not necessarily a Life Member, who is able to file a petition signed by at least 5 members of the Section. Of course, it would be expected that the Life Members in the Section would provide the main support for the new LMAG's activities.

Purpose

The purpose of the LMAG is to provide a focus for activities of interest to the older members in the Section, many of whom would be retired engineers from industry and academia. The most successful LMAGs have organised activities that have served the interests of these members and have ensured that they remain as members within IEEE. Otherwise, the SAMIEEE data shows that there is a dramatic loss of older members if they have no active involvement in IEEE.

Examples

The history of technology is a good example of a topic that older members like to take part in. For example, in London, in January, the UK and Ireland Section LMAG organised an event that combined the unveiling of a Milestone plaque by the President, Karen Bartleson, with a one-day celebration of the World's first demonstration of live television in 1926. The event was attended by over 150 members and others from the television and media industries. In the Israel Section technical updating events have been very popular. Further examples of Life Member activities can be found on the Region 8 website.

Summary

The older generation of IEEE members have much to offer from their long experience in industry and education. LMAGs provide an effective platform from which Sections can deliver a program events and social meetings to engage the interest of their older members. In Region 8 we encourage all Sections to consider establishing such a group to provide the necessary focus for these activities.

Membership Development Subcommittee (MDSC)

Andrejs Romanovs

Goals

MDSC will keep aligned with the Member Activities goals in general, which are increasing R8 membership (through recruiting new members as well as retaining current members and recovering members in arrears), to promote grade elevations, and to increase awareness of IEEE membership's values.

Due to the large geographic area and more than 60 Sections and Sub-Sections in R8, the role of Section MD Officer became vital component of the overall health of the Section and Region as a whole, and need to be nominating in every Section, now 10%; Sections has no MD Officers appointed.

Focusing on training will be the next essential part of MDSC activities, MD processes takes time to learn and, unfortunately, some new officers do not devote enough time to it in the first few months of their term; many MD officers do not participate in monthly Webcasts and MD Workshops.

MDSC will maintain the previous traditions of direct and frequent communication not only with Sections MD Officers, but with Section Chairs too, to increase the momentum of retention and recruitment campaigns. Close cooperation with the MRRC will ensure Sections are aware of their respective recruitment and retention goals, and can plan accordingly all necessary MD activities.

MDSC will focus their attention to IEEE members, who belongs to the countries where we do not have an official section, there are two region with a huge potential in R8 – Africa and post-soviet republics.

Primary indicators of MDSC success can be determined by the level of membership, retention and retaining rate by Sections and in R8, additionally; the MD trends for Sections, where representatives are active in MD activities (MD Workshops, Webcasts, teleconferences, etc.) should be analyzed and compared with the other Sections. Comparative analysis should be performed on separate MD programs too, e.g. strategizing with sections to plan more SM elevations. Feedback from the Sections officers and volunteers will be very helpful tool to improve MDSC activities and politics.

Status

At the beginning of 2017, membership in our Region was at 78,175 (prior the arrear deactivation), showing small decrease of 1.3% in comparison with the previous year (see Table below), which is slightly better, than in previous years ('16 vs. '15 -1.6%; '15 vs. '14 -2.3%).

Region Snapshot	This Month	2017 vs. 2016	% Change
Total Membership	78,175	-1,011	-1.3%
Higher Grade	54,653	-758	-1.4%
Students	23,522	-253	-1.1%

Overall, the region is slow to start this year, however, we are very positive that the region will recover soon and will have a fulfilling year ahead. R8 was performing reasonably well with over 52.6% retention (compared to 55.5% IEEE overall). Major efforts for retention are currently underway to minimize the impact of arrears and most sections are already doing upwards of 70% to their individual goals, with Iceland Section already exceeding their retention goal. Recruitment drives are also running in parallel and three R8 Sections (Iceland, Tunisia and Belarus) are already exceeding their recruitment goal for the year 2017.

Outlook

MDSC will focuses on coordination, informing, teaching and guiding of Sections MD officers, to serve as a main MD information hub for members and volunteers, to ensure and coordinate the information flow and MD activities in R8.

MDSC will encourage:

- Sections to nominate the proper MD officers, not to just fill the position
- MD officers to be trained well, to use MD tools properly, to participate in MD activities – Workshops, Webinars, teleconferences; Section Chairs to be asked to influence and encourage these trainings
- Sections Chairs and MD officers to use volunteers in their respective sections to reach out to members in arrears to renew their membership
- MD officers to order MD-Kits and actively utilizing it for the appropriate propagation of IEEE membership
- Volunteers to utilize IEEE tools like Collabratech, GoogleApps@IEEE, MentorCentre, Resume Lab, for Section events, campaigns and everyday business

MDSC will realize their activities in close cooperation with other IEEE entities, such as Society Chapters, Professional Activities and SYP, together promoting IEEE membership. This year MDSC will focus their attention to IEEE members, who belongs to the countries where we do not have an official section, there are two region with a huge potential in R8 – Africa and post-soviet republics.

Success stories of Sections are the best teaching materials and the primary source of inspiration for other Sections and volunteers, MDSC will focuses on following these success stories, to popularize it and to implement best practices across R8.

Analyzing the success of last MD Workshop, held in Tunis (Tunisia, November 18-19, 2016), with over 35 participants from 20+ countries within the R8, and showing positive outcomes, it is planned to organize next MD Workshop in May-June 2017; the next target will be European (mainly) Sections.

Points of Concern

Feedback from the Sections MD officers and volunteers shows the big increased interest in MD tools, that can be used in different situations, e.g., who should I contact when I need something, where do I find the information I need, how should I do right the tasks I'm expected to do. Offline materials are good when you need to find information you have already heard

about, but if you are new to the positions and cannot devote enough time to it in the first few months of the term, some few very useful tools should be ready to assist MD officers. The best possible way is to combine offline MD materials with MD Workshops and monthly Webcasts, using new IT tools too. Webinar based training might do the magic as a good compromise between offline training and a workshop. A workshop is always the most successful event as it engages all the people in, and people like to be a part of something bigger and feel the energy. New IT tools (GoogleApps@IEEE, MentorCentre, Resume Lab) could help not only in volunteers everyday business, but to serve as a possible source of new members, for example, IEEE Collabratech allow people, that are not necessarily IEEE members, to be registered and actively participate in. R8/MGA can support these activities, especially MD Workshops, with a proper balance found between the number of events, costs and possible results.

Nominations and Appointment Subcommittee (N&ASC)

Costas Stasopoulos

Region 8 Operations Manual, R8 6.1.2.1: The Region 8 Nominations and Appointments SubCommittee shall identify qualified candidates for elected and appointed positions of Region 8 and its Committees, including candidates for the Director-Elect slate.

IEEE Region 8 Nominations and Appointments SubCommittee

- Costas Stasopoulos (Cyprus), Chair, ex-officio
- Magdalena Salazar Palma (Spain)
- Margaretha Eriksson (Sweden), ex-officio
- Panayiotis Symeou (Cyprus)
- Ali Hessami (UKIreland)
- Ljupco Karadzinov (Macedonia)

Elected candidates must fulfill one of the following criteria at the time of their election:

- be a Section Chair in office
- have been a Section Chair within the past 3 years
- have been a Section Chair and currently holding an elected or appointed position of the R8 Committee.

IEEE Annual Election 2018

- The IEEE Region 8 Delegate-Elect/Director-Elect will be elected in this election.
- This individual elected will serve on the IEEE Assembly, the IEEE Board of Directors and the MGA Board in 2021-2022 and in the IEEE Region 8 Committee and the IEEE Region 8 Operating Committee in 2019-2024 (as chair in 2021-2022); as a Director-elect (2019-2020) this individual will be invited to attend IEEE Board of Directors and IEEE MGA Board meetings (as part of preparation and education for the later service).
- Election time line: April 2017 - The call for nominations is announced; nominations are due 1 May 2017 - The IEEE Region 8 Nominations and Appointments SubCommittee proposes a slate. August 2017 - The IEEE Region 8 Committee selects the slate in its 109th meeting. March 2018 - The slate is included in the annual election ballot.
- Position descriptions are available here: http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/position_descriptions.html.
- Call for nominations will be announced at the 108th IEEE Region 8 Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, 25-26 March 2017.

IEEE Region 8 Elections 2017

- In August 2017, the IEEE Region 8 Committee will select IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chairs for 2018 at its 109th meeting.
- All nominations are due 1 May 2017; the three current Vice-Chairs are eligible for election.
- Unless a vacancy occurs, no new IEEE Region 8 Nominations and Appointments SubCommittee members will be selected in 2017.

Professional Activities Subcommittee (PASC)**Jan Haase****Goals**

Apart from organization and continuation of the Distinguished Lecturers Program PASC will try to focus on the following goals this year:

- Get in contact with existing PA officers in sections and trigger appointment of new officer in sections which did not have one in past
- Organize events and booths at Region 8 flagship conference and broad the audience of PA activities to other conferences in Region 8
- Make PA more visible via Website, Facebook, Collabratec, etc.

Status

The PASC provides a major support to Region 8 activities via its Speakers program. The subcommittee has provided speakers and funding in past for various student and young professionals congresses such as R8 SYP in Regensburg, Nordic SYP in Stockholm, etc. Through these congresses we are able to broaden our audience to various parts of Region 8. In addition PASC has organized activities with various sections as well. Local section PA officers have hosted our speakers for various workshops which has helped in growing section activities. Hence PASC, contributes to engage members of Region 8 for their professional growth and engage into various section, student and young professionals activities.

Outlook

The new PASC just started this year, so the immediate plans will be sketched based on the goals mentioned above. Contact with AFRICON chairs was already established and Eurocon is next objective. In addition we are actively looking for new speakers and hope to strengthen our activities in various parts of Region 8.

Points of Concern

The committee size should be extended to 3 members. This has already been discussed and approved by Vice chair of Member Activities and Director of Region 8. With 3 members, it would be possible to divide the work in different areas of PASC according to different personal strengths. Also it helps to communicate with large number of section chairs, student volunteers and young professionals volunteers across Region 8.

Section Vitality

Aleksandar Szabo

Introduction

Vitality means initiative, energy and enthusiasm in organizing activities. Organizational units should take care about the rules and guidelines presented in the MGA Operations Manual. Timely reporting is necessary to show vitality of the Section and its organizational units and to receive the rebate. Vital Sections better serve their members.

Goals

The basic goal is to serve better our members. That means successful Section operation, timely reporting (officers, meetings, financials) to receive the rebate, recruiting new volunteers and holding elections on time by taking care about the period of service following the rules presented in the MGA Operations Manual.

Status and Contributions

During 2015 and 2016 the section vitality has been significantly improved. Especially the situation with **elections and reporting in 2016** has been much better than in the previous year. In 2017, to be eligible for the dues rebates, Sections have been required to submit their annual financial reports by the last day of February, and their annual officer and meeting reports by 15 March. All Sections whose reporting (financial, meeting and officer) has been submitted by the third Friday in February, will receive a **10% bonus** of the total rebate not including activity bonuses. Since 2015 we were improving from year to year. In 2015 we had 17 organizational units which did not submit their financial reports by the deadline. In 2016 we had only one unit not reporting by the deadline. In 2017 all the sections have submitted their reports on time except the Russia Sections which got an extension due to the complete rearrangement of their bank accounts during last year. Great progress has been achieved regarding the 10% rebate bonus. In 2015 only 47% of organizational units qualified for it. In 2016 it was 77% and in 2017 it will be around 90%.

Since Region Officers start their terms on 1 January we are asking Sections and its organizational units for having **start terms** of their Officers **on 1 January** as well. Officers in most sections already start on 1 January. For the Region it is important to have an updated list of Section Officers before the beginning of the calendar year. Elections should be held in many of our Sections **during 2017 for officers starting their term on 1 January 2018**. The election process should finish well before the end of the calendar year to enable a long enough transition period.

The basic **success indicators** of Section Vitality in the Region are the number of Sections and its organizational units reporting on time and receiving the rebate as well as the number of Sections with officers serving inside the period of service according to the rules. The Sections officers' sense of duty has been significantly increased.

Outlook

What should be done to improve vitality?

- Section self assessment – Use the Section Vitality Checklist
- Be familiar with the use of the Section Vitality Dashboard, SAMIEEE and v-Tools
- Be familiar with the MGA Operations Manual (Section 9)
- Be familiar with the Geographic Unit Rebate Schedule, Requirements and Procedures (MGA Operations Manual - Section 9.0.E)
- Organize elections on time, well before the serving end date of current officers. When doing so you will ensure an adequate transition period. Start date should be 1 January.
- A Section may define in its local operating procedures document if the Vice Chair shall automatically become the Chair at the conclusion of their term (Operations Manual, 9.4.F).
- Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled by majority vote of the Section Committee or Section Executive Committee.
- All section officers should do their job with pleasure and on time. Be informed and efficient.
- Increase membership and member engagement. Recruit and train volunteers and look for successors. Contact members and obtain member feedback. Fulfill membership needs
- Prepare a Program of activities for the calendar year. Start new initiatives.
- Organize meetings (professional, technical, nontechnical, administrative, social) by section, chapters, affinity groups, student branches.
- Have a chapter and affinity group coordinator in your Section and keep a vigilant eye on the activity of chapters and affinity groups during the year. Guide and help chapters and affinity groups and organize a yearly meeting/workshop with chapter and affinity group officers.
- Form new chapters, affinity groups and student branches.
- Encourage cooperation and joint events of section units (chapters, affinity groups, student branches). Conduct events with students.
- Get closer to industry (involve practicing engineers). Involve Young Professionals.
- Organize Educational (preuniversity, lifelong) and Professional (leadership, management) Activities
- Have an active Student Activities Officer and a Student Representative in your Section. During the year they should keep a vigilant eye on the activity of student branches together with their chancellors and take care about activity/vitality of all SBs in the Section, involve students into section and chapter activities, help students.
- Awards (member/volunteer recognition, member grade elevation, Section yearly awards).
- Section website always up to date.
- Organize a Section annual social event.

Points of Concern

- All Sections, Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches should take care about doing their basic job following the rules in the MGA Operations Manual.
- Officers should train themselves, possibly before running for a position.
- Organizing Section Operation workshops should be taken into consideration.
- All our Coordinators/Subcommittees should continue to help and encourage activities in Sections, Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches.
- Additional efforts should be taken to increase activity of organizational units outside Sections in accordance with the MGA Operations Manual (9.0.E.8). Region 8, as their parent, should take more care about progress in activity, reporting and elections in these units.

Standards Coordinator

David Law

Goals

- Use IEEE-SA outreach, as well as leverage IEEE-SA meetings, in IEEE R8 as an opportunity to bring together the IEEE-SA, local sections, industry and government. In addition use the presence of subject matter experts as an opportunity to provide standards education. Target leveraging the upcoming IEEE-SA Board of Governors (BoG), IEEE-SA Standards Board (SASB) and IEEE 802 plenary.
- Increase the number of IEEE R8 visitors to the IEEE Standards University website. Currently two IEEE R8 countries are in top 10 generating 5.24% traffic, target increasing this to 3 generating 7.5% of the traffic.
- Increase the number of IEEE R8 students and faculty mentors applying for IEEE Standards Education Grants. In the last year the number of grants applications from IEEE R8 were 3, target tripling this.
- Arrange a speaker on standards and/or whole standards tracks at a major IEEE R8 conference, potentially collaborating with IEEE Standards Education Committee (SEC).

Status

- **October 2016:** The IEEE-SA conducted outreach in Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda, in cooperation with the local IEEE Sections and in coordination with the IEEE Africa Ad Hoc. IEEE-SA expresses their thanks to the Kenya Section and Uganda sub-Section for their great support, including Dorothy Okello, Julius Butime, Lwanga Herbert, Ezabo Baron (Uganda); and Humphrey Muhindi, Sally Musonye, John Matogo, Reinhardt Rading, Nelson Wasilwa, Izael da Silva (Kenya), and anyone else who helped. Highlights include the following.
 - Meetings with national standards organizations, and working on MOUs in Kenya and Uganda; signed MOUs in Rwanda.
 - Roundtables in Kenya and Uganda on standards activities in ICT and renewable energy, with approx. 30 attendees each from industry, government, private organizations.
 - Meetings with local and regional regulatory agencies.
 - Standards Education lecture at Strathmore University in Nairobi, and tour of solar installation. Conducting a conformity assessment pilot activity with Strathmore University lab and Kenya Power on IEEE Std 1547.1.
 - A social reception with the Section for IEEE members in Kenya.
- **IEEE Standards University:** The IEEE launched IEEE Standards University (ISU, <http://www.standardsuniversity.org/>), a joint program of IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) and IEEE Educational Activities Board (IEEE EAB), last year. The ISU greatly expands the IEEE's standards education content and resources available to educators, students and professionals. This include eLearning courses, the IEEE Standards education e-Magazine, a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), customized workshops and the Standard Simulation Game (available for licensing). The ISU first became available at the end of 2015 but was not officially launched until September 2016. From January 2016 to January 2017 two IEEE R8 countries were in the top 10 generating 5.24% of the web site traffic.
- **IEEE Standards Education Grants:** IEEE continues to offer grants to both students and faculty mentors to help with graduate and final year design projects with an industry standards component (<http://www.standardsuniversity.org/grants/>). Grants include US\$500 for students, with additional honoraria for faculty mentors. In 2016 a total of 2 applications and 2 grants were made by IEEE R8 students and faculty mentors.

Outlook

- **17-18 May 2017:** The IEEE-SA Board of Governors (BoG) will hold its second meeting of the year in Dublin, and plans outreach activities, including a forum on a topic of interest followed by a social reception, a potential roundtable/workshop, and bilateral meetings.
- **13-15 June 2017:** The IEEE-SA Standards Board (SASB) will hold its second meeting of the year in Milan, and plans outreach activities, including a forum on a topic of interest followed by a social reception, a potential roundtable/workshop, and bilateral meetings.
- **10-14 July 2017:** The IEEE 802 LAN/MAN Standards Committee will be holding its July plenary meeting this year in Berlin.

Points of Concern

- **IEEE Standards University:** Looking for support in promotion of IEEE Standards University. Website: <http://www.standardsuniversity.org/>
- **IEEE Standards Education Grants:** Looking for support in promotion of IEEE Standards Education Grants Looking for potential opportunities for potential individual speakers and/or whole standards tracks.

Strategic Planning Subcommittee

Magdalena Salazar Palma

The new Strategic Planning Subcommittee was formed in January 2017. The Chairperson is Magdalena Salazar Palma.

Composition (Alphabetic order)

- Dusanka Boskovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Member
- Gloria Chukwudebe (Nigeria), Member
- Margaretha Eriksson (Sweden), R8 Delegate/Director, Ex-officio member
- Dovile Kurpyte (Lithuania), Member
- Khaled Mokhtar (Egypt), Member
- Daniel Pasquet (France), Member
- Magdalena Salazar Palma (Spain), R8 Delegate-Elect/Director-Elect, Chair
- Costas Stasopoulos (Cyprus), R8 Past Delegate/Director, Ex-officio Member

Goals

The SPSC is responsible for developing R8 strategic and long-range plan, with goals and objectives.

Strategic Planning is an organizational management activity that is used to set priorities, focus energy and resources, strengthen operations, ensure that people working in the organization and other stakeholders are working toward common goals, establish agreement around intended outcomes/results, and assess and adjust the organization's direction in response to a changing environment. It is a disciplined effort that produces fundamental decisions and actions that shape and guide what an organization is, who it serves, what it does, and why it does it, with a focus on the future. Effective strategic planning articulates not only where an organization is going and the actions needed to make progress, but also how it will know if it is successful.

The Strategic Plan is a document used to communicate with the organization the organizations goals, the actions needed to achieve those goals and all of the other critical elements developed during the planning exercise.

The goal for the 2017 SPSC is to develop by the end of the year a complete Region 8 Strategic Plan (Goals) together with its corresponding Operating Plan (Actions) and the Metrics to assess its success.

The completion of the plan will be the primary indicator of the subcommittee success.

Status

During the past two years R8 Mission and Vision were analyzed. An effort to align with the IEEE and MGA plans, in particular with the Africa initiative, was also done.

Some years back a R8 strategic plan was developed. The SPSC will start analyzing the output of this effort and will work from it considering also IEEE and MGA goals, as well as Sections Congress recommendations.

Outlook

During the next years, once the Strategic Plan together with the Operating Plan and Metrics are approved, its implementation would be the primary effort. Then the Metrics will be used to assess its progress. Modifications should be adopted if needed in order to update Region 8 Strategic Plan.

Points of Concern

The diversity of the composition of the new SPSC in terms of geographical areas, professional background, gender and experience ensures a good starting point.

In order to achieve the proposed goal, i.e., the completion of the Strategic Plan by the end of the year, most of the work should be done before and after the only face-to-face meeting next March, since during the R8 Committee meeting in August there will not be any subcommittee meetings. Thus, the major point of concern is the need to work online and how effective this will be.

The plan is to have an initial meeting by Webex before the face-to-face meeting at the 2017 Spring Region 8 Committee meeting in Stockholm, so that this face-to-face meeting will be more effective. Then the SPSC will meet through Webex every alternate month. Additional Webex meeting will be organized if needed.

The SPSC needs the support of IEEE MGA in organizing the Webex meetings.

Voluntary Contribution Fund Coordinator

Andreas Koltes

Goals

The Voluntary Contribution Fund (VCF) provides support for technical activities of members with low income (below \$10,000 per year). The main focus of the fund is to support travel and subsistence costs of researchers presenting their research at conferences in Region 8, which they would not be able to do otherwise due to the lack of finance. In addition, the fund supports technical activities of student branches and young professionals in low income areas of Region 8. The main sources of the fund are additional voluntary contributions declared by IEEE members during the annual renewal of their membership. In order to fulfil the mission of the fund, the key goals for 2017 are:

- Maintain a stable income for the fund of at least \$10,000 per year by raising awareness for the fund amongst the membership.
- Increase awareness of the fund amongst potential applicants in order to issue at least 15 grants per year making full use of the target budget of \$10,000.
- Increase VCF publicity and promotion compared to previous years.

Status

During the previous year, the VCF has seen a stable incoming donation stream of approximately \$11,500 per year. However, the grant situation has been more varied:

Year	Planned Budget	Donations	Applications	Issued
2014	\$10,000	\$11,576		\$6,602
2015	\$10,000	\$11,374	\$14,017	\$10,507
2016	\$10,000	\$12,480	\$10,507	\$8,365
2017	\$10,000	\$11,500 (expected)	\$3,500 (March)	\$2,500 (March / planned)

At the time of this writing, pending activities stemming from 2016 have been completed. In total, 13 grants have been issued for the previous year. Out of these, 11 grants were issued to grant holders residing in African sections and 2 grants to grant holders residing in Eastern European sections.

For the current year, 3 conference travel grants have been approved so far. 2 further grants have been rejected due to non-eligibility of the applicants.

Outlook

On the income side, the stable donation situation is expected to continue based on the trend from previous years. Based on already approved grants and pending enquiries, the year started well with respect to the target volume of grants issued. However, it is still too early to predict the total application volume for 2017.

The main activity in the current year, besides the ongoing management of the fund, is the development of a systematic publicity and promotion concept for the VCF and the start of its implementation.

Points of Concern

Although the donation situation is stable at the moment, care must be taken to maintain the income stream to the fund (or ideally even increase it) as this is the fundamental operating base for the VCF program.

In previous years, the grants from the VCF have been statistically skewed towards the Maghreb area despite other areas in Region 8 being similarly challenged regarding the local financial situation. Hopefully, a more systematic publicity approach might create a more balanced awareness of the VCF across the countries in Region 8.

Women in Engineering Coordinator

Younna El Bitar

Goals & Outlook

R8 WIE Committee's goals for 2017 include but are not limited to:

- Increasing the vitality of Section and Student Branch Affinity Groups
 - Reach out to Sections without a WIE AG, encourage them to form one and provide the needed assistance
 - Work on increasing WIE membership for Sections having less than 6 members
 - Identify and revitalize dormant Section AGs (first stage) and SB AGs (second stage)
- Having a stronger Social Media presence
 - Increase the awareness about WIE activities across Region 8
 - Encourage Section and SB AGs to share their experiences and events with us and each other
- Reaching out to all R8 WIE members (and past members if their contact info is available), via a survey, to
 - Establish communication channels (especially that a new Committee email address was created)
 - Encourage them to like our Facebook page for regular updates
 - Find out what female members expect and value most
 - Find out what male members expect and value most
 - Based on the survey results, develop a strategy in collaboration with other R8 committees
- Reaching out to the Section / SB AG officers, to
 - Establish communication channels and be closer to them
 - Learn about their events and share them on our channels
 - Find out what events work best, and replicate them in other sections
 - Suggest new events to them Involve them in the Mentorship Program
- Establishing new WIE AG and individual awards
 - Region 8 Women in Engineering Affinity Group of the Year Award
 - Region 8 Women in Engineering Student Branch Affinity Group of the Year Award
 - Region 8 Outstanding Women in Engineering Volunteer Award
 - Region 8 Outstanding Women in Engineering Student Volunteer Award
- Collaborating with other organizations that support women in STEM
 - Stanford WiDS
 - WomEng
 - Girls Got IT, and others
 - Successful collaboration in a Section may encourage similar collaboration in other Sections
- Getting involved with industry to widen the opportunities for women in STEM in general and for WIE members in particular
 - Intel programs in the Middle-East and Africa
 - Look for other female-oriented programs carried by STEM companies
 - Coffee Talks and / or panels with Industry Representatives as guests
- Engaging with the following proposed programs:
 - Coffee Talks (continuing program)
<http://www.ieeer8.org/category/member-activities/women-in-engineering/programs/coffee-talks>
 - SMART Program (new program)
<http://www.ieeer8.org/category/member-activities/women-in-engineering/programs/smart-program>
 - Mentorship Program (new program)
<http://www.ieeer8.org/category/member-activities/women-in-engineering/programs/mentorship-program>
 - Encourage the STAR program across Region 8
- Collaborating with WIE representatives within Societies such as IAS and PES
- Having a stronger presence in currently held events, such as:
 - Regional / Cross-Sectional / Sectional SYP Congresses
 - IEEE Day
 - International Women's Day
 - October awareness campaigns, and others
- Ultimately increase the WIE membership in R8 due to the success of the programs and initiatives mentioned above.

Status

Currently, there are 3516 WIE members in Region 8, distributed among 117 Affinity Groups (32 Sections, 85 Student Branches). Dissolved Section AGs are:

- Poland (a new chair was elected; we are currently working on its re-establishment)
- Kuwait (efforts will be made to re-establish the AG)
- Iraq (only 2 WIE members in Iraq Section)

New Section AGs in the process of formation:

- Morocco

- Malta

Potential Section in which to start a WIE AG:

- Austria

A new email address was created for the committee: r8wie@ieee.org. The website is updated and can now be easily reached via <http://wie.ieeer8.org>.

Using a poster shared by e-Notice, WIE Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/R8WIE>), R8 news, and the WIE newsletter, the committee started and continues to raise awareness about Clementina Saduwa, the outstanding woman behind the Award, so that IEEE and non-IEEE members in Region 8 and beyond get to know why this award is very special. 20 nominations were received by February 15.

Points of Concern

- There are currently no WIE AG / volunteer awards
 - It is preferable to establish new WIE awards to encourage AG vitality and motivate members to volunteer
- WIE AGs do not have sources for funding within Region 8. The only funding is an amount of 300 USD that should be requested from MGA 3 months prior to the event
 - Sections should be encouraged to financially support their WIE AG events
 - It is preferable to have regional support in case the Section is not able to
- There is no support for WIE AG representatives to attend events such as the SYP or other conferences
 - As a start, active Section WIE AGs could send a funded representative (who is also a Student member or a Young Professional) to the SYP, which will provide significant motivation
- Means of involving WIE officers in various trainings
- The committee is receiving invitations for events (Germany, Portugal, etc.) and we hope to be able to send a representative in order to strengthen the ties between the WIE committee and R8 members.

Young Professionals Subcommittee

Sara Pena Barros

Goals

The main goals of the Region 8 Young Professionals team for 2017 are to:

- 1) Improve the status of Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8, consisting of:
 - a) no inactive or dormant Young Professionals Affinity Groups in the Region;
 - b) Young Professionals Affinity Groups reporting their activities on vTools through L31 reports in a timely manner, and they all having the minimum required 2 activity reports before the end of the year;
 - c) maintain regular communication with Young Professionals Affinity Groups, either through email or Skype calls;
 - d) create at least 1 new Young Professionals Affinity Group in the Region;
- 2) Increase the number of Young Professionals Affinity Groups that freely and efficiently collaborate with their parent Section;
- 3) Create and share additional support material and manuals relevant for Young Professionals, mainly guides to successfully running a Young Professionals Affinity Group and simple explanations of the bylaws governing them, strategies for measuring event success and impact, strategies for getting funding and sponsorship for events and other topics;
- 4) Bridge the gap between the 3 main segments of Young Professionals by:
 - a) Supporting Young Professionals Affinity Groups to organise more STEP events and work closer with students in their Section;
 - b) Supporting Young Professionals Affinity Groups to organise more Meet-ups events and work closer with industry in their Section;
 - c) Supporting and encourage Young Professionals Affinity Groups to allocate resources to entrepreneurship activities;
- 5) Relevant partake in the IEEE Sections Congress to be held this August in Sidney, Australia;
- 6) Cooperate with SAC for the continuous success of Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses and the Region 8 SYP Congress;
- 7) Cooperate with the other MA subcommittees and take advantage of each others' strengths to achieve our goals, particularly with SIGHT, PA and LM;
- 8) Focus not only on supporting active Young Professionals volunteers, but also on the development of programs that directly aim to increase Young Professionals members satisfaction based on segmentation studies;
- 9) Increase visibility of the Young Professionals program in Region 8.

Status

The on-going activities contributing to the achievement of each of the goals described above are listed below:

- 1) Since two years ago, the 47 Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8 are distributed by the entire team in order to provide a better service to the volunteers. By having each team member focusing on 6 to 10 groups, dedicated continuous support that is relevant for each Affinity Group in particular is guaranteed and their challenges are tackled more efficiently. Email is the communication mean of choice, though Skype calls are frequently held with Affinity Groups facing more serious issues, on the process of being revitalised or with brand new committees. There are currently 2 Young Professionals Affinity Groups on the path of becoming dormant, but joint efforts with the Section ExCom are already ongoing to reverse the process. There are 11 Sections lacking a Young Professionals Affinity Group of which 6 show to have the necessary dynamics and manpower to change this in the near future.
- 2) Stronger cooperation between the Young Professionals Affinity Group and their parent Section is currently achieved in 2 ways: by using the Region 8 Young Professionals team as a mediator and during Region 8 Committee meetings, during which face-to-face discussions with the Section Chairs about their Young Professionals Affinity Groups and how they can help them grow can be had. The division method also plays a major part on this, as during the meeting, each team member only has 6 to 10 Section Chairs to dedicate their time to.
- 3) In the past few months, the following manuals have been written or updated and are available for distribution: *How to Organise a Region 8 SYP Congress* (in cooperation with SAC), *SAMIEEE for YPs* and *Young Professionals Operations Manual*. Currently under draft are: *Guidelines to organize a Cross-Sectional SYP Congress* (in cooperation with SAC) and a YP slide presentation the Young Professionals Affinity Groups can readily use to increase visibility of Young Professionals in their Section. Another important milestone is the Event Exchange Program, which development started with the Region 8 Young Professionals team and has now been taken over by MGA Young Professionals for implementation worldwide. This platform will allow the volunteers to see all the activities organised by other Young Professionals Affinity Groups geographically, hopefully working as an idea pool.
- 4) This is a major point for future work. While significant effort has been put into the increase of the number of STEP events organised and the retention of Students to Young Professionals at the transition level, additional work needs to be done in 2017+ into satisfying Young Professionals members and retain volunteers after they leave Academia, thus those in an industry and/or entrepreneurship environment.
- 5) New topic for 2017, still to be kicked off. See Outlook Section.
- 6) In 2015, 6 Cross-Sectional SYPs took place: ISYP, CEuSYP, WESYP (1st edition), HSYP, MESYP and NSYP (1st edition). The Young Professionals team was strongly involved in guiding the organisation of these congresses and delivered workshops in all. This year, ISYP will be dissolved and merged with WESYP and a new GCC Cross-Sectional Congress is taking place in May. Preparations for the organisation of the CEuSYP, HSYP and NSYP are under go. SAC and YP subcommittee work side by side with the OCs. Significant increase of Young Professionals activities across the Region and cooperation between neighbouring Sections is observed after these events.
- 7) New topic for 2017, still to be kicked off. See Outlook Section.

- 8) New topic for 2017, still to be kicked off. See Outlook Section.
- 9) Increase of the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 has been so far achieved by participation and delivery of workshops in SYP Congresses and online media campaigns as the “Message to Young Professionals” and the IEEE Day video gathering messages from Young Professionals Affinity Groups around the Region. Considerable attention has been given to Facebook presence: the Region 8 Young Professionals page has now 2090 likes, more than double of what it had at this time last year. Statistics show an average of 14.000 users reached each week and 17.000 actions of engagement each week (users liking, commenting or sharing our content). A Facebook group for Region 8 Young Professionals Affinity Group Chairs was created for closer collaboration and fast delivery of news. Region 8 Young Professionals Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram pages are steadily growing. Another activity that results in a wider spread of the Young Professionals image is through our volunteers during award season. This year, there were 9 nominations for the Region 8 Outstanding Young Professionals Affinity Group Award and 7 nominations for the Region 8 Young Professionals Exceptional Volunteer Award, marking the highest volunteer engagement on this matter since the past 4 years.

Outlook

This year’s plan to attain the goals listed in the beginning of this report is given under the same order below:

- 1) Given its success, the “divide and conquer” strategy will be carried on during this year. As most of the existing Young Professionals Affinity Groups are currently in good standing, efforts will be directed mainly to revitalisation and initialisation. This requires constant collaboration with the parent Sections and even local Student Branches, who often have the manpower or connections to older volunteers fit to transition into the Young Professionals world. A new “group call” concept will be employed among neighbouring Young Professionals Affinity Groups. The 47 groups have been split into 6 smaller groups based on their geographical location. This will enable the Affinity Groups to share their practices and learn from each others’ challenges on a regular basis. By getting acquainted with the surrounding Young Professionals Affinity Groups experiences, each group should feel less lonely in their struggles and learn new tricks on how to overcome them. In return, motivation and engagement should go up and the number of dormant groups should remain low or null. An increase of Cross-Sectional activities and cooperation beyond the SYP Congresses is also expected.
- 2) To continue as up to now.
- 3) The *Guidelines to Organise a Cross-Sectional SYP Congress* and the standalone Young Professionals slide presentation will be ready within the next month. During the remainder of this year, the following additional manuals will be prepared: *Sponsorship for Dummies*, update of the *SAMIEEE for YPs* manual to include new queries, update of the *How to organise a Region 8 SYP Congress* manual and update of the *vTools Reporting Manual* accounting for the new user interface. Additionally, a webinar on *Publicity & Visibility* will be arranged for YP Chairs. Depending on the volunteers’ response to this format, more training webinars might be prepared.
- 4) This year, the main focus will be on the development of initiatives and support of activities that aim to serve the Region 8 Young Professionals members in industry, all the way from the ones at big well sustained companies to the ones that just started their own small business. This will be handled in 3 fronts:
 - a) *Company Branch Program*, rebranded proposal under construction, targeting Young Professionals members that left academia, specifically the ones that are now in industry. The concept passes through applying the Student Branch model to companies, enabling not only a more natural extension of the volunteering time span, but also of a more dedicated volunteering activity, focusing on the core of the business at hand and required soft skills.
 - b) Initiative focused on Region 8 Young Professionals members that chose to become entrepreneurs. There is currently no support or entrepreneur-aimed program in Region 8. This is a segment of the Young Professionals members that is growing each day faster and is a segment of the Young Professionals members that chooses to leave the community; what IEEE is at this time capable of offering once they cross this line is yet to become pertinent. The Young Professionals subcommittee is at the moment finishing up a proposal for a new program designed to serve young entrepreneur members to present to the Region 8 OpCom for approval within this quarter.
 - c) *Meet-ups*, new funding opportunity from MGA Young Professionals. The Young Professionals Affinity Groups have now the chance to apply for up to 1500\$ to support their organisation of meet-ups at relevant technical conferences in their Section. Since it is a relatively new initiative, the Region 8 Young Professionals team has put together a list of relevant conferences in the Region and is contacting the Young Professionals Affinity Groups in the hosting sections to advertise the opportunity, encourage them to apply and offer help in the organisation process. This is beneficial in 2 ways: on one hand, it stimulates networking between Young Professionals members and on-site training of essential soft skills at their career stage; on the other hand, it increases the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 and attracts new (young industry) people to join IEEE.
- 5) Young Professionals are at the core of IEEE’s strategy for 2025. Representing a considerable slack of the totality of IEEE members and active volunteers, this is the period in which the personal decision of committing to IEEE and its ideology or not is taken. Focusing on this membership segment and its community needs is vital. Region 8 is one of the largest and, without a doubt, most culturally diverse of all Regions 1 to 10. As so, the Region 8 Young Professionals team plans to share its vision and concrete near future plan by contributing to the pool of recommendations being collected to the IEEE Sections Congress. Furthermore, an efficient approach will be well-thought-out and beforehand defined to gain (and give) the most out of (to) the event on-site;
- 6) Parallel to preparing and guiding the organization of HSYP, MESYP, CEUSYP and NSYP, SAC and YP teams are looking into possible hosts for the WESYP Congress. Time and efforts also being put into bringing to light an African SYP

Congress. African Sections face difficulties either for VISA or financial reasons to attend the other SYP Congresses taking place in Region 8. Support and encouragement of these initiatives in this geographic area is of paramount importance. It is in this environment, together with representatives from Region 8 to discuss possible opportunities and solutions and colleague volunteers from neighbouring Sections experiencing the same reality and dares that a local difference can be made. In the next couple of months, the call for applications to organise the next Region 8 SYP Congress in 2018 will be put out. Once more, the Region 8 Young Professionals subcommittee will work closely with SAC on the selection process and guidance of the chosen organising team until the event is due and afterwards for the reporting phase.

- 7) Collaboration with the fellow subcommittees under Member Activities is another main goal of the Young Professionals team for this year. This is foreseen with, but not limited to, SIGHT and PA (Professional Activities).
- 8) See point 4.
- 9) In addition to the online media presence and campaigns, there are a number of other projects in view as having a channel for training of Young Professionals volunteers at IEEE-TV, continuation of the YP Newsletter redaction (2 editions per year), coming up with a good selection of promotional materials for distribution during the Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses and, last but not least, invest on *Signature Events*. *Signature Events* are yet another new funding opportunity from MGA Young Professionals in the same line as Meet-Ups, but at a larger scale. These events should be organised by the Regional Coordinators and take place at a relevant high impact conference (or gathering), where IEEE (and non-IEEE) members from diverse backgrounds come together in one spot. This will expose people outside the community to IEEE and Young Professionals, as well as increase the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 within its members.

Points of Concern

Young Professionals in Region 8 have grown immensely in the past few years. Nevertheless, there is still room for improvement. This improvement is inherent to the successful development of programs focusing on Young Professionals in industry and connected to the entrepreneurship life; programs that are not only designed to be exploited by volunteers, but by members. As soon as Young Professionals leave academia, the slice of members actively volunteering decreases, so targeting the regular non-volunteer member will result in the highest return in form of retention. The Region 8 Young Professionals team is working on 2 major proposals to address the before mentioned point, but these programs can only get off ground with the support of the Region 8 OpCom and other closely related subcommittees, as SAC and PA.

Another point is related to Cross-Sectional and Region 8 SYP Congresses. It has been statistically seen that volunteering activity and member engagement has its peak right after these events. The participants have the chance to connect to and learn from other volunteers as well as receive training directly from Region 8 Committee representatives. The success of these events has been substantial, which has led to unseen numbers of attendees and, in the case of the Region 8 SYP, volunteers fulfilling the funding criteria. Additionally, the number of Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses is increasing every odd year, with 2 new editions in 2015 and, potentially, 2 more in 2017 (1 still to be confirmed), resulting in a total of 6 (or 7) this year. Further financial support of these events by Region 8 might be required to maintain their quality and sustain the possibility of delivering training tracks to the participants by Region 8 Committee volunteers.

To finalise, the Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8 frequently express their financial status, reaching of their local Student Branches and relation to their Section ExCom has their biggest difficulties to overcome. The first point will hopefully be minimised by the new funding opportunities provided by MGA Young Professionals. The second has been efficiently dealt with during SYP Congresses by encouraging joint work sessions between Student and Young Professionals members and by a closer collaboration between the SAC and YP subcommittee, which ends up being reflected on the volunteers. For the last point, however, the approach leading to the best results has been to have face-to-face discussions with the Section Chairs about their Young Professionals Affinity Groups needs and struggles during Region 8 Committee meetings. The circle discussion sessions are incredibly helpful for this purpose. The Region 8 Young Professionals team hopes thus to see those maintained within possible.

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Algeria Section

Amar Tilmatine

Getting Closer to Industry

There are not many meetings between university and Industry in Algeria. However, there are several national conferences on electrical engineering and computer science organized in various universities. Industry sponsors attend to such events. We need to enhance IEEE relationship with industry because the quasi totality of the members is issued from academic institutions, mostly from universities and laboratories. The major success is mainly the contact between laboratories and Industry. However, we think that contact between industry members should be encouraged, in particular between those issued from developed countries and third world countries. IEEE should perhaps encourage rich laboratories to give donation of second-hand scientific material to laboratories which doesn't have enough material to make experimental research. Indeed, there is a lack of research material to let Industry be interested in our laboratories. We are going to contact the former students who are now working in industry. Moreover, we plan to organize visits to different companies in order to encourage them to be IEEE member.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

There are several conferences on electrical engineering and computer science organized in various universities. Students and Young Professionals meet together in such events. Unfortunately, meetings between young professionals are not often organized out of these events. We think that IEEE should help more the new student members and offer them more grant possibilities in order to attend IEEE events and conferences. Our committee wishes to organize some meetings for students and Young Professionals, however we have no budget for that purpose. We still cannot use the money of the IEEE credit card due to the need of local authorization.

Section Vitality

There are several conferences on electrical engineering and computer science organized in various universities. Students and Young Professionals meet together in such events. Unfortunately, meetings between young professionals are not often organized out of these events. We think that IEEE should help more the new student members and offer them more grant possibilities in order to attend IEEE events and conferences. Our committee wishes to organize some meetings for students and Young Professionals, however we have no budget for that purpose. We still cannot use the money of the IEEE credit card due to the need of local authorization.

IEEE in Africa

There are some things which could be done such as to encourage known professors and industrials to share their knowledge and experience with African people by giving conferences and plenary lectures. Moreover, offer the old material which is not used by rich laboratories to African institutions.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

-

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

-

Austria Section

Michael Heiss

Getting Closer to Industry

Works well:

- Organizing Industry Tracks on scientific IEEE conferences.
- Invite industry speakers at local IEEE events will be continued.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Works well:

- Two very active student branches (motivated by our local best student branch award)
- make IEEE locally accessible for the members: local events (open for non-members) will be continued

Section Vitality

Works well:

- Active chapters are the drivers of the Section Vitality challenging: motivate the top people to serve as Chapter Officers
- people like to contribute content but most of them dislike the bureaucratic and organizational effort.

IEEE in Africa

We could invite guests from Africa (e.g., the ones working at UNO organizations in Vienna) to our local events or be available as speakers (e.g. via WebEx...) for their local events.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Due to the fact that we are also located in Vienna we hope to have common events in the future, local legal support (regarding the legal entity of the Austria Section), and local support with bureaucratic topics. More awareness and importance of IEEE in Austria and Europe in the industry.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

-

Bahrain Section

Adel Ahmed Hamed

Getting Closer to Industry

- 1) Contact some local companies to support section events.
- 2) R8 is invited to increase IR funding.
- 3) Several joint technical seminars and workshops were done.
- 4) Invite industry speakers for next IEEE-GCC conference & exhibition, May 2017.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) Several Careers/ Jobs fairs in collaboration with Ministry of labor and many institutions.
- 2) Visit to Ministry of Electricity & Water and got support to IEEE Bahrain section by HE the Minister.
- 3) Registration of Bahrain Section by the Bahrain Government as a local branch of IEEE international is the major success of 2016, this will attract and support future members.
- 4) Formation of more student branches in addition to 3 new already formed in 2016. Young professional group which has been also newly formed will be encouraged and supported to do more activities during 2017.

Section Vitality

- 1) Holding several administrative ExCom meetings working on agreement approval with IEEE HQ, local registration of members in accordance with Kingdom of Bahrain laws and Constitution approval. Reactivating WiE group. Forming a new Communication Society Chapter. Reactivating the pre-university education program by holding 1st meeting with Ministry of education officials. Celebrating 2 successive IEEE Days, 4th. Oct 2015/ 4th. Oct. 2016.
- 2) Fund-raising ideas to be implemented in 2017.
- 3) Technical Sponsorship MoU conf # 39991 of the 17th World Renewable Energy Congress, Dec 2016 by University of Bahrain. Hosting of the 9th. IEEE-GCC Conference & Exhibition, May 2017 by Bahrain Section conf # 36861.
- 4) Collaboration with other sections in R8 and other Regions during R8 Stockholm meeting and Sydney 2017 Sections Congress to exchange ideas, doing common events,

IEEE in Africa

Emailed Prof. Gloria Chuckwudebe to discuss that issue with her to share ideas about vocational training and common humanitarian technical projects.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We expect Europe regional meetings support from IEEE Vienna office and we are looking forward for opening IEEE Bahrain office too, specially after we got support from the government for our section registration.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- 1) Bahrain Section welcomes all to attend The 9th IEEE GCC CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION Manama, Bahrain: 7-10 May 2017, Conference Theme: Solutions for a Smarter Economy, for more details, kindly open the following link: <http://ieee-gcc.org/>
- 2) Bahrain Section has got an MD outstanding recognition:
 - Jan 2015: 88 members
 - Jan 2016: 163 members
 - Jan 2017: 212 members
- 3) UoB STB and Counselor got Best 2016 award
- 4) Bahrain Section is going to celebrate its 15th. Anniversary shortly, CONGRATULATIONS!

BEST WISHES FOR ALL

Belarus Section

Aleksandr Gusinski

Getting Closer to Industry

- Activities & initiatives work well in Belarus Section to foster Industry Relations: close cooperation with National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NASB), Universities (Belarusian State University, Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, Belarusian National Technical University), and enterprises in the field of microelectronics, microwave electronics and photonics.
- Belarus Section regular invites speakers from industry for local technical meeting - Belarus Section invites IEEE members and students to local technical exhibitions

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- To attract more new members Belarus Section invites students and Ph.D. students in all Section and Chapter technical meetings.
- Section organize students visits to enterprises in the field of microelectronics, microwave electronics and photonics.

Section Vitality

- To foster Section Vitality: regular meetings with engineers from industry, meetings with Ph.D. students from National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, Belarusian National Technical University, search.
- Sponsorship of scientific events, like Belarusian-Lithuanian Workshop “Microwave devices and systems”

IEEE in Africa

-

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

-

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

-

Benelux Section

Dirk Van Hertem

Getting Closer to Industry

- Currently we don't have many activities targeted at industry, but it is a point of attention
- IEEE does not have a clear advantage to many from industry

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- We will continue to work as before, focusing on the efforts by the individual OUs, and a newsletter to the section. We also have a linkedin group and a website which is regularly updated
- We held a very successful event on the future of electrical engineering in conjunction with our general assembly and meet the IEEE fellows event. The event had over a 100 participants, many not being involved in IEEE activities before.
- We have a support scheme in place for many years, and we would like to continue those efforts.

Section Vitality

- Try to involve chapters more with the section management.

IEEE in Africa

- Focus efforts on well established areas, spread information elsewhere.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Point of contact in the same time zone, less delays, non-US approach

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

-

Bosnia & Herzegovina Section

Meliha Selak

Getting Closer to Industry

Involving companies in fostering student internship programs and other student and young professional activities:

- BH-Telecom the largest telecom provider was important sponsor of SYPC-BiH in December 2016
- Involving BH Power Utility Company in sponsoring ISGT 2018 to be hosted in Sarajevo Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Organized meeting between the BH Power Utility management and PES President Elect Rahman Saifur and our PES officers in October 2016

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Workshops:
 - Leadership and Body Language, provided by Kurt Richter Region 8 PA Speaker for YPAG and SB University of Sarajevo October 2016
 - BH SYP Congress in December: Student papers presentations as posters
 - Technical Workshops
 - Start-up Hackaton
- Technical lectures:
 - PES President Elect Saifur Rahman Lecture “What is the Smart Grid”
 - SSIT President Greg Adamson visited Section and delivered three lectures for students: “An introduction to SSIT Cybercrime, risk management and financial payments” at University of Sarajevo, University of Tuzla and IPI Academy College Tuzla.
- BH Section sponsoring Hardware/Software student competition at the INDEL 2016
- Students from SB University of Sarajevo organized IEEE day celebration with the Room Escape Game.
- SB University of Sarajevo team was among top 50 in the IEEEExtreme 10.0, and another team was among top 100.
- IEEE volunteers provided technical lectures at the International Burch University Sarajevo for a newly established SB and at the EMPIRICA ICT College in Tuzla to promote IEEE activities.
- Student representatives’ participation in regional IEEE events: ZEC Energy conference in Zagreb Croatia, 2-4 December 2016, PES SBC University of Sarajevo representatives attended

Section Vitality

- INDEL 2016 Banja Luka organized by University of Banja Luka and Joint PELS/IAS Chapter - first time conference proceedings included in the IEEEExplore important for attracting new members
- BIHTEL 2016 organized by University of Sarajevo and ComSoc Chapter. The symposium has significant participation from industry.
- Organized Section elections using vtools for the first time, and also elections for the PES Chapter Officers.
- Bringing DLPs with new and interesting topics

IEEE in Africa

Region 8 could bring some important IEEE events to Africa (meetings, conferences, congresses, training) and also provide support for students and YPs to attend these events.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

To promote ISGT-Europe 2018 Conference that will be held in Sarajevo.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Participated in 45 anniversary celebration for Serbia and Montenegro Section in Belgrade jointly with representatives from Croatia and Macedonia Sections (TELFOR November 2016).
- Joined PES initiative in reviving PES Chapter in Serbia and Montenegro Section and attended PES workshop organized in Belgrade November 2016 at MEDPOWER conference. BH YPAG Chair and student representatives delivered lectures on IEEE activities in BH.
- First Life Member in our Section.
- Planning for Senior member elevations.
- Technical co-sponsorship for the CMBEBIH 2017 (March2017) in co-operation with the national Association for Engineering in Medicine and Biology. Prominent participation of students from the EMBS SBC University of Sarajevo.
- PES Chapter representatives attended Chapter Chairs training at the ISGT Europe on 9th of October
- Both our PES and PES SC chapter received the PES Awards (monetary awards) for their high performing activities (PES HPCA) in 2016 (PES Chapter was 1st in R8, PES SC was 2nd on global level)

Bulgaria Section

Kiril Alexiev

Getting Closer to Industry

Up to now we could not find a successful approach to improve our relations with the Industry besides trying hard to recruit new IEEE members. Since most of our volunteers are from the academia, it is very difficult for us to find out what can we do for the Industry. In fact there are not so many benefits of IEEE products to members from the industry besides the access to IEEE publications. Thus we have not very attractive offers to the Industry managers and the meetings of the Section officers with higher level industrial executives are not productive enough. And as the fields of interest of different IEEE Societies are corresponding to specific industrial branches, we try to engage our chapters in building relations with these branches. Unfortunately, our members from the industry are very reluctant to participate in our activities, especially as volunteers. Our recent efforts were to identify colleagues from industry who would agree to serve as section and chapter officers. Such officers will naturally build and strengthen the connections with the Industry. We have already one appointed officer, two Chapter Chairs and two Vice-Chairs from the Industry.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- To have a successful Student branch, it is necessary to have motivated Student Branch Counselor and several motivated and enthusiastic student members. Recently it is getting more and more difficult to find both. There are no volunteers for the counselor positions and we have problems in recruiting new student members as our students are not attracted by the IEEE membership benefits available in our country. Thus we have now only one really active Student Branch thanks to its Counselor Prof. Bedzev. He is now a Student Activities Officer and we expect from him to reactivate the other branches. We are expecting a considerable help from the YP AG in our efforts to increase the student membership and to re-activate some dormant Student Branches. The group is very motivated to organize different activities for students support and for social networking.
- Our Young Professionals Activity Group is quite new, but it is already well established and has a very active organizational life. There is a strong core of YP members, who are well networked, the officers are strongly motivated and they are organizing very successful events.

Section Vitality

- Our continuous efforts for preparation of the membership renewal and membership fees collection and transferring of more than half of our members are the best activity to drive the vitality and sustainability in the Section. These activities, together with all the year-end reporting, are taking several months of the ExCom officers, but this is the only way to retain a considerable part of our members. Our efforts produced good results last year and it was recognized with a Silver Retention Banner Award for meeting our retention goal for the 2016 membership year. We hope we shall have the same results this year.
- We are trying very hard to make our units following the rules about the terms of service and organizing elections according to these rules. The proper turnover of the officers is of crucial importance for the vitality of the organization. Last year we have succeeded to revitalize several almost dormant chapters by taking the entire initiative in organization elections of their committees - from nomination to the voting procedures - and thus our section met 2016 with all level officers newly elected or re-elected.

IEEE in Africa

We think that Region 8 is making enough to help our African colleagues in their efforts to establish new sections and strengthen them. Unfortunately there are many countries with a very low number of IEEE members and the only way to organize some IEEE units seems to be to start with joint sections or sub-sections, including members from several neighboring countries.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Before trying to define what services and support we expect out of the new Office in Vienna, we need to know the reasons behind the establishing of this new Office and the reasons to close the similar Office we had 10 or 15 years ago in Brussels.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- In 2016 we had for first time five IEEE Approved conferences in our country and the Section was doing its the best to help the publicizing and the organization of these events.
- Our Section is co-sponsoring or endorsing 7 more conferences. We are stimulating organizers to apply for IEEE Registration and we help them in the preparation of the applications and the Memorandums of Understanding.
- Bulgaria Section has a long tradition in maintaining good relations with the local National Science & Technology Societies. The three agreements between IEEE and the National Union of the Electronics, Electrical and Communication Engineers, National Union of Automation and Informatics and the Federation of the Science & Technology Unions in Bulgaria have been regularly resigned. Last year we have implemented the changes to the National Society Agreement process and we have prepared and re-signed all Agreements and Supplements. We found that the addition of Supplements was very beneficial for all the parties and we shall renew them every year.
- We are trying to motivate our members to apply for an IEEE Senior membership, but the interest towards such elevation is low even when some colleagues are nominated by the ExCom.

Croatia Section

Maja Matijasevic

Getting Closer to Industry

- Industry members were interested in IEEE activities that provided opportunities to share achievements, learn about other business' success stories, and to learn about top students and their projects.
- Developing industry relations and increasing the number of IEEE industry members is complex, and it requires dedicated resources and support from all IEEE organization levels. Industry Relations' activities require a "customized" approach for each Section, since the activities depend on significant local industry branches, existing links between IEEE Section and the industry, and the opportunities that Section can provide to local industry peers.
- Section should encourage establishing a team of IEEE volunteers dedicated to the goal of identifying and implementing projects that benefit IEEE and the local industry. IEEE and the Region should support these efforts by dedicating budgets for Industry Relations projects and providing a platform for sharing ideas and success stories between coordinators.
- There were no significant changes in membership share of industry professionals and their involvement in IEEE activities.
- We will continue improving IEEE visibility through collaboration with local industry associations and develop connections with local start-up ecosystem to attract young companies that can benefit from access to international IEEE network and knowledge.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

There are several activities related to attracting and supporting Future Members that work well in our Section:

- Student branches organize lectures that present "success stories" from local companies. Such lectures give students an opportunity to informally network with industry representatives and to learn about future employment opportunities. - IEEE Elevate program is a unique program, introduced by the IEEE Croatia Section Young Professionals (YP) affinity group back in 2013. Elevate consists of informative events, featuring guest speakers who share their views, experiences and success stories in various IEEE-related areas of interest, aiming to inspire and motivate students and young engineers to advance their careers. Elevate events are organized in an informal environment (such as local cafes), and present a great opportunity for networking.
- The annual Students and Young Professionals (SYP) congresses are great tool for team building, which enables smooth transition from Student to YP status for volunteers. The Croatian Student and Young Professionals congress (CroSYP) is organized in a different city each year, with the support of the Croatia Section, the local student branch, and the local university. CroSYP events encourage networking among student members, and provide a great venue for exchange of best practices and ideas.

Section Vitality

Our success is the result of the continuous work of our Section officers/coordinators as well as the vitality of our chapters, affinity groups and student branches. We take special care of timely annual reporting of officers, meetings and finances to be eligible for the bonus. The activities / programs / initiatives that work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in our Section include:

- meetings, workshops and conferences;
- cooperation of students and young professionals;
- Pre-University education and STEM programs;
- section awards;
- section annual meeting/dinner.

To improve Section vitality and sustainability volunteers train themselves using the IEEE supporting material and programs. From the Region we expect help/guidelines and workshops for Section volunteers to improve Section operation and vitality. To foster Section vitality in our Section we will follow our current best practices:

- taking care of members;
- member retention and recruitment;
- recruitment and training of new volunteers;
- cooperation of Section units
- organizing meetings and workshops
- inviting Distinguished Lecturers;
- celebrating the IEEE Day;
- organizing IEEE conferences;
- sponsoring local conferences;
- section awards;
- organizing Pre-University education and STEM programs;
- publishing the Section Newsletter;
- involving members from industry.

IEEE in Africa

We currently have no specific recommendations for fostering IEEE in Africa.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- The Croatia Section currently has no need for staff support from the new IEEE office in Vienna.
- We expect administrative and financial support to be provided for the Region 8.
- We propose that the new office serve as a EU-based distribution point for IEEE membership development and promotional material (such as MD Meeting and Event Kit), as well as IEEE products (such as stationery, banners, plaques, pins and certificates), which are currently shipped all the way from the USA. Shipping these products to Europe by sea (and customizing them locally, if/when needed) would significantly reduce the delivery time for Sections based in Europe (and, possibly, other geographically near countries). Further on, for the EU-countries, distribution from Vienna would also obviate the additional delay (and, sometimes, hassle) related to standard customs clearance procedures required for international shipments from non-EU countries.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Special achievements include:

- University of Zagreb IEEE Student Branch received the “IEEE Region 8 Exemplary Student Branch Award” for outstanding results in the academic year 2015/16
- The IEEE Power and Energy Society Croatia Chapter received the “High Performing Chapter Program Award” in 2016, based on 2015 performance
- The joint IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society and IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Croatia Chapter (AES/GRSS) received a plaque from the GRSS Chair, Dr. Kamal Sarabandi
- IEEE Croatian Section Newsletter, No. 3, was issued in November 2016

Anniversaries:

- University of Rijeka IEEE Student Branch celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2016

Cyprus Section

Nicos Michaelides

Getting Closer to Industry

The IEEE Cyprus Section supports the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8 in order to rejuvenate IEEE's involvement with the industry and develop strong working partnerships between IEEE and industry companies. The IEEE Cyprus Section in 2016 has already signed MOU agreements for internship programs with 10 big companies from the telecom, energy and computer sectors and has secured 50 internship positions for our student and YP members.

The Certificates of Appreciation issued by the IEEE Region 8 for Cypriot companies that participated in Acton for Industry during 2016 and their respective company champions will be presented in an industry to be organized during Q2 of 2017. IEEE Cyprus Section is in contact with the companies for the 2017 internship programs and.

IEEE Cyprus Section will investigate the possibility to participate in the biggest Information Technology and Telecoms industry event that is organized in Cyprus (Infocom 2017). Industry experts will also invited in IEEE local events.

The SBs of the IEEE Cyprus Section will organizing educational visits to big companies like Electricity Authority of Cyprus, Satellite Earth Stations, Seawater Desalination Plants etc.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The IEEE Cyprus Section will continue sponsoring events, activities, competitions and seminars, related to new technologies and other issues that are for the interest of the student society, organized by the student branches in cooperation with their universities. The implementation of internship and mentoring programs through the Action for Industry Initiative will provide value to students and young professionals. Through internship they will be able to acquire working experience and opportunities for future employment.

Section Vitality

Since vitality is one of the three focus areas of Region 8, it is also of high priority for IEEE Cyprus Section. For the next period we are planning the following activities:

- Create an action plan with each student branch, affinity group and chapter.
- Legal Registration of IEEE Section
- Update our website <http://iee.org.cy/>
- Keep metrics related to membership development. Contact deactivated members and ask them to renew.
- Communicate with people that could be potential IEEE members to convince them to join IEEE.
- Organize the annual event for membership recruitment.
- Organize seminars and workshops for our members.
- Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) - organize workshops in high schools
- The IEEE Section will continue supporting the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8.

IEEE in Africa

There are several conferences on electrical and electronic engineering and information technology organized in Europe. The IEEE R8 could sponsor the participation of students and young professionals from Africa to these events. The IEEE R8 could also provide support and training to volunteers from Africa in order to coordinate activities and organize events in Africa. Furthermore, professors and industry experts from other area can be encouraged and sponsored to participate in IEEE events that will be organized in Africa.

The IEEE Cyprus section will investigate the possibility to sponsor the participation of a number students and young professionals from Africa in Energycon 2018.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

The staff of IEEE Office in Vienna could implement regional activities and strategic initiatives and objectives of the R8. For example, it will be very useful for the whole IEEE R8 if the IEEE Office in Vienna could provide professional support for the organization of conferences and other events in the region.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Outstanding new initiative: In 2016 the IEEE Cyprus Section made a bid for the organization of the IEEE International Energy Conference ENERGYCON 2018 in Cyprus. In December 2016 the IEEE R8 Opcom assigned the organization of the R8 flagship conference to the IEEE Cyprus Section. Important dates of the conference:

- First call for papers: March 2017
- Full paper submission: 15 October 2017
- Deadline for workshops/tutorial proposals: 1 October 2017
- Notification of acceptance: 15 February 2018
- Camera-ready papers: 1 March 2018
- Registration starts: March 2018
- Conference dates: 3-7 June 2018

Special achievements: IEEE Cyprus Section organized in October 2016 two TISP workshops for school teachers and participated in Region 8 TISP week. The workshops were under the auspices of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus and supported by the European University Cyprus (EUC). A total of 60 Informatics and Technology & Design Secondary Education teachers were participated and two representative lesson plans were performed one for Computing and one for Engineering. The workshops were supported by a team of students from the IEEE Cyprus Section Student Branches. The Cyprus Section is planning to organize TISP workshops in Secondary Education in cooperation with school teachers (2Q 2017)

Czechoslovakia Section

Matej Pacha

Getting Closer to Industry

Some companies gave us positive feedback on the Action for Industry. However, the implementation process is always blocked somewhere in the company. We will keep trying and pushing this activity since it's a great opportunity for a win-win situation. The IEEE Czechoslovakia section is considered to be more academic oriented, but since our ExCom's number of industry people has increased, we do believe our relation to Industry will get stronger.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Our most effective way of attraction and support of potential members is done by our university colleagues. Student contests and support brings annually more than 1% increase in membership. The section is supporting over 20 conferences, 30 lectures and 5 contests every year, which increases our visibility and the great value of the IEEE membership.

This year we have approved more than 5k USD support for student conferences, workshops and lectures. With a help of commercial sponsors, the scale of these activities will be significant and attractive to all participants.

Section Vitality

The section is doing well and stable in terms of the membership numbers. Thanks to the rules for technical co-sponsorship (TPC of the conference with a certain percentage of IEEE members), the number of professional members has increased. Another reason is that Slovakia has canceled the institutional Xplore membership for universities, which motivated academia to go for individual memberships.

Since the last meeting, when we reported low volunteer numbers, former student branch leaders have started to work for the Section. It is a great example of continuity and involvement.

IEEE in Africa

We are not very familiar with the situation in Africa in details. However, our section will welcome anyone from Africa who is interested in our activities and processes.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We do not have any particular expectations. We believe the delay caused by the time-zones between Region 8 and Piscataway will vanish.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

In 2017, our section celebrates 25th anniversary. We are finalizing the celebration program and we share the invitation soon. We would like to emphasize growing cooperation between students and young professionals, which will lead to a series of events this year. Such cooperation is based on the example of Region 8 SAC & YP cooperation.

Denmark Section

Troels Bundgård Sørensen

Getting Closer to Industry

The membership numbers for the Denmark section are relatively stable, although many members mainly subscribe to IEEE in order to access the IEEE periodicals. That includes a fair amount of members in industry. The section has a challenge to engage those members to increase the overall activity level. The Distinguished Lecturer Program DLP has recently, and in the past, created much interest, and we believe this is one solution. Also we have two very active chapters whose activities give clear opportunity to Danish industry; in 2016 one of the chapters co-organised the European Control Conference, ECC16, thus creating an opportunity to get abreast with the latest developments, despite limited travel budgets in industry.

As a new initiative, the section committee will attempt to establish direct liaison with a member from the Danish technological service industry, hoping that their contacts will give a good overview of industry trends and activities, and their interests and wishes. The member will be invited for the section ExCom meetings.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Our main objectives are to revitalise Student Sections at both Aalborg University (AAU) and Denmark Technical University (DTU), to actively support chapters and to either revitalise or dissolve dormant chapters. Initiatives have been taken at AAU to form a new student branch, and the same is expected at DTU soon.

Student Paper Contests (SPCs) and the upcoming Student Branch Congress are among the “teasers” we will use to get young professionals joining our section.

The main priority in the section is to have more active rather than more members.

Section Vitality

For now 4 years, the Denmark Section has been severely restricted in its activities by limited access to our local bank account. Despite repeated attempts to transfer executing powers from past to present treasurer we have still not succeeded.

Our current bank situation makes things very difficult, as financial support to all activities such as Student Branches, Chapters and local DLP expenses are impossible for the time being. To get this issue solved is therefore the single most pressing issue for the Danish section.

One approach to somewhat relieve the situation has been to approach the Danish Engineering Association IDA, probing their interest for joint professional activities like joint seminars. Experiences from joint IEEE/IDA seminars in the past shows clearly that by turning up in high numbers, IDA members show they have an interest in such seminars with speakers from both academic research and industry. It is clear that IEEE here has a distinctive advantage towards IDA and Industry in general, although members of the current IDA management has hesitated in working with IEEE.

IEEE in Africa

The section committee has not discussed the issue so far.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Disseminate ideas and suggestions for improving industry relations, steering section vitality, etc. based on the overview of activities within the region. Maybe even compile a catalog or manual for such.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Egypt Section

Samir I. Shaheen

Getting Closer to Industry

Industry linkage with students and Education to foster innovation, collaboration with Industry:

- 1) EED 2017 (Egyptian Engineering Day) which is an annual exhibition that host graduation projects from 42 engineering schools all over Egypt. We have more than 300 Projects and expect more than 10,000 attendees. Industry partners sponsors the event and participate in the activities.
- 2) MIE 2017 (Made in Egypt) will be held in the same location and time as EED. This is an effort to make students and industry collaborate in making a new product and it is a competition held since 2005. We have 45 registered projects until now.
- 3) Future City Program allows high school student to understand Engineering by collaborating in designing smart and future cities.
- 4) Upper Egypt in Action (March 2017) conference and projects exhibition that outreach remote universities in Upper Egypt area, the qualified projects has the right to present their work in EED 2017.
- 5) Long term yearly cooperation with Vodafone Egypt & NTRA (National Telecommunication Regulator) to support IEEE Young Professionals & Student activities in Egypt.
- 6) Vodafone offers internship opportunities for IEEE students and fresh graduate members.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Several conferences / Seminars / workshops have been performed in 2016 and planned for 2017. These include Egypt section sponsorship of scientific conferences with industry linkage in the ICT domain and beyond. All conferences allow for IEEE members / student members attendance a reduced fee and publishing papers in IEEE Xplore. These include the following:

- 1) 2016 28th International Conference on Microelectronics (ICM), Cairo, Egypt, Dec 2016.
- 2) 2016 26th International Conference on Computer Theory and Applications (ICCTA), Alexandria, Egypt, October 2016.
- 3) 2016 12th International Computer Engineering Conference, Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University, December 2016.
- 4) RST 2016, International Workshop on Recent Advances in Robotics and Sensor Technology for Humanitarian Demining and Counter-IEDs, Cairo, Egypt, October 2016.
- 5) 2017 Eighth International Conference on Intelligent Computing and Information Systems (ICICIS), Ain Shams University, Cairo Egypt, December 2016.
- 6) 2017 International Conference on Advances in Mechanical Design and Manufacturing (MDP), Cairo University, Egypt, December 2017.
- 7) 2017 13th International Computer Engineering Conference, Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University, December 2017.
- 8) 2017 34th National Radio Science Conference (NRSC) Academy of Science, Egypt, March 2017.
- 9) 2016 11th International Conference on Computer Engineering & Systems (ICCES), Ain Shams University, December 2016.

Section Vitality

Several activities attract members, YP, and student members. These can be summarized as:

- Activity in the student branches and events made during EED, MIE, Scientific conferences.
- Industry relations with ICT companies, industrial seminars, and workshops.
- Newsletter of the Egypt Section.
- Mailing list for all members and volunteers that include activities and new announcements.
- Encouraging member to apply for senior member elevation.
- attracting new members during conferences sponsored by the section.

We have a problem in the Fellow elevation since we do not have enough fellows to support the applications of our senior scientists.

IEEE in Africa

IEEE in Africa should concentrate in regional cooperation in conferences, workshops. Attending successful events in different sections in Africa will improve the performance of the whole Africa sections.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

IEEE office in Vienna should operate as a focal point for R8 sections and can be a catalyst for cooperation between R8 sections. It should facilitate the training of volunteers and provide training material, conference support, and the dissemination of member development material. It should also provide technology trend follow-up and standards of help to Region 8.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Egypt Section is planning a new initiative for:

- 1) Helping successful projects in their quest for knowledge and research material.
- 2) Provide workshops and seminars on Small business needs and start-ups.
- 3) Promote with the government to incubate successful projects of graduating students who participate in EED and MIE.
- 4) Promote the importance of Engineering Management and Management of technology in the industry and education institutes.
- 5) Encourage Universities to adopt the different educational material made available by IEEE (e.g. ELearning courses, standards, Conferences, etc.).

- 6) Promote the curricula development material made available by IEEE for educational program development in Computer Engineering B.Sc. and Computer Science B.Sc., which is published every 5 years.

Estonia Section

Peeter Ellervee

Getting Closer to Industry

Thanks to the Industrial Relations officer, contacts with the national industry associations are good and information exchange about various events is working well. However, the industry people still do not feel to receive enough from being IEEE member. On the other hand, DL topics last year happened to be attractive also to industry. The traditional summer seminar in August will bring together both industrial and academic members of the section. Presentations at the seminar are from both groups and of interest for all.

A new industry oriented joint chapter have been created - IA/PE/RA (Industry Applications/Power & Energy/Robotics and Automation) was approved Dec. 14, 2016. The petition to form IE/PEL (Industrial Electronics/Power Electronics) was started in the end of 2016 (approved in February 2017).

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Student activity is increasing and WIE of Student branch of TUT has been very active. One of the reasons seem to be the increasing number of foreign students at universities. On the other hand, this also points out the need to make IEEE more visible to students with local background. One of the possible ways would be to do this through industry because many of the students are working already.

Students participate actively at IEEXtreme. The section is covering the fee for those students the first time are enrolling to IEEE to take part of competition. However, not all students renew their membership.

Students are participating at section's events. Their representatives are present at ExCom meetings and we are continuously ready to listen them, to advice and to support as much as possible.

Section Vitality

IEEXtreme is still the largest one-event source of new members but not all of them will continue their membership. The interest for senior membership status exists but is one that should be improved.

To show the section and its activity, students and industry have been informed about upcoming events, especially about DL events. This will help to show benefits of IEEE membership especially for PhD students.

The member count continues to grow slowly. One way to increase that is closer contacts with industry. This has been in place for more than a year now but it will take more time see results, probably.

IEEE in Africa

Since there are many students from Africa studying at universities in Europe, what can be done for Africa is to inform the students about IEEE and membership benefits.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Estonia Section supported technically or through members in committees four conferences that were held in Estonia during 2016 - ReCoSoC, CyCON, VLSI-SoC, BEC.
- Actions to form two joint chapters of industry related societies.
- Anniversary Summer seminar and General Assembly on Aug. 19-20, 2016 - IEEE Estonia Section became 10 years old.
- New Senior Members.

Finland Section

Toni Mattila

Getting Closer to Industry

- We are closely engaged with the IEEE Action for Industry initiative and through our Section Industry Ambassadors, we reach out to local industries.
- IEEE as a whole should be able to serve its industrial members better by creating better value for their membership.
- The number of industrial contacts has increased substantially.
- We continue our engagement with the IEEE Action for Industry initiative.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The academic institutions actively seek to engage with IEEE and organize a number of seminars and conferences that are open to our members. Finland Section is also seeking to engage in collaborative relations with other societies with similar focus in order to provide more benefits to the members of IEEE in the Section. One example of such activity is the collaboration with the local branch of the Institute of Physics with whom we are planning jointly organized seminars and shared events. Finland Section is also supporting its Technical Chapters to with their counterparts in other Section in the Nordics. Chapters of the IEEE/CPMT society are a good example: they merged together to form a Nordics-wide joint chapter and now together organize a technical conference & exhibition that is planned to travel from one destination to another within the Nordic states. In the past Finland Section has had very active SYP groups but this activity is withering despite of our active efforts to find new people to carry on the tradition.

Section Vitality

Our membership-numbers are relative stable but in order to stay vital the Finland Section needs members that are more active. We seek to engage new members by inviting them to events and volunteer participation. We support our less active technical chapters to initiate new activities and encourage the more active ones to expand their activities and make them visible beyond the current members in the hopes to engage new people and new members. We have been quite successful in engaging new members but this activity should be made continuous.

IEEE in Africa

Look in the existing activities among the different Sections, try to identify models/ideas that work and apply them in practice.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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France Section

Frédérique Vallée

Getting Closer to Industry

- Activities of our Section:
 - European project on entrepreneurship refused but well evaluated
 - Dissemination of events on the site and on LinkedIn
 - Identification of important subjects (specific seminar organizations)
 - “Non-destructive testing for predictive maintenance”, Serge Dos Santos
 - “System Systems”, Pierre Dersin
 - Work with Region 8 to create an “IEEE industry Initiative”
- Changes are required in our Section to improve Industry Relations: nominate an efficient person in charge of this topic.

We were successful with the organization of 2 seminars. To foster Industry Relation is on my road map as newly elected President. I will work closely with SEE in France and with my personal industrial contacts.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- France Section is still very active with Student Branches vitality and will continue in the future.
- France Section membership is regularly increasing every year.
- We want to better use IEEE means such as: Webinars, IEEE TV, Affinity Groups YP, Job Opportunities, Career Alerts, ...

Section Vitality

- France Section vitality is good. Our membership is regularly increasing every year.
- We also are very successful with our regular incentive to become a Senior Member.
- We want to better use IEEE means such as: MemberNet Directory, Collabratec Social Network, Webinars; IEEE TV, Affinity Groups WIE, Job Opportunities, Career Alerts

IEEE in Africa

- A lot of African engineers are trained in Europe. IEEE should use them as a vector to foster in Africa.
- We could recommend joined activities between French and African chapters.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Continue helping us the improve the relationship with Industry
- Help us in the submission of European Research projects

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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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.

Ghana Section**Eric Kuada****Getting Closer to Industry**

Majority of our members have traditionally been from industry with rather relatively few faculty members. Collaboration with industry partners has however not been very successful.

Organizing relevant workshops that target employees of specific industries have been quiet effective last year.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We have over the past two years been organizing the IEEE Ghana Section research seminar series that is held in collaboration with the various university in the country. This serves as publicity for the Section and attract new members.

Reduction in membership dues will go along way to increase membership and also retain old members.

Section Vitality

The Quarterly Research Seminar Series and doing well to bring more conferences to the country will improve on the section vitality.

We are in the process of setting up a committee for student project competition. This will serve as a reverse job search for recent graduates and also increase the publicity and popularity of IEEE in Ghana

IEEE in Africa

We will continues to take active part in the IEEE Africa virtual conferences.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Not sure yet.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

PowerAfrica2017 Conference: The IEEE-Ghana Section will be hosting the Power and Energy Society flagship Conference "PowerAfrica", in Ghana. The PowerAfrica2017 conference will be held 27th to 30th June, 2017 at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA).

Greece Section

Athanasios Kakarountas

Getting Closer to Industry

A series of activities are followed in Greece Section to get Section members closer to industry:

- A series of lectures are given based on the following initiatives and programs
 - DLP
 - Participation to the Action for Industry initiative of IEEE
- Students get to know industry operations through Field / Educational Trips (thanks to Student Branches and IAS Chapter)
- Section supported as community sponsor/partner events of other organizations that are industry-oriented.
- The activities of the Section were recognized by IEEE Region 8, being a co-recipient Section for the success of the “Action for Industry initiative”
- Members get more opportunities to find their position in industry through job posting in our media of information (e.g. LinkedIn, website etc.) and promotion of job fairs.
 - An international DLP with industry originated lecturers would be interesting and is required not only for keeping our members updated, but also for initiating collaborations and business networks.
 - The Section is exploring the possibility for participating an Incubation program and mentoring/consulting services for young researchers and engineers in Greece.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

There is a significant number of activities that take place in the Section to Attract and Support Future Members:

- Excellence, collaboration and creativity are supported by contests:
 - Student contests
 - Maker fairs and shows
 - Promotion of IEEE R8 contests and awards
- Network of collaborations
 - Strategic collaborations of IEEE Student Branches (e.g. TISP events)
 - Preparation of the Hellenic SYP 2017
 - Social Media Networking (via Publicity Chair)
- Participation as sponsor/supporters of local conferences and scientific events.

Some changes that are required by IEEE/the Region/ Section to better Attract and Support Future Members, are the following:

- Offer more opportunities for networking in R8
- Provide access to a number of services by IEEE for students and Young professionals

The Section has supported the SBs and YP AfG to attract Future Members

- Support of Section’s Student Branches
 - Role allocation to Student Branch Officers
 - TISP events across Greece
 - SB’s workshops
- Support of YP AfG
 - Offer financial support for reviving the AfG

The Section continues to support Students and Young Professionals

- Support of new SB’s and YP AfG events with lecturers and sponsorship
- New officers are trained by experienced past officers through a new training program offered every two years in Hellenic SYP

Section Vitality

- Awareness
 - Website
 - Social media
 - Lectures in technical events
- Initiatives
 - SIGHT
 - EPIC
 - Action for Industry
 - promotion of TISP to the local education Community
- Summits
 - Section summits
 - SB summits
- Young officers’ development
 - YP and SB Officers assigned active roles in Section

IEEE in Africa

The Section can offer collaboration via its OUs to other OUs in Africa. Twinning is suggested as the best practice.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

The IEEE office in Europe should consider porting all benefits that are provided to the rest members to the members residing in Region 8. Also, the office may serve as the bureau of the IEEE members in Europe and participate in think tanks and committees regarding the science and research in EU.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The Section has received numerous recognitions for its participation to Professional, Industrial and Educational Activities initiatives

Hungary Section

Levente Kovacs

Getting Closer to Industry

- The IES/RAS Hungary Chapter and IEEE SMC Hungary Chapter initiated various activities to better involve the industry in current activities. This was supported by the ongoing reform of university education curriculum, renewing or creating new, more industrialized ones.
- We applied together with Hungarian companies to different RnD grants to the government. Chapter members initiated and participated in such successful initiatives in the field of medical robotics or medical image processing. An ERC StG highly innovative grant has been won. With respect to the multinational large companies present on the Hungarian market (Bosch, GE Healthcare, Sigma Technologies, Epam) chapter members are active in joint educational ventures designing special curricula shaped to the vendors' needs.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- The IEEE Hungary CS&C Joint Chapter organizes seminars and/or technical meetings, furthermore the members are encouraged to attend technical booths organized by mainly multinational companies.
- The IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society's flagship yearly conference (SMC2016) has been organized in Hungary, with more than 1000 participants.
- IEEE 20th Jubilee International Conference on Intelligent Engineering Systems (INES 2016), was held in June in Hungary.
- IEEE 15th IEEE International Symposium on Applied Machine Intelligence and Informatics (SAMI 2017), was held in January in Herlany, Slovakia.
- The local Young Professional Affinity group was established last year, and basic operations performed.
- The annual PhD Mini-Symposium (already the 23th) is always a success.
- Considering the usual shortage of the finances, the Region could be more instrumental in keeping the cost of the participation in the major IEEE conferences available to the PhD students in mass.
- We plan to re-install the regular scientific discussion
- PhD Mini-Symposium at the Dept. of Measurement and Information Systems of Budapest University of Technology and Economics became international in this year, and so international PhD/MSc students participated at this mini conference.

Section Vitality

- The section officers has been updated, Award Committee Officer position created.
- In seven of ten chapters and in the section new leadership was elected as it is written in the local bylaw.
- IEEE-HS formalized the information for her Chapters about the necessary steps to organize successful IEEE events, conferences, etc.
- PhD student meetings is organized annually, attracting MSc students. Bringing the young researchers into the grants, and actively helping them to get young researcher grant, to publish.

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- The IEEE-HS Newsletter is renewed.
- IEEE HS Facebook group has been created.
- The Young Professionals in Hungary formed a new LinkedIn group.

Iceland Section**Thomas Philip Runarsson****Getting Closer to Industry**

We will continue fostering our Industry relation by working with Icelandic Association of Chartered Engineers (VFI). We are currently planning to organize a mini symposium in Iceland with some leading startups in hardware and software for medical applications.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Student competitions and supporting student projects. Short courses held by the student branch. This year we are working with the Engineering and Computer Science Departments at Reykjavik University in holding joint distinguished seminars series. We hope to attract future members through these joint meetings. At our last meeting Risto Miikkulainen gave a IEEE distinguished lecture, which was a great success.

Section Vitality

Close ties with academia, providing opportunities for high level technical presentations and joint events with engineering students. Good relations and cooperation with the national society. Balanced and close cooperation between members in academia and industry. The local branch has sponsored the Thirty-Second Annual ACM/IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS) to be held in Reykjavik 20-23 June 2017. The local chapter plans to assist in making it a great success.

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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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.

Israel Section**Yuval Beck****Getting Closer to Industry**

The Section has good relations with the local industry. We are initiating a new section in the local website for industry ads for students and by that educating both industries and future engineers that the IEEE is a good meeting point. We are planning new program for engaging IEEE to the industry and join in more practical engineering courses for undergraduate students. Also we had a biannual conference in November in which industry was very supportive and we had numerous attendees from the industry. The student section and young professionals are also engaging the industry in their meetings.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We have very active Students and Young Professionals. The Section involves them in most activities and supports fully all their events. They are organizing at least two conferences a year and attract many graduate as well as undergraduate students. They organize well known figures from the industry and act as ambassadors for attracting members to the IEEE. Moreover, the various conferences under the IEEE name also involve the publicity of IEEE to academic and industry professionals. The Section will definitely continue to support the Students and Young professionals.

Section Vitality

We feel that the biannual conference of the Section is a huge success in term of sustainability of the Section. In the last conference we had an increase of 50% in the number of attendees to the conference. We initiated a new format with professional symposiums which turned out to be very successful in attracting renowned engineers and scientists.

To increase the interest in the IEEE and the Section there should be more activities and publicity regarding the benefits of being a part of the organization.

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The biannual conference which took place in November 2016 was a great success. The conference name was changed to ICSEE – International conference on the Science of Electrical Engineering, and three full day symposiums were organized by volunteers: one on control and power the second on speech and the third on signal processing. All attracted many participants and there were over 80 participants from all over the world.

Italy Section

Tiziana Tambosso

Getting Closer to Industry

A proper Industry Relation Committee was formed in 2016. The coordinator of the Committee is a past-director of an important Semiconductor company, other two members of the committee are from industry and their contribution and experience is important to find the best way to strengthen the relations with industry.

Specific meetings with individual large industries are under way in 2017. For the second time, a special meeting with industries will be organized at IEEE-RTSI Sept. 2017 (Modena). Moreover an event on innovative enterprises will be organized in Modena together with three panels in which industry and university representatives are requested to discuss on future strategies in the fields of: Industry 4.0, smart mobility and smart healthcare.

A new award of Italy Section was introduced for recognizing an IEEE member from industry, see:

<http://sites.ieee.org/italy/industrial-distinguished-lecturer-award/>. In Modena a Special Exhibition with innovative start up and University spin-offs is organized. Cooperation with Italian District of Industries in Modena (Confindustria and Democenter) is established. Best practice are exchanged with UK and Ireland Section.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The Student Activity Committee of Italy Section continues its activity to:

- revitalize inactive Student Branches (starting from SB with high number of IEEE students)
- start new SB (one is under way)
- start new SBC (three new SBC were approved, others are under way)
- organize the annual meeting with SB during IEEE RTSI 2017
- introduce an Exemplary Student Branch Award (<http://sites.ieee.org/italy/exemplary-student-branch-award/>)
- enrich the content of the new web site for SB with useful information and links

During the annual meeting of the Italy Section RTSI is it offered an important opportunity to young graduated and PhD student to be on the stage showing their advancement in the field. Posters and Demo are scheduled and also a YP demo competition (see: <http://rtsi2017.ieeesezioneitalia.it/Young%20Professional%20event.pdf>)

Section Vitality

- A committee for the membership development was established.
- A survey was circulated among the members asking for suggestions (the comments received from members were considered and actions taken).
- During each event organized by the Section a special place is dedicated to the IEEE membership information.
- An award committee was established. New awards for chapters, volunteers, distinguished industry members, Student branches, students and YP were created.
- The section contributes to give visibility to the IEEE world and to increase the interest to become IEEE member through thematic workshops, tutorials, interdisciplinary conferences, IEEE Schools for PhD students.
- The synergy between the Section chapters is strongly stimulated.
- The Chapter best practice and the outstanding work of section members is specifically awarded.
- Chapters are encouraged to help members in their upgrade to senior member and fellow. Life Members are volunteering on this.
- the LM AG was revitalized and had its first meeting in December 2016. - new website enriched with contents and important info for members, chapters, and AG is started
- A WIE AG has been approved and it is organizing its first meeting.
- A new committee on History was established

IEEE in Africa

Italy Section can offer special rate for participation of IEEE Africa Sections members to Italy Section events/workshops/conferences/schools
Cross-fertilization: Italy Section Distinguished lecturer can give their lectures at IEEE Africa Sections.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

IEEE Office in Vienna could give help:

- in the process of registering IEEE Italy Section as a juridical person.
- in case of fiscal problems

It should work to obtain new benefits for members like: discounts on flight tickets, discounts on SW packages,

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

IEEE awarded a Milestone to the invention of an innovative high-speed multiplier architecture by prof. Luigi Dadda in 1965. On 29 September 2016 the bronze plaque of this prestigious recognition was placed at the Politecnico of Milano with the participation of Barry L. Shoop, 2016 IEEE President, at the inaugural ceremony.

Jordan Section

Ghazi Al Sukkar

Getting Closer to Industry

The majority of Jordan Section members are from the academia and membership from industry is constantly low.

To foster the Industry relation we will continue to collaborate with our sister society, the Jordan Engineering Association (JEA), we are planning now to organize Amman Metro area workshop for the second time in July 2017 after the success of this workshop which was held in March 2016. The organization committee of this workshop will consist of representatives from many sectors in the industry.

We expect to get sponsorship for the section conference AEECT2017 from many local companies.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The Student Activities Coordinator and the Section Student Representative worked hard with the YP AG to organize great events that gather students with young professionals. A recent activity was sponsored by the section and was held at Jordan Engineering Association, in this event speakers from the industry interact directly with the students.

Section Vitality

The Section Annual Meeting will be held during next May. In this meeting the Section and Chapter Chairs will report about past year activities and their plans for 2017. A speaker from the industry will be invited to give a seminar on a subject of recent technology. A number of prizes and awards will be distributed during the event. Members present at the meeting will be invited to self-nominate for appointed voluntary officers/coordinator positions.

IEEE in Africa

Africa area should look for sponsorship for big regional event that gather the industry and the academia.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

To help in legalization the existence of IEEE offices in the different countries of Region 8.

To facilitate the mobility of the region 8 members between the different countries (Help in securing Visas, etc.).

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The AEECT2017 conference will be held in Aqaba in October 2017. The section technically co-sponsored a number of conferences.

Kenya Section

Humphrey Muhindi

Getting Closer to Industry

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to foster Industry Relations?

- Talks
- Public Lectures
- Exhibitions
- Opportunity for internships for student members

What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations?

- More effort on publicity of IEEE. Possibly IEEE could have a budget for some promotional activities to create greater awareness.

What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations?

- Securing in kind support for section activities by some corporate organisations
- Acceptance to collaborate with the section by several corporate organisations such as IBM, Philips
- Offer to provide internships by some corporate organisations.
- Establishment of a committee that leads industry engagement in the section.
- Going forward, as a section we will continue to engage industry further and develop collaborations of mutual benefit.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Activities
 - Having guest speakers with relevant topics for non-members. This helps attracts new members and in the process they are more likely to sign up for IEEE.
- Changes
 - Membership drives will help inform members about IEEE and it's benefits and let potential members know about the Kenya Section. This also helps potential members meet and know the Kenya section members.
- Successes
 - 3 Distinguished Lecture tours were organized that brought in new members fro the participants who attended.
- Support to Students, WIE and YP
 - By allowing students, WIE and young professionals to be more involved in the Kenya section activities and executing on their ideas and input.
 - Supporting their events financially and resource wise
 - Technical writing training in each of the institutions with student members to promote and encourage more SPC participation.
 - Support EPICS projects
 - Support formation of Student Branch Chapters at each accredited Engineering Institution in Kenya.
 - Section Excom met all Deans of Engineering to promote IEEE and got buy in to establish Student chapters and also enroll Faculty as IEEE members.

Section Vitality

- Activities
 - Guest speakers with relevant topics for members, educates and informs members on technologies.
 - Industry engagement with various practitioners.
 - Mentoring students to promote STEM among women and underserved communities.
 - Increased awareness and participation in humanitarian activities.
- Changes
 - Local guest speakers - highlights our local professionals and members can better relate.
 - Active representation of volunteers especially Africans in regional events.
 - Encouraging more volunteers to share their IEEE success stories and increased awareness on the same at regional level.
- Successes
 - Recognized by Region 8 for achieving Section Member Retention goals
 - Members are more engaged in IEEE Kenya as a result of the recent activities in student events and DLs.
 - Increased WIE membership at the section and we project increased membership especially through students.
 - More awareness of IEEE and collaboration with like-minded initiatives in Kenya.
 - Student membership tripled in the past year due to increased interest and participation in IEEEExtreme and Conferences
- Fostering section vitality involves finding activities that members can be involved in and get excited about.
- Enhancing member engagement by encouraging and assigning volunteer roles to more members to increase member participation.

IEEE in Africa

- Africa Area
 - Promote inter-Section activities or joint Section activities
 - Promote inter Section competitions in various IEEE events for Africa.
 - Chair to tour each Section to be known by members and promote the Africa
- Area agenda
 - Develop online communities and Social Media platforms for African Sections
- Section support to Africa Area
 - Promote and share its experiences with other Sections

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Increased support for Section activities through regular visits to interact and find out how well they can assist the Sections.
- Increased IEEE Membership development material support to Sections

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- New Initiatives
 - Formed volunteer committees to champion various activities in the Section
 - Formed the WIE Kenya AG and their subsequent collaboration with a leading Women in Technology Organisation in its activities.
 - Petitions in progress to form the Kenya Chapters of ComSoc and PES
 - Met with all Deans of Engineering in Kenya and agreed to partner with them in promoting IEEE at institutional level and establishing a Student Chapter in each.
- Special Achievements
 - 3 DL Tours held last year
 - 2 Virtual Conferences held last year.
 - Hosted an IEEE SA delegation who held discussion with Industry and relevant Standardization bodies in the country.
 - Looking forward to hosting the 3 presidents who will be on an Industry Outreach to Kenya this May

Kuwait Section

Fadhel Abulhasan

Getting Closer to Industry

Strong Relationship with Kuwait Industrial Union to get the benefits from their experience, in addition to promote IEEE within the industry in the State of Kuwait. Get links with universities, Students and the Industrial Union in Kuwait. Arrange Student gatherings with major industry personnel to share Ideas and get some sponsorship.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) Holding some Knowledge Cafe for the Students and Faculty Members in Different Universities.
- 2) Participating with Young Member Engineers in Technical Workshops and Seminars.
- 3) Kuwait section shall select some of the Student Graduation Projects from different local Universities, to compete with GCC Students during the 9th IEEE GCC Conference to be held in Bahrain May 2017, IEEE Kuwait Section shall cover the cost of such Event.

Section Vitality

Kuwait Section using the Section Vitality Dashboard to Educate the Members, specially the officers, in the Local Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches. Continue with different Groups to get the Members acquainted with the Dashboard.

IEEE in Africa

Kuwait Section could delegate some Member Volunteers to Participate in Meeting and Seminars to promote IEEE in African Countries.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Kuwait Section could delegate some Member Volunteers to Participate in Meeting and Seminars to get more Knowledge on the European Office operation.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Wish the Success to the 108th IEEE R8 Meeting to be held in Stockholm, Sweden.

Latvia Section

Andrejs Romanovs

Getting Closer to Industry

- The nature of industry in Latvia (mostly SMEs, does not value IEEE very high, especially if they are not involved in research or scientific activities, thus they do not support workers to be members of IEEE or any other large professional union) negatively affect the number and enthusiasm of industrial members.
- Latvia Section fostering Industrial Relations working with industry through industrial associations (e.g., Latvian Information Technology and Telecommunications Association, Association of Latvian Electrical Engineering and Electronics Enterprises) as well as through personal contacts of IEEE members in industry, pointing both local and international as well as industrial and academic nature of IEEE in Latvia.
- Section establishing new relations with industry through IEEE student/graduate student and PHD students, who are working in industry.
- Section invites speakers from industry at local IEEE events
- IEEE members and students are invited to different local industrial exhibitions and event

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Students and Young Professional are involved in all major activities of Section and Chapters, incl. planning and organization.
- 3-5 conferences and summer schools are organized yearly for IEEE and non-IEEE students and YP free of charge.
- Students participation in SYP Congresses are always supported by the Section, as well as participation in local and international contests, e.g. Student paper contest, IEEEExtreme programming contest.
- Organized regular students visits to industrial and research institutions and collaboration trainings for pre-university students in electrical engineering and computer applications.

Section Vitality

- Regular face-to-face ExCom meetings, planning Sections activities and special events, usually inviting students and guests
- Increasing efforts from chapters and societies to encourage students and young professionals
- Student competition programs, which provides IEEE student membership to awardees
- Co-sponsorship of scientific and popular events, like AIEEE Workshop, RTUCON, RTUWO, summer schools, with special IEEE prizes
- Direct mailing special events

IEEE in Africa

- Traveling grants for students and young professionals from African academia or industry.
- Invitation of speakers from Africa to our local events (free of charge or with special rate)
- Delegate Sections volunteers to African events (on-line too)

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Annual IEEE Latvian-Lithuanian Workshop on Advances in Information, Electronic and Electrical Engineering shows the continuous great success with its multidisciplinary scientific and research platform free of charge for students and young professionals.

Lebanon Section

Hadi Sawaya

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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Lithuania Section

Vytautas Urbanavicius

Getting Closer to Industry

Activities work well in Lithuania Section to foster Industry Relations: IEEE Lithuania Section (LS) is constantly mediates between Industry and Universities, assisting in the establishment of contacts, such as searching for employees, monitoring of study programs, counseling, organization of internship, etc.

Changes would be required:

- Membership Profiles (Statistics) of the R8 Sections should be analyzed and it is necessary to ask the Sections with a large number of IEEE members of the industry to share their good experiences.
- It is necessary to draw up a list of potentially interested companies in cooperation with IEEE LS.
- IEEE LS should examine R&D market in Lithuania.

Major successes:

- IEEE Lithuanian and Belarus Sections organized a joint 17-th workshop “Modern Microwave and Optoelectronics Systems”. Industry representatives participated at the workshop and were asked to renew their IEEE membership.

We are going to continue to foster Industry Relations:

- LS intends to invite representatives of the industry, coupled with the electronics and electrical engineering, to participate in social activities, which are organized by our Section.
- LS intends to promote the participation of industry in the exhibitions organized within the conference, supported by our Section.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Activities that work well (to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and YP):

- Organization of the annual contest “Best Master Thesis”.
- Co-sponsorship of annual Conference for Lithuania Junior Researchers.
- Series of technical meetings presenting frontiers of research in recently defended Doctoral Dissertations.

Changes would be required:

- It is necessary to draw up a detailed list of the benefits of being a student member of IEEE.

Major successes:

- The 4th joint Student Workshop “AIEEE’2016” of IEEE Latvia and Lithuania Section was held.
- MoU on the 3rd Open Conference of Electrical, Electronic and Information Sciences (eStream) and annual 17th Conference of Lithuania Junior Researchers “Electrical & Electronic Engineering” were signed.

Continue to support Students and YP:

- Prepare leaders to form IEEE Student Branch of Vilnius University. IEEE LS continues to support the YP representatives who work actively in the competition commission “Best Doctoral Dissertation in Lithuania” and advertise IEEE.
- IEEE LS supports YP representatives, leading educational work on behalf of IEEE among students and pupils.
- Searching sponsors for financial support of the IEEE Student membership.

Section Vitality

Activities that work well:

- The best volunteer of the year reward program.
- Regular face-to-face ExCom meetings preparing for and organizing all major events.
- Awarding or co-sponsoring visits of the best volunteers to workshops/congresses.
- Promotion of IEEE in carrying out such activities as “IEEE Day”, workshops/congresses and conferences.

Major successes:

- ExCom of IEEE Lithuania Section has organized elections of Chair of the IEEE Lithuania Computer Chapter and Chairs of the IEEE Student Branch of the Kaunas University of Technology.

Required changes:

- Section should complete the formation of IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group.
- It will be necessary to have more industry people in the board.

Lithuania Section must always take care of (continue to foster Section Vitality):

- Organizing elections using v-tools to engage more members in nomination and voting process.
- We could not realize our plan to increase the number of the Senior Members in IEEE LS.
- Constantly updating the [Facebook page](#) of the Section and the website: <http://ieee.lt/>.

We must not forget also:

- member retention and recruitment,
- recruiting of new volunteers,
- inviting distinguished lecturers,
- co-sponsoring of local and international conferences and
- involving members from industry.

IEEE in Africa

Lithuania Section encourage more active involvement of the competent representatives of the African countries in the working Committees of the IEEE R8.

Lithuania Section expect to invite and appoint a reduced registration fee for participation in conferences and workshops, supported by IEEE Lithuania Section, IEEE members from Africa.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Lithuania Section is hoping that the answers to questions that take into account the specifics of the IEEE R8, we will get much faster and more comprehensively of this new Office than from IEEE MGA Administration.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Lithuania Section has supported the initiative of the YP and Student Branch of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University to establish a “Foyer of the IEEE” at the Faculty of Electronics.

Malta Section

Conrad Attard

Getting Closer to Industry

Collaborate more with industry by providing them various opportunities to make use of IEEE resources. To achieve this we are Organizing Industrial Visits and preparing a study to know more of how we can get closer to the local industry.

We propose to change the way we reach out by collaborating with established local associations. A member of the core team is assigned to focus on industrial initiatives and the committee will be supporting the activities.

Currently Organising SPAC 2017 by supporting student branch in this yearly initiative.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Since January new members joined the IEEE Malta Section. The aim is to setup specific committees to address both local and international topics that are of interested to our members. We are participating in more events were both students and young professionals can take advantage of these. We identified 12 new events and we are currently sharing ideas on how to participate. We need to know more about what industry wants from IEEE and how we can be more relevant. To achieve this we are planning a study for local industry.

Since last meeting we setup a new sub committees with members who are participating actively in the section. We also improve the way we are organising the activities and commitment in existing sub committees.

We need to invest in the student branch and also plan to setup a new student branch by 2018. Young professionals can only succeed if they can meet and discuss with young professionals. As a section we will support these initiatives in various ways.

Section Vitality

We setup an IEEE Malta association. This will allow the section to access more resources from local government. With the support of more members we are reaching out to various events that will be of interest to the public and industry. We need more active members to be able to manage the activities we organise.

Science Communication training is important and contributes to the success of section. This will allow members organise successful events for schools and reach out to teachers through TISP program.

The formation of an active sub committee in women in engineering is a success since the last meeting. A number of events are organised and IEEE will be reaching out to women more effectively. Another success is attracting new members in the education activities team and yp sub committee.

We are organising visits

Constantly updating the Facebook page of the section: <https://www.facebook.com/ieemalta>. We are currently redesigning our website <http://www.ieemalta.org/>.

We are currently:

- 1) Collaboration with other engineering institution such as MGPEI: <http://www.maltagpei.org.mt>
- 2) Collaboration with NSTF and NSTS - [Malta Students Science Forum](#)
- 3) Organised [IEEE TISP week](#)
- 4) April 2nd we are organising a STEM Fair at a school.

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

-

Morocco Section

Mohammed El Mohajir

Getting Closer to Industry

Our section tailored different types of initiatives and activities when coming to fostering Industry Relations. With big companies like IBM, we have organized study days and local programming training and contests for our IEEE students who then participated to the national contest. Thanks to the good performance of our IEEE students, some of them got an internship. For SMEs, the involvement in our activities is more frequent and profound. One reason is because some of the SME managers are members of our section and are very much interested to be updated on IT related development.

During our last Excom meeting, we decided to invite members of our section who work in the industry to form a committee who will be responsible to manage the initiatives and the activities our section is putting forward. Our goal, in this continuing effort, is to involve our partners (big companies and SMEs) systematically in all conferences, workshops, contests we run during the whole year, and encourage their staff to become members of our section.

IEEE needs also to provide our Industry Ambassador with more tools to be able to measure the success of industry mission. This should be part of the IEEE vitality dashboard.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

A continuing education program run as a series of training sessions or workshops has a lot of interest to our members. Helping our members developing their skills up-to-date is a value that keep our members satisfied and encourage others to join.

IEEE needs to partner with technological firms like Oracle, SAP, Google and provide more opportunities to members to get involved in a kind of train-the trainer program to have more resources and experts who can meet the needs of the sections and local chapters.

We continue to support our students and YPs by providing them with the experts contacts that match their development needs and also funding to help them organize their events.

Section Vitality

We have run a nationwide IEEE caravan in 2016. We have been in more than six universities to explain the benefit of joining IEEE to students and professionals. We also asked each student branch to organize an IEEE event at the beginning of the academic year to welcome new students. Our MD officer has also provided the support for our section volunteers and guided to the program that best suits their goals (DLT, DVP, Maker Event). We have also encouraged our student chairs to attend R8 YP congress in Germany and another one in Tunisia. This has empowered them and gave them more confidence to conduct more efficient IEEE activities in their respective branches.

As a direct result for those fruitful collaboration, new student branches and a new affinity group were created, we have reached an unprecedented number of IEEE activities nationwide, and the number of members for our section has tripled by end of 2016. A performance that has been awarded. We will be working very closely with our most active volunteers who rose to the top and became a very valuable members. Our support for this category of motivated members will be key to foster section vitality.

IEEE in Africa

Our section is actively involved in the communication exchanged within the IEEE Africa network. Something that can be really helpful is to support financially the involvement of Africa key volunteers in activities carried out in various sections in Africa. This will boost cooperation for resolving specific issues and will lead to the implementation of new ideas on how to overcome the common existing barriers.

IEEE R8 is already providing this kind of support, but it is not enough.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Provide support for making our activities more visible in R8 and globally.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We have run for the first time our 10th IEEE Morocco Section Founding Anniversary Celebration and awarded our most active volunteers. This has a very big impact on encouraging new volunteers to step forward and lead on new initiatives.

We are also running social events, like the semi-marathon of Marrakesh. This very important for team building spirit and for our section branding.

Last but not least, we have almost completed the legal framework for the IEEE Morocco Section in Morocco.

Nigeria Section

Raphael Onoshakpor

Getting Closer to Industry

- The Nigeria Section works with the IEEE Action for Industry group via Region 8 and have a program in development. IEEE/Region 8 may provide more schemes aimed towards mentoring Students and young professionals.
- IEEE Nigeria Section has been able to secure collaboration with some private companies on industry and governmental agencies since the last meeting. -
- IEEE Nigeria Section intends to reach out to more organizations and industry professionals in order to expose the benefits of IEEE and expand its reach in our Locality.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- In the IEEE Nigeria Section, programs like IEEE SIGHT and ACTION FOR INDUSTRY have been well received and have great potential.
- Increased incentives and accessibility may help to enable IEEE to reach individuals from Academics and Industry also.
- Our Major Success since the last meeting is that we have been able to secure group Membership from institutions where a University in Nigeria Agreed to collaborate with the Nigeria Section and give subsidies to their Staff in order for them to join IEEE.
- We plan to have a dedicated SYP event in Nigeria where Students and young professionals can come together and network locally.

Section Vitality

- Section meetings, outreach to schools and other institutions have proven potent in Nigeria.
- IEEE may consider given subsidies to some class of individuals with lower income in Nigeria since there is a significant divide between rich and poor in the country.
- Since the last meeting, major successes include the higher turnout and increased interest in IEEE activities in Nigeria.
- In the Nigeria Section We intend to foster section vitality by promoting publicity and outreach programs to individuals being professionals and academics in our area.

IEEE in Africa

- I think that IEEE Region 8 through Prof. Gloria can try to bring the various African sections closer together such that one can learn from the other.
- IEEE Nigeria Section would be willing to support Africa Activities through hosting, participation or activity planning and nomination of volunteers.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- From the Nigeria Section we expect the IEEE regional office in Vienna to be a reference point which may have some resources that can help to define the activities of IEEE Region 8 and the Sections in within.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Norway Section

Runar Søråsen

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

Oman Section

Amer Al-Hinai

Getting Closer to Industry

- IEEE Oman Section established a good link with Industry via the industry-academia day. The Section organizes the event with local universities and colleges in Oman.
- The section requests IEEE/the Region to support out event with distinguished speakers.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- The section is active by delivering technical seminars, workshops, technical visits, ...
- The section supports students branches activities to further attract new students.

Section Vitality

In Oman Section, we expand the responsibilities and section operation to committees. This helps to maintain sufficient volunteers to drive the Section.

IEEE in Africa

-

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

I hope the office can help to establish the legal status of the Section in Oman. This is very critical to have a local bank account.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Two new chapters have been established in Oman: Communication Chapter and Computer Chapter. Similarly, we have 4 new students branches.

Poland Section**Ryszard Jachowicz****Getting Closer to Industry**

- Creation of local cooperation groups in Warsaw, Krakow, Gdansk
- Close cooperation with students and YP
- Creation of best MSc Thesis competition under umbrella of industry and IEEE Poland Section

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 2nd Symposium “The young, technology, industry” organized by IEEE Student Branch from Szczecin (March 2017)
- Creation of new student branch in Lublin
- 1st IEEE Students and Young Professionals Meeting - Opole 2016
- Active popularization of “DL Program”

Section Vitality

- Co-sponsoring of over 30 conferences in 2016/2017 (financial and technical)
- The “Best AP-S Chapter Award” for AP/MTT/AES Joint Chapter IEEE Poland Section (Chair Prof. Wojciech Krzysztofik). Award presented during 2016 AP-S International Symposium in Puerto Rico.
- The “Best IES Chapter Award” for IES/PELS Joint Chapter IEEE Poland Section (Chair Dr. Sebastian Styński). Award presented during 2016 IECON Conference in Florence.
- Prof. Jerzy Anders received IEEE HERMAN HALPERIN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION AWARD
- Prof. Kaźmierkowski received “2017 IEEE Medal in Power Engineering”

IEEE in Africa

IEEE Poland Section can establish close cooperation of students and YP with one section from Africa Area.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Help in official registration (status) of IEEE Poland Section

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Close cooperation with SEP (Association of Polish Electrical Engineers) and PTETiS (Polish Association of Theoretical and Applied Electrotechnic)
- Preparation to new IEEE Milestones with IEEE Germany Section for Prof. Czochralski
- New “Service Award” for IEEE Poland Section member

Portugal Section

Ana Madureira

Getting Closer to Industry

- 1) Unfortunately, our relation with Industry has been very limited in the past years. Nevertheless, we have identified this problem and have been working in the following initiatives:
 - Young Professionals Internship Program (<http://yp.ieee-pt.org/ypi/>) is an undergoing project, led by IEEE Portugal Young Professionals Affinity Group, that aims to create bounds between universities and industry, fostering internships.
 - We are trying to nominated an Industry Relations Coordinator that will try to fill the existent gap, promoting different protocols and activities with industry partners.
 - We have identified key local industries on which we plan to create strong technical relations.
- 2) We believe that the following changes would be helpful to improve Industry Relations:
 - IEEE's image and visibility is somehow limited inside Europe. We believe that new programs developed with the goal to improve IEEE's image would definitely help sections to approach the industry in the future.
 - IEEE must be more proactive in order to promote the Engineer Profession and its impact in real economy.
 - Create an IEEE membership for industry companies, and establish benefits for them to partner with IEEE. e.g: help with patent development, special access for articles, participation in RFC working groups, etc.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We believe that national & regional events generate a lot of motivation among our students and keep a constant flow of new volunteers within Portugal Section (PS). Due to these reasons, we support the participation of as many students as possible in the regional and R8 student congress. In addition, we developed the activity Leadership Camp, held once per year, usually in the beginning of the school year, where we gather students from all the national SB, and provide them with training in IEEE knowledge, leadership and organization skills.

National Engineering Day pretends to join senior, YP and SB and share ideas, projects and new developments in engineering. Non IEEE member are invited to assist and participate in the event.

Borrow a Workshop is a PS initiative that has as main goals to promote collaboration between the SB and increase the number of technical activities in each Branch. With this as goal, SB can propose several technical/professional activities to be outsourced for other SB.

YP Internship Program is being developed by YP-AG with support of PS. Although this program is still in an early stage, we believe that it will improve YP's membership retention/engagement.

Changes to better support Students and YP:

- It should be possible to have YP AG inside SB
- Increase STEP Program funding: limited to one STEP event/year

Section Vitality

- 1) Our section's financial sustainability is mainly supported by the organization of technical conferences. As such we believe that:
 - It is imperative that IEEE promotes the inclusion of the Portugal Section in all conferences held in Portugal, which is not happening at all. Currently we have conferences where some IEEE Societies refusing to share conference organization with our section.
 - There should have a clarification and standardization of the procedures related to the participation and role of local sections in technical conferences.
- 2) Societies should try to include more Distinguished Lecturers in their programs, as it is often very hard to find Lecturers available to come to our Section (because their agenda is already full). Some increase of funding for these programs would also be helpful.
- 3) We are promoting a global initiative of senior member elevation since 2015. Contacting and motivating national members to participate and promote IEEE activities.

IEEE in Africa

Stimulate activities on Portuguese speaking countries. Identify Portuguese members that are working on Africa countries, namely Angola and Mozambique.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Support for European and international research projects preparation. Support for consortium preparation.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Create more effective and tangible IEEE membership benefits. Promote IEEE's image in the general society by using a more dynamic and clever marketing. Create clear, effective and standard rules for IEEE conferences sponsorship to ensure the scientific quality of IEEE participation.

Qatar Section

Amith Khandakar

Getting Closer to Industry

- Activities/Programs/Initiative to Foster Industry Relations:
 - Attract more members from the Industry
- Changes required by IEEE to Improve Industry Relations:
 - More IEEE funding to encourage meetings with Industry People at initial stages
- Major Successes in terms of Industry Relations
 - Assigning Industry Relation Officer for the region
- Steps to foster further Industry Relations:
 - Arranging Technical Workshops, Seminars for the Members from Industry (based on their feedback)
 - Contacting the Industry Relations Coordinator of IEEE Region 8 for further advise

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to support Students and Young Professionals
 - Technical Seminars and Field trips focusing the Student Members, exposing them to the Work environment and opportunities to work there in the future
 - Encourage them for next SYP Congress
- Changes required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better support Students and Young Professionals
 - Subsidies for conferences and broadcasting it so that students members are aware of it
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Students and Young professionals
 - Increase in the numbers of student members
 - Formation of the IEEE YP affinity Group
 - Tasks to support the Students and Young Professionals
 - Conducting regular meetings with them
 - Informing them regarding the technical seminars and Field Trips
 - IEEE Day in 2016 to motivate them
 - Motivate student branches to apply for IEEE Region 8 Awards in 2016

Section Vitality

- Activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section
 - International Conferences in the region
- Changes required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability
 - Provide Support and opportunity for hosting international conferences
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality
 - Student Branches are involved in meetings
 - Initiatives to have more Affinity Groups
- Tasks to Foster the Section Vitality
 - Communicate with all the Officers in the Qatar Section
 - Hold Elections or nominate officers for vacant positions
 - Conducting Seminars/Technical Talks
 - Organizing International conferences in Qatar
 - Facilitating Active Members in Qatar

IEEE in Africa

Recommendations:

- Student Congress in Africa
- Motivate more students from Student Branches to apply for the IEEE SYP congress
- Noting down all the recommendations and discussing during the IEEE Region 8 Meeting

Support from Qatar Section

- Send some students in the IEEE GCC Student Congress to share the experiences among the students from GCC and Africa

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Invite students from Qatar Section to visit the office and get motivated to be more active in IEEE Excom from all the sections in Region 8 to have annual meeting in the IEEE office and share experiences among each other.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

-

Republic of Macedonia Section

Ljupco Karadzinov

Getting Closer to Industry

Our Section still has the problem with low number of members from industry and more than 90 % of our members are from the academia. This is due to not having much industry research and development centers in our country. Membership from industry need different services and activities than those suitable for members from academia (IEEE conferences and journals). We need more Section activities suitable for members from industry, like technical activities that cover appropriate practical topics, and social activities where members meet and share experience and information. The Section Facebook page is constantly updated with the forthcoming activities and all interested colleagues are invited to join regardless they are members or not yet. The page now has 813 likes, meaning that the same number of colleagues are informed with every post about new Section activities.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The Section received the 2016 Silver Banner Recruitment Recognition Award. The Section actively supports promotion to Senior Member grade as a good practice to improve members retention.

Student membership recruitment and retention is given special attention. The Section helps student members in paying membership dues in local currency. The Section promoted, financially supported and encouraged student members to take part in the following activities:

- 1) Three teams participated in IEEEExtreme 10.0, 22 October 2016 and were very successful with the overall rankings 72th, 95th and 281st place out of 1835 teams. This contributed significantly in attracting new student members.
- 2) Ms. Mirjana Sadikovik participated in the workshop "Students and Young Professionals from the Region", Belgrade, 9 November 2016, with a presentation of our Section activities.
- 3) Financially co-sponsorship of 4-th Student Conference on Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, held in Skopje, 24-26 November 2017.
- 4) Our student branch team received the first jury price at 8th International Students' Projects Conference EEESTEC, 24 November 2016, University of Nis, Serbia.
- 5) Two student members participated at IEEE Student and Young Professional Congress, Sarajevo, 1-4 Dec 2016.
- 6) Two student members participated at 2-nd Zagreb Energy Conference, 8-10 Dec 2016.

Section Vitality

The last year 2016 was not an officer election year in our Section. However, the student branch chair and vice-chair have left abroad for master studies. The same happened with the student branch SSC chapter chair. We have appointed interim chairs on the vacant officer positions until the elections in the late 2017.

The Section holds regular Executive Committee meetings where future activities are planned. In the reporting period there were also regular meetings of the IEEE EUROCON 2017 organizing committee where a large number of Section volunteers participate.

IEEE Day 4th Oct 2017 was celebrated with the lecture "IEEE in the Republic of Macedonia - a 20 Years Section History" by the first Section Chair Prof. Dr. Goce Arsov. It was followed by a photo slide show and barbecue party.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 16 February 2017 we continued the IEEE Member Loyalty Program for members having active membership from 5 to 30 years. Instead of using the loyalty pins, for the same expense we prepared gifts (business card holder, coffee mug, portable battery charger) with printed IEEE logo and years of active membership.

Section Facebook page is regularly updated with information about future activities.

IEEE in Africa

North Africa Sections like those in Egypt and Tunisia are well organized. Sub-Saharan region has only 4 Section and their experience is more competent. Africa is a vast region and travel expenses may be a problem. To foster IEEE in Africa more technical and social activities may be organized in major university and industrial centers where a larger number of electrical engineers are present. Our Section is small (financially and with number of technical lecturers) and can basically help with sharing good practices with the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe and Section Chairs from that region.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

The new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria, if established, will have very few staff members. That is why it is not expected it may replace services provided by IEEE staff. Rather, we expect it could serve as a more accessible liaison to support us in communication with the right IEEE staff member and getting more timely support when needed. As an example the responses from IEEE Meetings, Conferences & Events (MCE) and eNotice are very slow. Also Senior Member plaque have not been received by many Section members 5 years after promotion to this higher grade.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The Section is organizing one of the Region 8 flagship conferences, the IEEE EUROCON 2017, to be held 6-9 July 2017 in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. The conference will be used to celebrate the Section 20-years Anniversary. The conference will be opened by the 2017 IEEE President Karen Bartleson and IEEE R8 Director Margaretha Eriksson. All the Section Executive Committee members are actively involved in its organization.

Section representative Dr. Mare Srbinovska took part in panel discussion "The Contribution of Women in Engineering" held within the conference MEDPOWER2016, Belgrade, Serbia, 9 November 2016.

First Section Chair Prof. Dr. Goce Arsov participated in the celebration of the 45-years Anniversary of the IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section in Belgrade 23 November 2016. This was a kind of a anniversary for us as well since before the formation

of our Section, we were jointly part of then IEEE Yugoslavia Section and share the first 26 years of IEEE organized presence in this region.

IEEE PES Distinguished Lecturer Prof. Dr. Jovica Milanovic from the University of Manchester, UK, gave a lecture “Advanced demand profiling and management for efficient and secure operation of power networks” in Skopje on 20 December 2016.

Romania Section

Mircea Eremia

Getting Closer to Industry

- The IEEE Romania Section is very active in organizing conferences. This is a very good way of helping people get in touch, create a network, and set business.
- There is sponsorship for conferences from local companies. In this way, industry became aware of the importance of IEEE in science and technology.
- The IEEE PES Romania Chapter proposes, on yearly basis, engineers from industry to be awarded the Outstanding Engineer Award. The section has agreed to expand this incentive/recognition for all chapters.
- The number of IEEE members from industry is increasing.
- The Section helps engineers from industry to elevate to Senior Member.
- Engineers from industry are invited to universities to share their professional experience.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- In order to encourage the future engineers to become IEEE members, the IEEE Romania Section pays the membership fee for the first year membership for students proposed by chapters.
- Various student competitions and summer schools are organized by Chapters
- We believe that access for free to IEEE Xplore for students will help IEEE to reach its goals. Most of the students cannot afford to pay for having access to IEEE publications, but their access will help the science. IEEE will have no financial loss from this.
- Various student competitions and summer schools are organized by Chapters
- Perhaps orientation in attracting new members should not focus on increasing the number of students, but towards the capture of young graduates in the early years of profession, for which IEEE can provide guidance and criteria for achieving performance.
- In October 2017 the Faculty of Automatic Control and Computers, from UPB, launched a new research master program: Health Information Systems. Due to its interdisciplinary aspect, the master is sustained by the representative of C16, CS 23 and CIS 11 chapters of the IEEE Romania Section in order to establish the appropriate position in the labor market of master's graduates.

Section Vitality

- The number of members of the IEEE Romania section was steady in the last years. However, the number of young professional members has increased but replaced the retired members.
- The IEEE Romania Section contains 22 Chapters. Many of our chapters are very active and organize various activities in the spirit of IEEE. Examples of activities are conferences, one-day workshops, invited speakers, student competitions, promotional activities and others.
- A Women in Engineering Affinity Group was created in 2016.
- The section encourages members to apply for Senior Member and Fellow. Several members have applied in 2016, while other are in preparation.
- Conferences and technical events are good practices to keep the members active within the IEEE
- The section promotes IEEE and the Section's activities during the opening ceremonies organized in Romania.
- The Section engages the most committed members in organizing different scientific or professional events (conferences, meetings with specialists from industry and research, workshops) and involves many IEEE members in organizing these events (by publishing papers, organizing special sessions, inviting renowned professional members of IEEE etc).

IEEE in Africa

- Probably IEEE should provide access to educational material. The Romania Section can help in this regard; lots of materials in English in the field of electrical power systems can be provided.
- We believe that informative campaigns through universities and foreign companies acting in Africa should be organized.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Logistics could be ensured from Europe. For instance, Senior Member plaques, recognition certificates, badges or others can be manufactured and shipped from Europe in order to reduce the shipping costs and time. Customs papers are always required in Romania for shipping from the USA
- Provide coordination for developing common projects, of any type, with participation from all European Sections. For instance, IEEE can be more present at international summer schools or pilot projects developed by students

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Our section did all necessary procedures to create a Young Professional Affinity Group for about 2 years; despite several discussions with Region 8 representatives, the YP Group is not officially created.

Russia Section

Sergey Bankov

Getting Closer to Industry

- Activities/programs/initiatives work well in Russia Section to foster Industry Relations: close cooperation with national professional societies: Popova's radio engineering and communication society, National academy of electrical science, National academy of cosmonautics, Russia URSI branch; regular meetings with representatives of national industry;
- Changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations: collective IEEE membership for small teams, system of regular meetings, seminars and conferences with participation of Russian companies etc.
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations: Regular all Russia conference supported by AP, LEOS and MTT chapters (Moscow, November 2016).
- We are going to continue to foster Industry Relations increasing relations with "new" electrical, electronic and IT industry of Russia.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members: regular information distributed via Internet about advantages of IEEE membership.
- Required changes: more active promotion of IEEE in student and young professional community.
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Students and Young Professionals: no remarkable events.
- Future plans: We are planning to arrange together with IEEE Russia North-West Section conference for students and young professionals. We are going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals: establishing of new IEEE student branches in universities.

Section Vitality

- Activities/programs/initiatives work: close cooperation with national professional societies: Popova's radio engineering and communication society, National academy of electrical science, National academy of cosmonautics, Russia URSI branch; regular meetings with representatives of national industry;
- Changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability: collective IEEE membership for small teams, regular publishing in IEEE Russia section web site information about events and activity in Russia section.
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality: see above.
- Future plans: elections of Section treasurer, regular meetings with national professional societies, administrative meetings, meetings with student chapters.

IEEE in Africa

Recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster IEEE in Africa:

- arrange regular African conferences sponsored by IEEE;
- arrange regular African administrative meetings for IEEE officers;
- apply mass media (TV, newspapers, Internet, social networks etc.) for IEEE promotion.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

This subject requires more time to get experience in interaction with new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Outstanding new initiatives, special achievements, anniversaries were not planned.

Russia (North West) Section

Mikhail Shestopalov

Getting Closer to Industry

The annual Conference on University-HiTech Industry Strategic Partnership sponsored by the Section has proved its effectiveness in establishing closer links with industrialists. More Section members take part in research and development projects carried out jointly by academia and industry.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

A set of international conferences sponsored by the Section helped to attract more members to the Section. The annual Conference of Young Researchers has grown from 50 participants in 2014 to more than 450 in 2017, most of participants are Section members.

Section Vitality

Support of publication activities of researchers through the Section sponsorship has led to the growth of the Section membership. In 2015 and 2016 the Section was awarded with Certificates of Recognition for outstanding achievement in member recruitment.

IEEE in Africa

Spread more information on the membership benefits and find the ways to make the IEEE membership individually beneficial.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

The existing support from the Region 8 is quite satisfactory. Can not recommend anything special.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

More IEEE promotional materials to be available for Sections from the IEEE web site.

Russia (Siberia) Section**Alexey S. Rodionov****Getting Closer to Industry**

Industrial applications that are closely connected with tasks of development North, Far East and Asia-Pacific regions are of the prime interest for the Section. Special sessions and exhibitions devoted to industrial applications took place at the conferences supported by the Section, for example at the IEEE Conference 2016 Dynamics of Systems, Mechanisms and Machines (Omsk, 15-17 Nov 2016) and The 11th International Forum on Strategic Technology 2016 (Novosibirsk, 1-3 Jun 2016). Such events are welcomed and planned in all conferences and scientific schools supported and organized by the Section, IT technologies, wireless networking and involving of the biomedical engineers in IEEE through development of relationship with the Siberian Branch of Medical Sciences (The Russian Academy of Sciences) and the Novosibirsk Technopark is our current task.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Regular meetings with students in main universities are organized. Special reports and presentations are presented in all conferences that are supported and/or organized by Section. As a result, the Section has received Certificate for 2016 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance. For better development and attraction of new members special programs are needed for supporting participation of young professionals and students in events in Europe: travelling expenses are too high for Siberians (about 500 EUR from Novosibirsk versus 80-100 from Paris for flight to Stockholm) Student Paper Contest are included in programs of conferences that are supported and/or organized by Section, for example, Student Paper Contest and Conference on the Information Security (SIBINFO) on April 1920, 2016, and 1920 April, 2017 Tomsk.

Section Vitality

Organizing the following conferences: International Multi-Conference on Engineering, Computer and Information Sciences (Sibircon 2017) (18-24 Sep 2017); XI IEEE Conference 2016 Dynamics of Systems, Mechanisms and Machines (Omsk, 14-16 Nov 2017); 18th International Conference of Young Specialists on Micro/Nanotechnologies and Electron Devices (EDM) (29-31 Jun 2017). Section supports the Second Russia and Pacific Conference on Computer Technology and Applications (RPC) (Vladivostok, 25 Sep 2017) jointly with IEEE R10. In the course for expanding IEEE into Central Asia the International Siberian Conference on Control and Communications (SIBCON-2017) will take place in Astana, Kazakhstan (June 2930, 2017,) and Sibircon 2017 includes XIII Asian School-seminar on Problems of Complex System Optimization in its program. Support of scientific activity and involving of the Students, Masters and Postgraduates in the IEEE Members through the Weekly IEEE SibSUTIS Scientific Seminar on the 4G/5G Next Generations of Information (IT), Communications (ICT) and Computer (CT) Technologies. Support of professional activity of the IEEE Members through the Monthly IEEE Seminar on Radio Engineering organized by Siberian Federal University and Krasnoyarsk Joint IEEE Chapter. Cooperation with Technopark of Novosibirsk Akademgorodok is needed in organizing and carrying out seminars and scientific schools.

IEEE in Africa

First recommendation is special discount for new members from African countries with low income. Second - special traveling grants for Young professionals and students from African universities and enterprises.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

May be more information about current R8 activities, electronic newsletters, etc..

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Our experience with invitation of distinguished IEEE lecture (A. Gurtov in April, 2017) shows usefulness of such tours for recruiting new IEEE members and advancing IEEE in the region."

Saudi Arabia (East) Section

Jaafar Ibrahim

Getting Closer to Industry

Personal Contacts and one-to-one meeting Creating awareness about the benefits of membership.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Regular technical events including dinner meetings Sponsoring workshops and competitions.

Section Vitality

Encourage members to renew membership. Make them aware of the membership benefits.

IEEE in Africa

We can advise on how to organize events.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Promote IEEE-GCC Conference amongst members and encourage attendance.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The 9th IEEE-GCC Conference & Exhibition is coming up in May 8-11, 2017 at Manama, Bahrain. Several tutorials and workshops will be offered. The Students and Young Professionals Congress will also be held two days prior to the main event.

Saudi Arabia (West) Section**Mohamed A.I. Turki****Getting Closer to Industry**

- Our Section organize training courses, workshops and conferences.
- Help our section to get officially registered in the Kingdom.
- Our Section have been remarkably successful in sponsoring conferences and have started several initiatives which may work, namely support of some humanitarian projects, and cooperating with scientific institutions.
- To continue to foster industry relations, our section shall try to have an active IR ambassador (we have not been successful yet) and try to show them the benefits they can gain from IEEE.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Our Section organizes Workshops, training courses, seminars and competitions.
- Help our section to get officially registered in the Kingdom.
- Our sponsoring of conferences has had good impact and also conducting of training courses and workshops.
- Having a good students activities chair, make them work almost independently and organizing activities for them.

Section Vitality

- Bring IEEE products and services closer to members and especially in Arabic language.
- Help our section to get officially registered in the Kingdom.
- We have received awards for retaining membership, expanding in our membership, and the opening of new chapters.
- Work hard to get our section officially accepted in Saudi Arabia.

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

- Register our IEEE and our section as a foreign investor in Saudi Arabia.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Our section are getting quite active with SIGHT.
- More and more universities are approaching the section to sponsor conferences and to conduct workshops in different fields.
- Our section would like to sign the MOU between IEEE and the Saudi Council of Engineers.

Serbia & Montenegro Section

Vera Markovic

Getting Closer to Industry

Our Section helps chapters to organize events focused on practical knowledge, with speakers from industry. An industry oriented conference ZINC 2016 with special sessions for networking with industry is strongly supported by the Section. CE chapter in collaboration with RT-RK Institute organizes workshops/hackatons/talks that lead to industrial internship opportunities in RT-RK and other companies (nViso, iWedia, Google). In addition, TELFOR 2016 conference gathered a lot of industry people. Ericsson, Nokia and Rohde&Schwarz companies provided invited plenary lectures and over 15 companies organized their own technical and commercial presentations. During the conference, IEEE S&M Section organized a booth promoting the IEEE. To improve Industry Relations, there is a need for more visibility and publicity of IEEE in the industry sector. The industry should be more aware of the opportunities offered by the IEEE, and the academia more aware of the large segment of industry needs. One way is to organize stand-alone events that target industry guests with industry oriented challenges. In 2016 we organized meetings with numerous companies promoting IEEE: TELEKOM, VLATACOM, ERICSSON, NOKIA, Rohde&Schwarz, HUAWEI, IRITEL, IMTEL, etc. We will continue to support the above mentioned activities, with accent to higher publicity in industry sector and their deeper involvement.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

In S&M section, the majority of new members are Students and Young Professionals. It has been shown that the best way to attract them are the student IEEE events, conferences and events with organized membership renewal and joining. Organized joining is a good way to explain to new members what IEEE membership is and what it consists of, what the benefits are and how new members can connect to local student branches and technical societies. Short presentations of IEEE (a few minutes) in classes by professors or student colleagues, that direct student to organized joining event, show very good results.

The best way to attract new members (Students and YPs) is to address their basic expectations. It would be great to enable them a limited access to all IEEEExplore papers.

Among our major successes we could emphasize: the organization of 9th international students projects conference IEEEESTEC 2016, student section at 24th Telecommunications Forum TELFOR 2016 and several events with organized membership renewal and joining in Belgrade, Novi Sad and Niš. Our section continues to support student branches and student activities.

Section Vitality

All chapters, affinity group and student branches are alive and active. There a lot of technical meetings and other events. The Section has made big efforts in order to promote IEEE, to retain members and to recruit new ones. Generally speaking, the vitality and sustainability of the Section and its units could be improved by increasing the scope of membership benefits, for instance by offering the promotional free access to IEEEExplore papers more often.

The major successes in terms of Section Vitality are:

- The Section met its retention goal for the 2016 membership year and also a very good result is achieved in the “recruitment” category.
- A new MoU was signed between the Serbia & Montenegro Section and the National Society ETRAN.
- The Joint Chapter PELS/IES/IAS was awarded with “Best Chapter Award” by the IEEE Power Electronics Society
- Organization of the IEEE PES Member-Driven Initiative “Public Outreach to Power Engineering Community in Serbia and Western Balkan Region Focusing on the Female Members and Young Professionals”
- The Section supported a significant number of conferences, workshops, seminars, invited lectures, etc.
- Section website is very-well maintained and regularly updated.

IEEE in Africa

- Promotional activities specifically tailored for the needs of academic and industrial sectors in Africa.
- Actions focused to women in technical disciplines.
- Sections from Europe could support IEEE activities in Africa by networking and sharing the experience and best practice.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Networking with EU companies and academic institutions for the benefit of the IEEE membership.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

IEEE Serbia & Montenegro Section, as one of the successors of the former IEEE Yugoslav Section founded on June 21, 1971, has reached 45 years since its foundation. To mark this milestone, the Section Executive Committee organized a celebration in Belgrade, on November 23, 2016. In addition to the local participants, it gathered representatives from the IEEE sections in the region, especially colleagues who have had a significant role in the history of the IEEE related to the former Yugoslavia.

Slovenia Section

Urban Burnik

Getting Closer to Industry

Slovenia Section permanently maintain good relations with companies, which recognize value of IEEE locally and worldwide. Our people from the industry are regularly visiting our events and meetings. We offer community advice and a place to present own activities to local members and worldwide at conferences regularly organized in Slovenia.

Industrial members of local electrical engineering society are seeking recognition and discount for IEEE membership. Currently, partnership with a local society calls for some administrative tasks, which represent quite some effort for a small section.

Our major companies are happy for participation with 2 student branches in terms of internships by IEEE student members and excursions. More can be done to promote IEEE activities to non-members in terms of organizing local technical events in local language.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Public events opened to all engineers work well for attracting new members. A well recognized event last school year related to scientific publishing in IEEE Press was a boost to attract new graduate student members. IEEE could bring more professional activity related lecturers and instructors to educate members on soft engineering skills.

We are continuously fostering relations between the industry and students, promoting career development and information flow. Further student activities like sponsored student competitions are going on in the study year 2016/17.

Section Vitality

We are proud to have the largest absolute retention rate in R8. We are a bit disappointed by still missing our goal as defined by the Region.

We will continue to act in a positive and open way to our members who recognize that the benefits of membership cannot be valued in free bonuses but through the fact of being a member of a largest engineering community in the world.

We also recognize the long-awaited simplified procedure of group payments which is of a great benefit to members to whom membership fee runs as a bonus paid by the company.

IEEE in Africa

Africa Area should try to actively deploy mechanisms of IEEE support through distinguished lectures programmes or similar sources of funding. I recommend to launch tour suggestions for lecturers visiting more than a single section in order to boost the efficiency of funding.

Platforms such as Collabratec should be used to connect IEEE researcher members from sections like ours and from the African sections, working on common research topics and writing joint scientific publications. One possible method would be to launch region-specific research project suggestions to be joined by prospective researchers. Communication resources may bring us together despite of big physical distances.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Presence of IEEE office should be oriented towards EU policy and standardisation. Here, IEEE possesses a strong potential of a large European engineering body. It may successfully promote good engineering practice and knowledge over partial interests that may arise within certain national engineering communities. Engineering ethics and globally compatible engineering solutions are the key values of any IEEE member and here the Office can take great operational role.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

ERK, our annual national conference in electrical and computer science, we have celebrated 45 years of IEEE in Slovenia. Our distinguished guests were Kurt Richter, Aleksandar Szabo and Baldomir Zajc.

South Africa Section

Albert Lysko

Getting Closer to Industry

- Running events interesting to industry (e.g. on the topic of 5G).
- Strong relationships with South African local professional engineering association SAIEE with about 6,000 members in South Africa and other local technical societies.
- Planning getting industry leaders into Senior Membership positions.
- We hosted IEEE Standardization Association representatives, organized a series of talks, and plan to repeat this initiative.
- Need IEEE to consider corporate IEEE membership as this could increase membership in industry bodies.
- Initiating a work offer platform.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Working with universities to ensure inflow of student members.
- Promoting and supporting various programmes for communities.
- WIE events.
- Mentorship - building a list of mentors accessible to IEEE members.
- Pushing for a reduced student fees as the exchange rate makes it untenable for many students.

Section Vitality

- Organized Section face-to-face meetings, obtained views from the leaders of Chapters, Student Branches etc.
- Section promotes and supports various events highlighting the IEEE and Section, such as conferences, DL visits etc. For the conferences, we try to enforce discounts for IEEE members.
- We hosted the IEEE President Dr. Barry Shoop in 2016, planning to host the new president in African flagship IEEE conference Africon 2017 to be held in Cape Town in September 2017.
- We are seeking active volunteers to work at Section level. Would like to promote their activities by offering them participation in key IEEE events, such as Section meeting and Section Congress but travelling expenses are too high for South African (about 900 EUR from Johannesburg versus 80-100 from Paris for flight to Stockholm).
- We are planning to organize a local Section conference.
- We would like to institute student awards for travel and registration at IEEE event.

IEEE in Africa

- Supporting African conferences through providing various assistance (although quality control is a challenge).
- Support for IEEE Africa region initiative.
- Section shall provide support to subsections and countries wanting to start subsections as is possible.
- Instituting a reduced student price as exchange rate suppresses student registration.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Would be good to have the templates for the Section reports provided together with the requests for reports.
- Contact point for collaboratively accessing EU funding.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Need reduced IEEE Xplore fees as many African universities struggle to get subscription.
- Need IEEE to consider corporate IEEE membership as this could increase membership in industry bodies.
- Need lowering fees for IEEE eXplore.
- May need fixing membership fees to the local currency.
- We plan to be collaborating with new local robotics research group.
- Continuing developments in providing electronics kits and support to schools as part of our TISP pre-university programme.
- Even if this requires a reduced benefits offering as many engineering students have higher level access to IEEE Xplore through their institution than the membership.

Spain Section

Antonio Luque

Getting Closer to Industry

Section is actively participating in the Action for Industry initiative of R8. The representative has been in contact with several industry executives, from which a number of positions offered to students have arisen. So far, seven positions at different companies have been published (with seven MoUs signed), making Spain the first Section in R8 in number of positions offered.

The plan is to organize an executive panel with industry leaders, to discuss technology standards in Spain. The meeting will probably take place in conjunction with IEEE Day celebration in 2017, and we are currently trying to secure funds to organize it.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The Section organized the National Student Branches Congress annually. Starting in 2017, the Congress has been renamed SWYP (for Students, WIE and YP), including the two AGs in the organization and program. The goal is to create synergies between students and YPs, and between students and WIE, mainly with the objective that the students see IEEE membership as a natural path in their professional careers after getting the degree.

The incursion initiative for Students reported one year ago is well and running and several such activities have already taken place.

Other activities include a student training day for branches, held together with IEEE Day last October. R8 SYP in Regensburg was attended by 17 students from 10 Branches plus 2 AG representatives. The SSR attended Portugal Section Leadership Camp to learn and plan joint activities.

Section Vitality

Elections for Chapters are coordinated by the Section, ensuring timely processes and reports.

In the Affinity Groups, WIE has been revitalized in the last year, showing an increasing activity. Plans are underway for revitalizing YP and LM groups as well.

The Section funds student and chapter activities in a competitive way, where branches and chapters have to apply for funds for specific activities, which are ranked by a Section committee. This way, we encourage them to be active in order to get funds.

IEEE in Africa

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

IEEE Office in Vienna could assist the Section in:

- Helping conferences held in R8 (within Spain Section in this case), especially with finances, international payments, and taxes
- Providing support for Section and Student Branches rebates
- Supporting cross-sectional events, such as SYP congresses

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Section will celebrate its 50th anniversary in April 2018.

Sweden Section

Mats Edvinsson

Getting Closer to Industry

- Sweden Section drives & sponsors initiatives for approaching industry & business. E.g. Section driven or sponsored initiatives with Chapters, external parties etc. E.g. cross-chapter workshop with industry speakers, via WebEx in Nov & Dec 2016; and Jan 2017. More in the pipe
- Industry relations strengthened by having industry members involved in IEEE positions, e.g., Chair or Board members in Chapters, Section Board etc. Section Board has Chair + 1 individual responsible for Industry initiatives
- Started discussion with 1 industry on IEEE AFI (internship & mentorship)
- Cooperation across IEEE to address topics of interest to industry members: We try to push Industry dominant chapters cooperate with academia dominant chapters.
- WiE relevant for female industry professionals, hence a growing affiliate. Cooperate with industry associations in seminars.
- Started new tradition of yearly industry-academia events, by Section, SYP & WiE since Nov 2015: Entrepreneurial workshop held in May 2016. Similar ambitions for 2017
- However, tighter business environment is a challenge; Tighter budgets & less sponsoring, slim organizations & less time for voluntary work such as IEEE. Accelerated during 2016, even more 2017

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Active inclusion of all into the total Sweden Section activities: The Annual Chair workshop during last 4 yrs - all Sweden Chapters, WiE, YP, SB + Section Board members have a joint full-day exercise. Now also ex-R8 Flavia Dinca joined Sweden
- The Sweden Section vitality has increased substantially in WiE, YP and SB. However, still risk of individuals moving on, leaving empty spaces Restarted SB in CTH by more direct relations with student unions, as well as particular chapter involvement and (local) industry. And direct Section Board involvement, e.g., Chair a key note speaker.
- Direct involvement in the Section Board: Initially by adjudicating key individuals from SYP & WiE, then elevate to ordinary positions. This cuts communication barriers and builds for future elevation to Board positions.
- Direct involvement of SYP members in Nomination Committee
- Strong support & involvement from the Section Chair & Board inspires & enhances the efforts of SYP & WIE.
- Recognition is important, e.g., Awards
- Cross country-border events are very stimulating Adding the industry perspective making it even better.
- A challenge to keep good individuals, as they move on or change interest.

Section Vitality

- More direct communication with all Sweden Section members; Mails from Section Chair, Newsletter, ad hoc communication of special topics, outlooks for next quarter etc. Increased use of WebEx to reach across Sweden (3rd largest territory in Western Europe)
- Widen communication channels & cooperation, e.g., with other industry organizations
- More “business type” & structured operation: Combine long-term planning with annual budget; looking for ways to extended process and improve, more active reporting & follow up
- Drive & sponsors initiatives that cuts across Chapters, SYP WIE etc, preferably with external parties. Institutionalized cooperation; the 4th year of a joint chair workshop in 2016q3 - chapters, SYP, WiE.
- Renewal of Chapter boards. Forming a new pan-Nordic chapter, hosted in Sweden initially
- First Section IEEE milestone to be installed in May 2017!
- Modernized the Sweden Section website, in operation; Each chapter has direct access, hence ability to always update own info
- Active process to elevate members, successful 2016
- More active promotion of Sweden individuals to IEEE awards etc

IEEE in Africa

Where possible, apply a more “business type” & structured operation, rather than academic approach.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Speed up the decision process; e.g., in arrangements involving IEEE. E.g. closing a contract with a hotel or congress center should be done in days, not months. (Some players appears less keen doing events with IEEE due to lengthy bureaucracy and unnecessary hurdles, repeatedly)
- IEEE improvement: eNotice is too slow - direct mailing to all members have been delayed, hence missing inviting to opportunities, and outdated information
- IEEE improvement: WebEx too inflexible - setting up broadcasting a week (or more) in advance (rather than hours) is perceived as outdated

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Switzerland Section

Maria-Alexandra Paun

Getting Closer to Industry

- Workshops organized by the Chapters and Affinity Groups, where industrials are invited, in order to interact with academia and students
- Visit of the students to different industrials and companies (e.g. visit to Google, etc.)
- General Assembly of our Section has taken place in different companies, possibility to interact between members and industry
- Presence of IEEE ExCom members at different conferences where they interact with the companies
- Presence of IEEE Switzerland at Jobs fairs, where recruitment of possible employees is taking place
- We will continue to do events as above and think about other new ones

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Events/Workshops organized by IEEE Switzerland where non-IEEE members are also invited; in this way they become familiar with IEEE, e.g. Technical English Writing workshop, different technical workshops
- Organization (between 2011-2016) and winning in 2016 by EPFL of the IEEE Xtreme 24 h programming competition; non-IEEE members became members to specifically join this competition
- Presence of IEEE ExCom at different conferences and explaining what the IEEE membership is, when they have the chance
- Organization by the Student Branches of various events (visit to Google, etc.)
- We will continue to do events as above and think about other new ones

Section Vitality

- Complete and submit all IEEE necessary documentation (e.g. Meeting Reports, Financials) for the previous year
- Report all Section Officers, Affinity Group, Chapter, and Student Branch Chairs.
- Update section website regularly with information (events description, etc.)
- Organize joint meeting with student branches
- Organize professional development events, e.g. workshops/seminars
- Organize a continuing education activity (e.g. Technical English Writing Workshop).
- Check Affinity Group and Chapter activities to ensure continuity
- Check meeting reporting on vTools for all local units
- Organize frequent physical meetings in the ExCom and constant dialogue on the internet
- We will continue to do events as above and think about other new ones

IEEE in Africa

- Establish some direct communication between the Africa Area Chair Ms. Gloria Chuckwudebe and the individual Sections. In this way we will learn about their needs and where we could support them.
- We offer our full support to IEEE Activities in Africa
- If IEEE Sections from Africa want to establish a joint event with Switzerland or organize small visit and IEEE discussion in Switzerland, we would be happy to inquire about local arrangements

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- An environment for market relevant, voluntary consensus standardization
- Establish some dialogue about the program strategies and Europe-specific policies, procedures, opportunities, and challenges

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- We are now establishing a Swiss SIGHT Affinity Group for humanitarian projects
- A high number of technical IEEE conferences were held in Switzerland in 2016

Tunisia Section

Habib M. Kammoun

Getting Closer to Industry

- The following activities fostered our industry relations:
 - Tunisia section is co-founder of the group “IoT Tunisia” in cooperation with well known ICT companies in Tunisia
 - Industry tours for students to the main companies
 - Invite industrial engineers to the IEEE conferences
 - Industry ambassador officer was appointed to follow up with the companies and to look for internships for IEEE students
 - Presenting IEEE benefits and our activities to the companies stakeholders
 - IEEE Tunisian forum for Industry-Academia Partnership <http://tfiap.ieee.tn>
- Requested changes by IEEE to improve Industry Relations: provide an agreement partnership template to be signed by the section, IEEE HQ, and the company
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations:
 - The number of members from industry increased
 - Organize more industry - academia joint activities
 - Better visibility of IEEE to the local companies
- The section will continue to foster Industrial Relations by the following actions:
 - Organize a meeting with 100 industry stakeholders to discuss the most important soft skills needed for new graduates
 - Organize challenges in cooperation with industry partners
 - Sign agreements between IEEE Tunisia section and companies

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- To support our members, the section organized the following activities / programs / initiatives:
 - Tunisian Students and YP congress, attracting over 500 participants <http://tsyp.ieee.tn>
 - Engineering days for students to present their projects
 - Helped students to participate in the IEEE competitions (IEEE Day, MTG, MadC, IEEEExtreme Programming, etc.)
 - Helped members to develop projects and to search for IEEE foundation funds
 - Helped students and YP to participate to the R8 SYP, PES students congress, IAS annual meeting, WIE leadership conference, and PES power Africa
 - Helped SB, student chapters, and WIE student groups to organize their activities
 - Appointed 2 student representatives; and students, professionals, technical, and humanitarian activities coordinators
- To better support our members, the section need better financial support
- Major successes since the last meeting: The section organized the following activities:
 - 3rd IEEE School on Computational Intelligence
 - 4th IEEE Tunisian SYP 2016
 - 4 TISP workshops during the R8 TISP week
 - CyberSecurity days
 - Robotics challenge Tunisian qualifications
 - 3 international conferences
 - Create 1 chapter, 3 SB, 1 WIE student groups, 1 student chapter
- The section will continue to foster Students and Young Professionals activities by supporting:
 - Humanitarian SIGHT projects
 - Entrepreneurship challenges
 - Educational activities
 - Organize workshop for conference organizers to present the IEEE MCE benefits

Section Vitality

- The section is organizing the following activities / programs / initiatives:
 - The elected vice-chair will become the section chair on 2019-2020
 - Help members with over 10 years of professional activities to apply for senior member grade
 - Help dormant chapters to organize an election and to find new active volunteers
 - Attract more members to become volunteers within IEEE
 - Update of the section’s website <http://www.ieee.tn>
 - Prompt communications with our members by email, eNottice, IEEE Collabratec, and Facebook
- To improve Section vitality and sustainability, the section needs to increase its funds by organizing Regional and Society conferences in Tunisia
- The major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality are the following:
 - Exceeded 2,250 members
 - Completed the election process of the 2017-2018 officers by the end of October 2016
 - Organized section’s awards gala dinner to recognize IEEE members and subunits who have given valuable achievements
 - Pins and certificates presented to members with over 20 years of memberships

- The section is planning to continue to foster Section Vitality by the following actions:
 - Help members to renew their memberships with local payment. The section transfer the membership funds to IEEE in USA
 - Support the activities of the subunits
 - Encourage the initiatives of members

IEEE in Africa

- Further encouragements and support from IEEE to activities in African countries not represented by sections and subsections
- Sign partnership between IEEE and main African organizations
- Help subsections to organize IEEE activities in their countries. For example: to invite distinguished lecturers
- The Tunisia section can help organizing IEEE activities in Africa

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Help the sections to contact European companies to look for sponsors to the IEEE activities
- Help the sections to participate in European funded projects
- Help non-European IEEE members to receive visa to participate in IEEE activities in Europe

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- The Tunisia section is now legally recognized in Tunisia
- Two cities (Ariana and Sfax) were selected as affiliate cities in the IEEE smart cities initiative <http://smartcities.ieee.tn>
- Participation of the IoT Tunisia in the 2017 IoT forum in USA
- Middle East SYP congress 2017 will be organized in Tunisia by INSAT SB
- Proposal to organize the R8 meeting on March or September 2018 in Tunisia
- The Tunisia section organized the R8 MD workshop on 18-19 Nov. in Tunis
- Plan to organize the 10th IEEE Tunisia section Anniversary on 2018
- IEEE R8 EnergyCon 2020 will be in Tunisia <http://www.ieee-energycon2020.org>

Turkey Section

Murat Uysal

Getting Closer to Industry

In the Turkey Section, Industry Relations Coordinator acts as a liaison between industry and the Section. The responsibilities of the Coordinator include leading fundraising activities for the Section, helping the Membership Development Coordinator increase the number of IEEE members from industry and supporting the Professional Development and Educational Activities Coordinator identify speakers/instructors from the industry. This recently created coordinator position has been instrumental to foster industry relations. It has been particularly useful to secure some sponsorship and arrange speakers from the industry for locally organized IEEE conferences. It is also planned to develop a partnership with the Turkey Chamber of Electrical Engineers (EMO) with more than 42,000 members.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

In the Turkey Section, Student Activities Coordinator and Associate Coordinators act as an interface between the executive committee and student branches. These coordinators provide guidance to student branches, attend student branch meetings/congresses, and other related activities. We have received very positive feedback from the students regarding the active guidance of this newly established coordination mechanism.

Our Section considers the Young Professionals Affinity Group as a key to continue the commitments of IEEE student volunteers after their graduation. In January 2017, a new Chair was elected for this Affinity Group. In collaboration with the new Chair, we plan to re-energize this group and expand the membership base.

Section Vitality

After a long transition period due to local regulations, the elected officials of IEEE Turkey Section took over the management in April 2016. In an effort to revamp the activities across the Section, the new Executive Committee contacted all Chapters and urged them to go for elections if their last election was held for more than two years ago. Elections were held at COM, YP, AP, PE, PHO, AP/ED/MTT/EMC Chapters. Elections/election preparations are going on at EMB, C, SP, AES, CAS, CIS, TEM Chapters. IEEE Turkey has provided administrative support to all chapters, particularly for the use of vtools for the election organization. We believe that the activities in each Chapter would significantly increase under the management of newly elected Chairs. In parallel, we have plans to encourage forming of new chapters, since, based on our membership data, we seem to have enough members for 8 more chapters.

IEEE in Africa

As IEEE Turkey Section, we will be happy to support IEEE Activities in Africa. For example, we could arrange speakers for their locally organized events.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Local presence of IEEE within Europe would be particularly useful in membership recruitment. For example, the delivery of promotional material from IEEE HQ takes several weeks. Such material can be directly shipped from Europe office. The office can also organize workshops on effective membership recruitment.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Ukraine Section

Felix Yanovsky

Getting Closer to Industry

- Organizing IT Panels and Industry Tracks based on IEEE conferences and workshops.
- Invite industry speakers at local IEEE events will be continued.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Students and Young Professional are involved by Section in all major IEEE activities.
- We work together with Societies to provide free membership for most active volunteers.
- We will organize local IEEE UKRSYP in 2018.
- Section supported students participation in IEEE Region 8 SYP Congress.

Section Vitality

- Regular face-to-face ExCom meetings, planning Sections activities and special events, usually inviting students and guests.
- Regular Section and Chapters Elections.
- Section ExCom provides local rules and recommendation for local organizers of IEEE Conferences.
- Support of the strong IEEE Conferences like IEEE UKRCON-2017.
- IEEE founded the Public Union "IEEE Ukraine Section". It will help us in many IEEE activities.

IEEE in Africa

We could invite guests from Africa to our local events or be available as speakers for their local events.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We hope for better understanding of local bureaucratic topics.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We invite everyone to participate in IEEE Ukraine Section 25th Anniversary and 2017 IEEE First Ukraine Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering (UKRCON) in Kyiv, Ukraine. The event will take place on May 29 - June 2, 2017.

The First IEEE UKRCON-2017 general theme, Celebrating 25 Years of IEEE Ukraine Section, reflects the profound impact of IEEE on the Ukrainian Science for the last 25 years. IEEE Ukraine Section was founded on November 21, 1991 and for 25 years helps Ukrainian scientists find ways for cooperation with various international partners through IEEE conferences and grants.

Website: <http://ukrcon.ieee.org.ua>

United Arab Emirates Section

Mohammed Alzaabi

Getting Closer to Industry

The IEEE UAE Section is paying a great deal of attention to foster its relation with the industry. Some of the actions taken to achieve this are:

- Engaging members from industry in the section's ExCom and annual meetings.
- Engaging members from industry in organizing competitions in the IEEE Student Day.
- Inviting members from industry to conduct talks that cover topics of broad and current interest in the region. Additionally, such topics attracted many people from industry.
- Signing MoUs with industry.

To improve industry relations, we suggest:

- Initiating Company Bulk Membership within IEEE.
- Organizing seminars in collaboration with industry.
- Providing better benefits to members in versatile domains and offering discounts to industries.
- Signing more MoUs with industry partners.
- Arranging competitions for various industries and involving them in section and chapter conferences.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The IEEE UAE Section is focusing its efforts towards not only attracting students and young professionals, but also to maintain existing members. To do so, the following highlights some undertaken actions:

- Organizing workshops and inviting distinguished speakers.
- Establishing new IEEE Student Branches in new academic institutes and universities in the UAE.
- Awarding the best Student Branch.
- Organizing the annual IEEE UAE Student Day where students gather and compete in different engineering and social oriented projects.

To attract future members, we recommend:

- Holding more regular meetings and enhance transparency through regular reporting.
- Close collaboration and member involvement in section events.
- Organizing networking events.
- Arranging regular visits to universities and schools.
- Happiness Meter to measure member satisfaction.

Section Vitality

To maintain the IEEE UAE Section vitality in a constant pace, the following are considered:

- Arranging regular section meetings.
- Establishing partnership with local societies.
- Organizing the IEEE UAE Student Day.
- Planning activities and special events for all members and working with Universities and Industrial organizations.

To increase section vitality, we suggest:

- Conducting professional activities as they attract a wide range of members.
- Close collaboration and member involvement in section events.
- Capitalizing on opportunities to promote the values and benefits of IEEE. One way of doing so is to request an IEEE booth in all conferences and exhibitions that the IEEE UAE sponsors.

IEEE in Africa

To foster IEEE in Africa, we suggest:

- Offering more discounts for lesser privileged regions in Africa.
- Sharing best practices with IEEE sections in Africa.
- Utilizing technologies to provide online courses, webinars, and to live stream other events.
- Sign MoUs with other sister sections in other IEEE regions.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We expect the following from the new office in Vienna:

- Better financial and logistical support to organize events and conferences.
- Collection of payments for various activities and routing them to the local section.
- Access to support staff such as legal, branding, marketing, etc.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- IEEE UAE MTT-S & IM-S Societies Joint Chapter has been awarded the 2015 IEEE MTT-S Outstanding Chapter.
- IEEE UAE Retail Discount Program.
- IEEE UAE Partnership Program.
- IEEE UAE Distinguished Speaker Program.

United Kingdom and Ireland Section

Ali Hessami

Getting Closer to Industry

The following initiatives and actions have been taken to enhance our relationship and partnership with key industries in the related disciplines.

- 1) Planning Senior IEEE-Industry Forum and organising the first face to face session with 5 key industry executives and CEOs on 12 december in London. this Forum was chaired by President Barry Shoop
- 2) Wrote follow up email and customised letters to the participating industries
- 3) Appointed Industry Delivery Officer role to maintain contact with senior CEO level executives with the section
- 4) Session regarding our industry strategy with President Karen Bartleson in London on 27 January
- 5) Continuing with approaching senior industry executives with a view to organise a second Industry Forum whilst pursuing the development of a industry package

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The following initiatives and actions have been taken in the section at improve attraction, support and retention of new members:

- 1) Conducted a members' Survey in January 2016
- 2) Employing the survey outcomes and member preferences to develop the member services strategy in 2016
- 3) Redesigning and updating the members' Survey for 2017 hoping to launch a new survey before end of Feb. 2017
- 4) Planning, running Young Entrepreneurs events in London and Dublin to promote our benefits and services to non-members particularly the young professionals
- 5) The outcome seems to be quite positive and the section membership shows a growth of 8 % over the Sept.2016-Feb.2017
- 6) We are also running major high profile events in the section such as JL Baird Commemoration event held on 27 January 2017 at the prestigious Royal Institution in London with 120 attendees most of whom were not IEEE members

Section Vitality

The following initiatives and actions are taken to enhance the vitality of the section:

- 1) Formation of a Chapters' Forum to enhance communication with and across Chapters. the CF is run by the Section Vice Chair
- 2) Planning online sessions offering the opportunity for Officers and Chapter Chairs to participate and share issues and views more frequently than the twice yearly face to face meetings
- 3) Development of a planning and budgeting arrangement for the Chapters to ensure they plan activities in advance and seek financial support from the section
- 4) The R8 can develop some KPIs across the region to provide some benchmarks for vitality as well as highlight very successful initiatives in other sections
- 5) Organised IEEE Day event as a major publicity and promotional opportunity with newly appointed Fellows being invited to deliver keynotes and support members
- 6) We will continue with attempts to enhance the inter-section communications and support

IEEE in Africa

The fostering of IEEE in Africa can entail:

- 1) Identification and capture of principal areas of need that can enhance IEEE's services and profile in Africa
- 2) Prioritisation and dissemination of these needs/requirements across the R8 Sections with a view to seek input and support
- 3) Offering funding and other resources to enable sections to support the Africa sections including joint initiatives and events
- 4) As the largest section in R8, we will be prepared to take this initiative and develop joint programs with the African sections to foster IEEE and enhance its profile in Africa. We welcome Gloria contacting us with a list of requirements and the African Sections that we can engage with.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We hope the Vienna Office will provide:

- 1) Facilities for the R8 Sections including running some of the volunteer training and provision of support
- 2) Offering facilities for some meetings and inter-section collaboration
- 3) Provision of IEEE promotional materials that can be accessed more quickly for events and general PR
- 4) Supporting policy level road maps and research for use within the EU

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We have many new initiatives that we are planning for 2017. the principal items are:

- 1) Appointing an Educational Affairs Officer and starting to develop CPD modules for the members professional development
- 2) Appointment of STEM officer and committee to develop closer ties with secondary schools and colleges
- 3) Planning our second and third Young Entrepreneurs events aimed at the young professionals in the Section as well as the non-members to deliver workshops and training at no cost and act as social profile enhancement for IEEE
- 4) Appointing a Professional Registration Officer and committee to focus on competence development and accreditation of members
- 5) Planning a major IEEE Members' Day during September 2017 to give the opportunity to a large cross section of members to come to a congress style event and learn about IEEE and also exchange views as well as benefit from our services

Zambia Section

Simon Muwowo

Getting Closer to Industry

- 1) The Educational Partnership in Africa (EPA) and Smart Village initiative work well to foster Industry Relations. EPA has provided material support in electrical machines for the laboratory and construction of a High Voltage demonstration substation at the University of Zambia. Smart Village concept will establish solar power plants in rural parts of the country
- 2) To improve industry relations, my Section intends to facilitate in the students' industrial attachments with various employers and also by recruiting more members from the industry
- 3) The hosting of PES Conference and the IEEE Virtual Event program in Africa (Green ICT) workshop last year were among the major successes
- 4) My Section intends to hold workshops and presentations in various towns in order to continue to foster industry relations

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) Conferences and workshops work well in my Section to attract and support future members. These should be accompanied by promotional materials
- 2) There is need to open a local account where members will be required to deposit their membership subscriptions in local currency. Currently members have to make bank transfers to the USA account which tends to discourage some of them due to transfer fees. Such transfer fees can then be taken up by the Section Account
- 3) Distinguished lecturer's visit was one of the major successes in terms of attracting members. Educative lectures were conducted at the University of Zambia and the Copperbelt University
- 4) Support to students and young professionals would continue through professional engagements in workshops, lectures and networking. There is also need to state clearly the benefits of being a member of IEEE

Section Vitality

- 1) Workshops and Lectures drive the vitality and sustainability of my Section. Other initiatives include involving employers to support its staff in payment of subscription fees
- 2) Increased promotional materials would be required to improve my Section Vitality and sustainability. Member benefits must come out clearly
- 3) Renewal of memberships was one of the major success of my Section Vitality
- 4) Membership recruitment for students and professionals in the industry shall continue to foster Section Vitality

IEEE in Africa

- 1) IEEE Region 8 should increase awareness of IEEE's contributions to the industry through standards and innovations in order to foster IEEE in Africa
- 2) My Section could support IEEE activities in engagement of both the industry and the academia in carrying out the activities

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

My Section expects both material and financial support out of the new IEEE office in Vienna.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

One of the outstanding new initiatives is the Smart Village concept where some villages will benefit through the establishment of solar power plants that would enable rural development to flourish

V. Motions

Approval of the minutes of the 107th Region 8 Committee meeting 149

Approval of the minutes of the 107th Region 8 Committee meeting

CONSENT

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee - March 2017
FROM: Jan Verveckken, Region 8 Secretary
SUBJECT: Approval of the minutes of the 107th Region 8 Committee meeting

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The minutes of the 107th Region 8 Committee meeting in Porto, 24-25 September 2016, are attached for approval.

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the minutes of the 107th Region 8 Committee meeting shall be, and are hereby, approved.

ΤΕΛΟΣ