

Germany Section Ingo Hahn

## **Getting Closer to Industry**

Our IEEE Society chapters are organizing their regular chapter meetings together with industrial companies in Germany. Usually, the industrial host participates actively in the technical programs of these chapter meetings and often provides a factory or lab tour. Furthermore, in Germany we have the very comfortable situation that academia and industry are working very close on solving research challenges. The leads to a vital exchange of ideas and further close connections between industry, academia and members of the IEEE Germany Section.

The main work on industry relations between the IEEE Germany Section and Industry is performed within the chapters.

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

Within the IEEE Germany Section we have very active IEEE student branches and IEEE society chapters. These are the main actors for attracting future members. Also the colleagues in academia are the main sources for new IEEE members.

Our IEEE Germany Section ExCom meets regularly twice a year. During these meetings all chairs of the chapters and the student branches are invited to participate and to share their experience and knowledge. Especially, the students and young professional present their ideas for future activities and are in most cases financially supported to realize their activities.

## Section Vitality

To support the section vitality the most effective and sustainable tasks are the regular chapter meetings and the regular ExCom meetings of the IEEE Germany Section. During these meetings all participants get to know each other very well and, furthermore, can brainstorm about future activities. The ExCom also expects regular reports about each chapter's activities. The chapter chairs are invited to hold a presentation about their chapter's meetings and other activities.

To support and supervise these chapter activities we have an officer on the ExCom, who is responsible for the chapters.

#### **IEEE** in Africa

Each IEEE Section in Africa should try to find a sister Section in other parts of IEEE R8. The sister Section could provide some insights in the best practices of successfully running a chapter. But, in any case, it is necessary to check for applicability of these best practices, because it is not sure that practices which work very well in one section, automatically will work in another section. It depends heavily on the local circumstances and culture.

## Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Because IEEE is not in every country a legal entity, I would expect support in legal affairs from the IEEE Vienna Office, especially in the cases of conflict with intellectual property rights when using photos from Wikimedia, etc.

# Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Compared to the IEEE R8 meeting in Stockholm I expect for IEEE R8 meeting in Sydney much more sustainable work with clearly defined goals and outputs. We should work more on some hard facts and technical topics.