
United Kingdom and Ireland Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

We have an active industry programme that was inaugurated last December by President Barry Shoop. we have since pursued closer ties with major industries in the UK & Ireland namely Rolls Royce and ARM Holdings through a number of visits and face to face discussions about their needs and expectations. we have also appointed a senior experienced executive as Industry Delivery Officer for the section to ensure the approach is professionally handled. we have also participated in the IEEE Industry Ad Hoc Committee and shared our experience and approach with senior executives.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We are planning a number of national events to publicise IEEE and enhance our profile and membership. Last year and as a result of these initiatives, our membership rose beyond 11,000 for the first time. The two events in the pipeline are Young Entrepreneurs (YE) on 30th Sept and the Section's largest ever event, Members' Open Day on 07 Oct 2017 that will be held in London for the benefit of the whole section membership with many workshops, talks, awards and even entertainment being planned. We are in discussion with the Local Government to hold our YE event in Edinburgh in partnership with them to enhance the profile and impact.

Section Vitality

We have formed a Chapters' Forum for the coordination of the Chapters organised by the Chapters' Coordinator and chaired by the Section VC that runs bimonthly online sessions for internal briefings and problem solving. we are also empowering the YP, WiE and SA groups as well as the LMAG with initiatives, events and new roles such as mentoring, workshops and our flagship Young Entrepreneurs event. we also run an Open Session every other month for consultation with the section members that is gaining popularity with large attendance. this has also created a new forum for hearing members' views and responding to their needs. finally we have conducted Members' Survey every year to understand their evolving needs and act in response.

IEEE in Africa

we have been in close consultation with the South Africa chair as well as the new Africa Area chair and extended invitation for joint events, collaboration and even participation in our Members' Open Day on 07 October. we are sensitive to the nascent entities formed in Africa and as the largest Section outside the US are keen and willing to do our fair share in supporting, advising and promoting the African sections.

I have spoken with Gloria at the last Regional meeting and extended a hand for collaboration and support.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We have facilities and access to the resources i.e. computing, meeting rooms and even space for smaller events such as European workshops will be made available in the new Vienna office.

We also hope some degree of administrative support and a formal communication address for the section can be provided via the new office.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We are in consultation with the Scottish Government regarding partnership with IEEE to plan and run Young Entrepreneurs events in Edinburgh. this we hope to become a new form of delivering our corporate social responsibility and promoting and popularising IEEE for the vitality of the Section and sustainability of our efforts and initiatives.