

## Action For Industry (AfI)

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### 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. 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 the AfI subcommittee will be successful if

- 1) more than 20% of the countries in Region 8 have assigned an Industry ambassador
- 2) Sections organize at least one event for industry
- 3) 70 internship positions have been secured in Region 8.

### Status and Past Contributions

A letter addressed to Region 8 Section Chairs asking for their contribution in AfI initiative was sent. Region 8 Young Professional subcommittee chair and Region 8 Student Representative were invited to participate and contribute in AfI initiative. During the R8 meeting at Stockholm AfI subcommittee members had several meetings with Section Chairs in an effort to help them initiate AfI initiative in their respective Section. They have continued this communication and support after the R8 meeting.

Certificates of Appreciation were issued to all companies that participated in Action for Industry initiative during 2016. Certificates were issued also to the respective company champions. Companies offered internship positions for 2017. New companies with multinational presence such as Dynniq have joined the AfI internship program. In 2017 initiatives have been made that aim to bring research and industry together in order to discuss possible ways of collaboration.

Outlook Turning your vision into an actionable plan! What should be the focus of next year's committee? What things should be done as continuation of your work? Our next steps are:

- 1) Consolidate and continue the Internships and Mentoring.
- 2) Bring willing companies into R8 initiatives.
- 3) Expand AfI initiative in new countries.
- 4) Local IEEE Section to participate in Entrepreneurship events. Local IEEE Sections can sponsor these events or have their members participate as mentors.
- 5) Support the organization of Industry Events by local IEEE Sections

### Points of Concern

Support:

We need the continuing commitment of R8 OpCom to support the AfI team and its objectives. Sections in R8 should put as a priority to get closer with industry and organize events with industry. We also need the support of Section Chairs. Section Chairs should appoint at least an Industry Ambassador and set budget for events with industry. 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 3 people should be involved and contribute in small Sections and at least 5 people in big Sections. IEEE can 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.