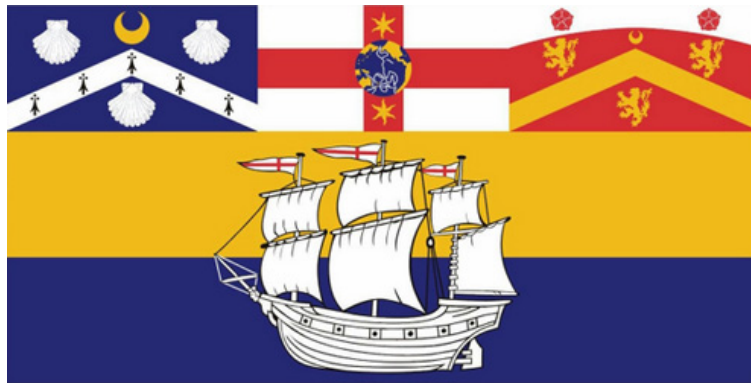




The 109th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting

10-11 of August 2017
Sydney

Agenda Book



This document contains the Agenda Book for the The 109th 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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Section/Subsection Officers	28
Membership	41

Agenda

Order of the Day					
Thursday, 10 August 2017					
8:00	0:05	100	Procedural	Call to Order	Eriksson
8:05	0:15	101	Procedural	Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers	Verveckken
8:20	0:05	102	Procedural	Introductory Remarks	Eriksson /Verveckken
8:25	0:05	103	Action	Approval of the Agenda	Eriksson
8:30	0:05	104	Action	Approval of the Consent Agenda	Eriksson
8:35	0:35	105	Discussion	IEEE Region 8 Director's Address+future	Eriksson
9:10	0:40	106	Discussion	IEEE Foundation	Delimar / Daluchie
9:50	0:20		Procedural	Coffee Break	
10:10	0:40	107	Discussion	Student Activities Report	Arvaniti
10:50	0:40	108	Discussion	Technical Activities Report	James
11:30	0:01	109	Procedural	Recess	Eriksson 11:31
0:29		Social	Group photo		
12:00	1:00		Social	Lunch	
13:00	0:05	200	Procedural	Call to Order	Eriksson
13:05	1:00	201	Discussion	Member Activities Report	Luque
14:05	0:20	202	Discussion	Section Development and Vitality	Szabo
14:25	0:20	203	Discussion	Africa Area Report	Chukwudebe
14:45	0:20	204	Discussion	Action for Industry	Antoniou
15:05	0:20	205	Discussion	Young Professionals	Barros
15:25	0:20		Procedural	Coffee Break	
15:45	0:30	206	Discussion	EPPI	Delimar
16:15	0:30	207	Discussion	Vienna Office	Neppel
16:45	0:05	208	Procedural	Recess	Eriksson
16:45	1:30		Separate meeting	Preparation of MDW in Africa, special meeting for African Sections only.	Luque
19:00	3:00		Social Dinner: Hilton Hotel. Dress Code: Formal		
Friday, 11 August 2017					
8:00	0:05	300	Procedural	Call to Order and Roll Call	Eriksson / Verveckken
8:05	0:05	301	Discussion	Secretary's Report	Verveckken
8:10	0:25	302	Discussion	Treasurer's Report	Kennel
8:35	0:10	303	Discussion	Future Conferences (Energycon, Melecon, GCC)	James
8:45	0:10	304	Discussion	Awards & Recognitions	Stasopoulos
8:55	0:05	505	Discussion	Nominations and Appointments Report and Election Instructions	Stasopoulos
9:00	0:15	306	Discussion	Vice Chair Candidate Presentations and Discussion	Stasopoulos
9:15	0:15	307	Discussion	Executive Session	Stasopoulos
9:30	0:10	308	Procedural	Elections	Stasopoulos
9:40	0:20		Procedural	Coffee Break	
10:00	0:05	309	Discussion	Presentation of Election Results	Stasopoulos
10:05	0:20	310	Discussion	Presentation of Director Elect Candidates	Stasopoulos
10:25	0:40	311	Discussion	GDPR changes	Lach
11:05	0:10	312	Info	Sections Congress Recommendations	Verveckken
11:15	0:05	313	Info	Next Region 8 SYP Congress	Arvaniti/Barros
11:20	0:10	314	Info	Next Region 8 Committee Meeting	Stasopoulos/Verveckken
11:30	0:15	315	Action	Motions	Eriksson
11:45	0:20	316	Info	New Business	All
12:05	0:05	317	Action	Adjournment	Eriksson
12:10	1:00		Social	Lunch	

Consent Agenda

401	Action	Approval of the minutes of the 108th Region 8 Committee meeting
402	Report	Reports

List of Participants

Robert	Bierwolf	Benelux Chapter chair
Meliha	Selak	Bosnia Section chair
Samir	Shaheen	Egypt Section Chair
Amer	Al-Hinai	Oman Section chair
Frédérique	Vallée	France Section chair
Peeter	Ellervee	Estonia Section chair
Maria-Alexandra	Paun	Switzerland Section chair
Conrad	Attard	Malta Section chair
Andrejs	Romanovs	Latvia Section chair
Tiziana	Tambosso	Italy Section chair
Eric	Kuada	Ghana Section chair
Runar	Søråsen	Norway Section chair
Habib	Kammoun	Tunisia Section chair
Ali	Hessami	UK& Ireland Section chair
Ingo	Hahn	Germany Section chair
Simon	Muwowo	Zambia Section chair
Mats	Edvinsson	Sweden Section chair
Noureddine	Chaib	Algeria Section treasurer
Manuel	Ballesteros Carballo	Spain Section YP chair
Knud	Erik Skouby	Denmark Section vice chair
Ahmad	Reza Sharafat	Iran Section chair
Thanos	Kakarountas	Greece Section vice chair
Mariusz	Malinowski	Poland Section chair
Toni	Mattila	Finland Section chair
Michael	Heiss	Austria Section chair
Raphael	Onoshakpor	Nigeria Section chair
Albert	Lysko	South Africa Section chair
Jaafar	Ibrahim	Saudi Arabia Section Secretary
Pedro	Simeo	Portugal Section secretary
Martin	Nzomo	Kenya Section chair
Hussein	Al Ahmad	United Arab Emirates Chapter chair
Anikó	Szakál	Hungary Section treasurer
Bander	Allaf	Western Chapter chair
Tuncer	Baykas	Turkey Section secretary/treasurer
Fadhel	Abdulhasan	Kuwait Sectoin MD chair
Sergey	Alekseev	Russia Section treasurer
Mircea	Eremia	Romania Section chair
Feliks	Ianovskyi	Ukraine Section chair
Maja	Matijašević	Croatia Section chair
Urban	Burnik	Slovenia Section chair
Vera	Markovic	Sebia Section chair
Matej	Pacha	Czechoslovakia Section chair
Nicos	Michaelides	Cyprus Section chair
Kiril	Alexiev	Bulgaria Section chair
Ljupco	Karadzinov	Republic Section chair
Gheith	Abandah	Jordan Section Chair
Thomas	Philip Runarsson	Iceland Section chair
Adel	Ahmed Hamed	Bahrain Section chair
Alexandar	Gusinsky	Belarus Section Chair
Dmitry	Kholodnyak	Russia Section vice chair
Alexey	Rodionov	Russia Section chair
Hadi	SAWAYA	Lebanon Section chair
Nasser	Assem	Morocco Section vice chair
Amith	Khandakar	Qatar Section secretary
Dalius	Navakauskas	Lithuania Section vice chair
Margaretha	Eriksson	R8 Director
Magdalena	Salazar Palma	R8 Director Elect
Costas	Stasopoulos	R8 Past Director
Jan	Verveckken	R8 Secretary
Ralph	Kennel	R8 Treasurer

Antonio	Luque	R8 VC MA
Efthymia	Arvaniti	R8 VC SA
Christopher	James	R8 VC TA
Amara	Amara	R8 Chapter Coordination SC chair
Pèter	Nagy	R8 Conference Coordination SC chair
Sohaib	Qamar Sheikh	R8 EA SC chair
Marios	Antoniou	R8AfI SC chair
Jan	Haase	R8 PA SC chair
Bojan	Nikolic	R8 News Editor
Marko	Delimar	R8 Sections Congress Coordinator
David	Law	R8 Standards Coordinator
Ines	Inacio	R8 Student Representative
Sara	Barros	R8 YP Chair
Christian	Schmid	R8 Past Secretary
George	Michael	R8 Electronic Communications
Dora	Fourou	R8 Assistant Secretary
John	Funso	R8 Humanitarian Activities Coordinator
Youmna	El-Bitar	R8 WiE SC Chair
Aleksandar	Szabo	R8 Region Vitality Coordinator
Andreas	Koltes	R8 Voluntary Contribution Fund Coordinator
Gloria	Chukwudebe	R8 Africa Area Chair
Yara	Melki	R8 SAC Member
Josè	Miguel A. Sepulcre	R8 SAC Member
Sarra	Ben Rabii	R8 SAC Member
Paul	Micallef	R8 SAC Member
George	Papadimitriou	R8 SAC Member
Mona	Ghassemian	R8 SAC Past Chair
Mohamed	El-Dallal	R8 YPC member
Skander	Mansouri	R8 YPC member
Vinko	Lesic	R8 YPC member
Rui	Costa	R8 YPC member
Flavia	Dinca	R8 YPC past chair
Martin	Bastiaans	IEEE VP- ELECT MGA
Bakr	Hassan	Bahrain Section member
Mike	Hinchey	UK&Ireland Section vice chair
Samarth	Deo	Sweden Section vice chair
Amin	NOBAKHTI	Iran Secondary Delegate
Abdulla	Alqallaf	Kuwait Section Industrial Activities
Boris	Dumnic	Serbia Section Vice Chair
Mohamed	Khairy	Egypt Section vice chair
Isa	Qamber	Bahrain Section honorary chair
Hanan	Hasan Ali Saleh Hanjafah	Bahrain Section Industrial Activities
Ali	Hussein Zolait	Bahrain Section Secretary
Mohab	Mangoud	Bahrain Section vice chair
Shaun	Kaplan	South Africa N&A chair
Nevin	Darwish	Egypt Section member
Mohamed	Naji	Tunisia Section Treasurer
Pero	Latkoski	Macedonia Section Treasurer
Ahmed	Al-Omush	Jordan Section YP
Lindokuhle	Shongwe	South Africa Section member

Unapproved Minutes from of the 108th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting held on 25-26 of August 2017 in Stockholm, Sweden

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 Dumnic	Serbia and Montenegro Section Vice-Chair
George Eduful	AHCAA Member
Mats Edvinsson	Sweden Section Chair
Yumna 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 Koltos	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 ONOSHAKPOR	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 Pèrez-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

Saturday, 25 March 2016

100. Call to Order

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** opened the 107th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting by welcoming everyone and then asked the R8 Secretary, **Jan Verveckken**, 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. All other attendees introduced themselves by stating their name and the function they have within IEEE.

102. Welcome by Sweden Section

IEEE Sweden Section Chair **Mats Edvinsson** welcomed everybody to Stockholm and invited the audience to enjoy their stay in Sweden. He thanked the speaker of the City of Stockholm **Karin Mäntymäki** as well as the special speaker **Tobias Degsell**, and wished the committee a pleasant meeting.

103. Introductory Remarks

After Region 8 Secretary **Jan Verveckken** provided some logistic information, Sweden Section Chair **Mats Edvinsson** pointed out the strict timing for dinner.

104. Approval of the Agenda

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** presented the agenda (see below) for the meeting. She 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 which they were presented. The agenda was approved by the committee.

Saturday, 24 September 2016				
8:00	100	Procedural	Call to Order	Eriksson
8:05	101	Procedural	Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers	Verveckken
8:20	102	Procedural	Welcome by Sweden Section	Edvinsson
8:25	103	Procedural	Introductory Remarks	Eriksson/Verveckken
8:30	104	Action	Approval of the Agenda	Eriksson
8:35	105	Action	Approval of the Consent Agenda	Eriksson
8:40	106	Discussion	IEEE Region 8 Director's Address	Eriksson
9:10	107	Discussion	IEEE President's Address	Bartelson
9:30	108	Discussion	MGA VP's Address	Mary Ellen
10:05		Procedural	Coffee Break	
10:25	110	Discussion	IEEE President's Elect Address	Jefferies
10:45	111	Discussion	Nominations	Appointments
				Stasopoulos
10:50	112	Discussion	Student Activities Report	Arvaniti/Inacio
11:30	113	Discussion	Technical Activities Report	James
12:10	114	Discussion	Workshops-Interactive Sessions Instructions	Eriksson/Verveckken
12:15	115	Discussion	Workshop and Interactive Session Pitches	WS and IS leaders
12:35	116	Procedural	Recess	Eriksson
12:36		Social	Group Photo	
12:40		Social	Lunch	
13:40	200	Procedural	Call to Order	Eriksson
13:45	201	Discussion	Sections Congress 2017	Delimar
14:00	202	Discussion	Breakout Sessions	all
16:10		Procedural	Coffee Break	

16:20	204	Discussion	Overview SC Motions	Verveckken
16:30	205	Procedural	Recess	Eriksson
17:30		Social	Meeting Point for Bus: Outside Hotel	
19:00		Social	Cocktail reception	
20:00		Social	Dinner and Awards Ceremony, Dress Code: Formal	
22:30		Social	Dinner end, bus ride back to Hotel	
Sunday, 26 March 2017				
8:30	300	Procedural	Call to Order and Roll Rall	Eriksson/Verveckken
8:35	301	Discussion	President-Elect Candidates' Debate	Piuri/Zurada/Costa
9:20	302	Discussion	Secretary's Report	Verveckken
9:25	303	Discussion	Treasurer's Report	Kennel/Harrington
9:45	304	Discussion	Awards & Recognitions	Stasopoulos
10:00		Procedural	Coffee Break	
10:20	306	Discussion	Member Activities Report	Luque
11:00	307	Discussion	Technical Activities & working with Societies	Ruggieri
11:20	308	Discussion	MGA VP's Address	Prendergast
11:40	309	Discussion	IEEE Region 10	Kukjick Chun
11:55		Social	Silent Reflection	
12:00		Procedural	Break	
12:20	310	Discussion	Future Conferences (Energycon, Melecon, GCC, Histelcon)	James
12:40	311	Discussion	Section Development & Vitality	Szabo
12:50		Social	Silent Reflection	
12:55	313	Info	Next Region 8 Committee Meeting	Delimar/Verveckken
13:00	314	Action	Motions	Eriksson
13:20	315	Info	New Business	All
13:30	316	Action	Adjournment	Eriksson
13:35	317	Social	Lunch	

105. Approval of the Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was approved by the committee.

106. IEEE Region 8 Director's Address

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** welcomed the section chairs and subcommittee members, as well as the invited guests. Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** confirmed that R8's direction will remain aligned with the directorship of **Martin Bastiaans** and **Costas Stasopoulos**.

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** informed the committee about

- The special emphasis of both R8 as well as IEEE in general on Africa, the Ad Hoc Committee for Action Africa, the Africa Area chair Gloria Chukwudebe
- The approval by the Board of Directors of the European assessment that will take effect starting with the 2018 membership affecting higher grade members in EU and EFTA countries., to fund the European Public Policy Initiative.
- that the Vienna Office is set up in Austria, and requests to think about which services R8 would want from it.

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked the Action for industry committee, which will be rewarded for their great work.

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** commended the good mix, of cultures and ages, and encouraged the committee to cooperate, and to use the meeting to bring home new points of view. Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** invites **Vincent Kabuunga**, chair of Ad Hoc Committee Action for Africa, to speak to the committee. **Vincent Kabuunga** informed the Region 8 committee

- that at end of 2016, the IEEE Board of Directors approved IEEE Strategy for Engagement in Africa, aimed at underserved countries in Africa.
- about several exciting programs to be executed and expanded, focussed at supporting innovation and entrepreneurship.

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** encouraged the committee

- to have an active and creative participation in the workshops,
- to focus on new members, to attract them,
- to share an image, of IEEE as a campfire to which many can add firewood, by their volunteering. "The more we volunteer, the more volunteers we attract. Lets add more to the fire".
- to rethink their funding requests. Rather ask for money, than not. Rather ask for a decent sum of money, that allows you to make a difference.

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

107. IEEE President Address

IEEE President Karen Bartleson: Hello everyone. It is an honour to be here and to be speaking with all of you. I want to talk with you today about us, the men and women, young, old, and midcareer, that make up IEEE's rich and diverse global community. At some point during my career in industry, I attended one of those leadership seminars you all are probably familiar with.

Fortunately, this one did not involve eggs or ropes. The facilitator asked me a very direct, very simple question:

Who are you, Karen?

I thought there was a very simple answer. So I started listing the facts about who I was: I'm an engineer. I'm a firm believer in international standards, and I love the work I'm doing as part of IEEE's Standards Association. I'm an experienced manager of people. I'm a working mother and a wife. I'm a proud graduate from Cal Poly in California. When I had finished, the facilitator just looked at me, smiled, and said the one word that changed the way I would answer that "who are you" question for the rest of my life. He said: Wrong.

He then proceeded to explain to me-and I've never forgotten this-that all of those things I listed were not who I was, they were what I was. Being an engineer, being a supporter of standards, managing people, raising children, being a Cal Poly grad, all of those were accomplishments and activities, but they didn't get to who I was as a person.

The facilitator explained it simply: it's what we hold nearest and dearest about ourselves, those core elements and values that drive our decisions, that help shape the way in which others see us, these are the things that make us who we are.

To get at these core values, the facilitator asked questions such as:

Do you grow and nurture the talent you see in yourself and others?

Do you trust those around you, and do you inspire trust in return?

Do you prefer discussions over arguments?

Are you better as an individual, or as part of a larger, collaborative effort?

Are your actions driven by integrity, or by expediency?

These are the kinds of questions that we can ask ourselves, as individuals, to determine who we are. The answers tell us if we are self-centered or giving of ourselves; if we are willing to commit an act we know to be scary in the service of a greater good. These are the questions that reveal our character as individuals, and signal to those we encounter, This is a person of worth. This is someone you would be proud, happy or honored to be associated with. Yet is not enough to ask these questions only of ourselves.

Questions like these serve as a filter for institutions also. These are the questions we ask of the organizations we choose to belong to. In the end, perhaps it all comes down to one question:

Do these organizations, these groups, hold the same things in high regard that I do? In my career and personal life, I have belonged to many other groups, but none of them compare to IEEE. I'll tell you why.

Let me take a moment to read something to you: We, the members and employees of IEEE, recognize the importance of our technologies in affecting the quality of life throughout the world and we accept a personal obligation to our professions, the members of IEEE, and other individuals involved in IEEE activities in our fields of interest. By this obligation we commit ourselves to the highest standards of integrity, responsible behavior, and ethical and professional conduct.

That's the opening paragraph to IEEE's Code of Conduct. In that short paragraph, IEEE spells out what it holds in high regard integrity, ethics, responsible behavior, and the obligation IEEE has, as an organization, to embrace those values. IEEE doesn't choose to do it because it looks good on paper. IEEE chooses to do this because it is the right thing to do. It is the right thing to do for the benefit of our professions. It is the right thing to do for the benefit of our friends, collaborators, and colleagues. It is the right thing to do to maintain the integrity, dignity, and quality of IEEE's unique international community.

And that international community is truly unlike any other. There is no group on the planet that is larger in driving more advances in technology, across the widest breadth of fields and disciplines, than IEEE. We are a diverse community, a community filled with technology professionals of every race, every creed, and every color. All are welcome, all are respected, regardless of nationality, ethnicity, religion, or gender?and all are contributing in countless ways to moving technology forward across the spectrum of IEEE's fields of interest. Does everything always go smoothly? No. Do we always share the same viewpoints? Again, no. But that, too, is what sets IEEE apart. Let me describe some of the ideals of IEEE. We welcome multiple voices and viewpoints. We invite them to discuss, to exchange ideas, to work together to create excellence that will surpass anything we might have accomplished as individuals. Excellence is never easy, it requires hard work, it requires collaboration, and it requires cooperation. That's something that has been a hallmark of IEEE since its founding, and it will continue to serve our organization for the coming centuries of our history.

Think about what IEEE's community has done since that founding in 1884. We have changed the ways in which people communicate, not once, but multiple times. We have changed the ways in which information is exchanged, again, not once, but multiple times.

We have changed the face of energy, of healthcare, of aerospace, and of dozens of other pursuits. IEEE, as a community, has for decades seen the challenges facing our world. Time and time again, IEEE has risen to those challenges, finding solutions that meet or exceed expectations.

The most important part of "Advancing Technology to Benefit Humanity", ladies and gentlemen, is not -Advancing Technology- it is -to Benefit Humanity.

That is who IEEE is. We are an organization with six core values, ideals, if you like: Trust
IEEE strives to be a trusted and unbiased source of technical information and forums, for technical dialog and collaboration. And this trust is extended to each other as we collaborate.

Growth and nurturing.

We encourage education as a fundamental activity of engineers, scientists, and technologists at all levels and at all times. We work to ensure a pipeline of students to advance our profession.

Global community building

We cultivate active, vibrant, and honest exchange among cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary global communities of technical professionals.

Partnership

We promote a culture of respect for the employee and volunteer, again, regardless of what you look like, where you live, and what you believe in.

Service to humanity

We leverage science, technology, and engineering to benefit human welfare. We work to promote public awareness and understanding of the engineering profession.

Integrity in action

We foster a professional climate in which engineers and scientists continue to be respected for their exemplary ethical behavior and volunteerism.

Those are IEEE's core values: those are who we are as an organization.

We don't do what we do as engineers for the acclaim. We do it for the opportunity to change our world for the better. And our world, despite the myriad advances in technology the last century has brought with it, still needs to be changed for the better. Not everyone enjoys clean water, or reliable energy, or the same levels of healthcare. Every day, IEEE members are working to correct that imbalance, to advance technology to benefit those whose need is greatest.

Technology can overcome tough challenges. It always has. And at no other point in recorded history have we had more possibility lying before us, ready to shape our world. Right now, on at least three different continents, IEEE members and fellow engineers and scientists are working on mapping the human brain. They are doing so with a level of focus and intensity not seen since efforts to map the human genome. And they will succeed.

When they do, think about this: some of the most debilitating ailments of our time could be eliminated, through scientists and engineers working together. We can give people their lives and their loved ones back. We can restore quality of life to those who had little or none. We can change the world for the better, one life, one family, one community at a time.

As I said: we don't do what we do as engineers for the acclaim.

We do it for the opportunity to better our world and the lives of those living in it.

There are discoveries awaiting us that will astound us. There are technological advances that we are going to witness that would have seemed impossible just a few years ago. There are things that our futures hold for us that will, quite simply, change how we define words like "impossible" and "possible". I, for one, can't wait. I don't think you can either.

Yet, there always seems to be an element of humanity that misuses technology. Or uses it naively. This is also where IEEE plays an important role. We are now entering into the area of ethics in technology, which I predict will be more impactful than any of IEEE's activities in the past.

What truly inspires me is that I believe the brave new world will be built by IEEE members. I know this, not only because I have watched you over the years. But also because I am now close to our Young Professionals whose enthusiasm for and dedication to IEEE is inspiring. If there is an advance in electrical or electronic engineering, you will find an IEEE member there. If there is a need for an innovation, a new sensor, a better nuclear reactor, less power loss along a transmission line, better communications, faster computers, if there is a need for any of these things, and countless more, you will find an IEEE member there.

Look to your universities, and you will find IEEE members and Student Members working on groundbreaking research, pioneering new approaches to difficult problems. Look to your industries, and you will find IEEE members taking those theories, and applying them to products, services, and applications in new and exciting ways. Look to your corridors of power, and you will find IEEE members, advising decision-makers on public policies that benefit both technology and humanity. Look around our world, and you will find IEEE.

Which brings me to the most important part of IEEE's history: the story we have yet to write.

It is a story that's going to be written by IEEE's Young Professionals, just starting careers as engineers and technologists.

A story written by IEEE Student Members, studying long hours and working in labs in universities around the world.

A story written by a young woman or man participating in a pre-university EPICS program that IEEE has brought to their community.

It is our future that remains to be written and these exciting young women and men will be the ones who write it.

These young leaders have grown up as digital natives. Texting, apps, mobility, these are the foundations of their world. They are moving fast, they are making advances, and they are already changing our world.

If you are not mentoring an IEEE Young Professional, I would urge you to do so. If you are already such a mentor, consider reverse mentoring, be willing to learn from a Young Professional, although I imagine that has already happened. Our profession's newest engineers are doing some incredible things, and they're not afraid to take a chance, make a mistake, learn from it, and keep at it until they achieve success. IEEE's Young Professionals and Student Members, even those just discovering their passion for engineering at the pre-university level, these are our bridges to tomorrow.

And the tomorrow they see is a global one. They do not focus on what divides people, but instead what unites them. They do not care where you come from, they care about the ideas you are bringing to the collaborative work you are engaged in. They do not erect borders, they overcome barriers. They do not discriminate, they embrace differences. They care about humanity, and how the technology they are working on can benefit our global community.

These young men and women are already using their expertise and abilities to aid IEEE in its mission. They are carrying forward the work begun by those who have already logged years as leaders within academia, government, and industry. They are doing it together, and they are going to take IEEE places we cannot even begin to imagine.

In closing, I want to inspire each of you to use your abilities to their maximum to further IEEE's mission by reading a quote from a famous US statesman: Never doubt that you are valuable, and powerful, and deserving of every chance and opportunity in the world to pursue and achieve your own dreams.

Within IEEE's global community, we are all valuable.

Our abilities as individuals, coupled with our strength as collaborators, makes us powerful. Together, we will pursue and achieve the dream of a better tomorrow, for all humanity.

Thank you.

End of Speech by the president Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked the IEEE President **Karen Bartleson** for the inspiring words.

108. MGA VP Address

Vice-President MGA **Mary Ellen** shared MGA's Mission to ensure quality member opportunities through continuous engagement and it's vision. She went on to show how MGA develops its priorities from surveys with respect to satisfaction and importance. The focus is on engaging one another in a data driven world. **Mary Ellen** further talked about the potential of IEEE MGA as well as the good current position of MGA. However, the opportunity is massive in areas such as

- Professional networking
- Discounts
- Online career tools
- Continuing education
- Promoting the profession
- Member retention

The priorities for 2017 are:

- IEEE Collabratec Engagement and Expansion
- Career Experience
- Address Needs of Individuals in Industry : Corporate Dues Subsidy
- IEEE WIE : TECHW (Tech powered by Women)
- Young Professionals Engagement - Implementation of Approved Projects
- MGA Presence in Global Offices
- Sections Congress 2017
- Marketing Automation : implementation of marketing automation platform
- Free access to IEEE Digital Library (SC14 Recommendation)
- Incentive Recognition Program for Companies (SC14 Recommendation)
- Enhance vTools (SC14 Recommendation)

After sharing membership numbers by Regions and IEEE in total she explained the areas that MGA is working on:

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

She went on to specifically present the importance vs. satisfaction matrix for Region 8. The top items were:

- Technical Skills
- Online access to standards
- Continuing education opportunities
- Promoting the appreciation of technology and our profession to the general public
- Opportunities for professional networking
- Open access publishing
- Online access to conference proceedings
- Interaction with other members
- Representation on public policy issues related to the profession

The key findings from the member segmentation study were:

- Young professionals are a promising group, however they are less likely to renew their membership
- Women are a pool of exceptionally enthusiastic IEEE members
- Students are an important group

Mary Ellen ended her presentation with a summary and some tips for IEEE leaders. Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked **Mary Ellen** for the comprehensive data.

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

110. IEEE President Elect Address

IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** started by talking about the "fuel of IEEE", which is

- membership creates the value, unique feature.
- Our mission, that both the members and the general mission can align with.
- The basic values of our organisation that bind us together.

He further shared IEEE's Goals for 2015-2020 which are

- To expand and enable communities
- To provide technically vital forums
- To lead humanitarian activities
- To foster initiatives on public policy

He specified that those goals are mainly addressed through ad hoc committees.

- Activities in Africa
- China Strategy
- Continuous Improvement
- Engagement in Europe
- IEEE Ethics Programs
- India Strategy
- Industry Advisory Board
- Innovation
- Internet Initiative (3I)
- Organizational Support for Public Policy Activities
- Strategic Alignment & Oversight

IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** mentioned the European Public Policy Initiative, that has been growing for the last three years, and has done leadership work. He stated that it is a long term commitment of our organization to be involved with public policy, and that EPPI is considered a first of many public policy initiatives.

On expanding global outreach, IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** discussed

- New Markets
- Product Innovation
- Local Programs

On Future Directions, IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** discussed

- Big Data
- Cybersecurity
- Green ICT
- Internet of Things
- Smart Cities
- Rebooting Computing
- Smart Materials

- Software Defined Networks

IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** discussed that in total in 2017, 50000 members are participating in these groups. Any member is able to create such a community, request seed funding and grow. He mentioned EPPI as one such example, that just past the 3 year mark, and is now changing towards a more long term funding solution. IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** discussed the results of the Board Retreat Strategy Session "What should IEEE look like in 2025 to appeal to and serve young professionals and other underserved communities globally, and what should IEEE do to get there?"

- Determine what a membership society like IEEE should look like in the future
- Find new ways to appeal to and better serve young professionals (including women and diverse global populations)
- Create long- and short-term plans to undertake the required transformation
- Engage leaders from across IEEE to co-create the plan and gain their buy-in and alignment

IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** continued to stress that Young Professionals are the future of IEEE, and are therefore represented in each of the 2017 IEEE Ad Hoc Committees. He encouraged the committee to invite them to every activity, and to let them participate in governance and volunteer leadership.

- Question by Region 8 Past Director **Costas Stasopoulos**: How to best identify and address membership in countries with huge opportunities for growth, e.g., Russia or Africa?
 - Answer by IEEE President Elect Jim Jefferies: There should be a way to address this issue and there needs to be a consideration over time about new membership models.
- Question by Samir Shaheen: Why does IEEE not have an EA committee in each society? I help very much by pushing universities on new subject, new frontiers to teach students.
 - Answer by IEEE President Elect Jim Jefferies: Continuing education is important and a value proposition needs to be laid out. About 400 courses are available at this point, but more needs to be done.
- Comment by Samir Shaheen: The question was misunderstood. How about setting new standards for education in universities.
 - Answer by IEEE President Elect Jim Jefferies: IEEE could be in a unique position to address this question. More discussion needs to be done offline.

IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked IEEE President Elect **Jim Jefferies** for his presentation. The full presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

307. IEEE Executive Director's Address

IEEE Executive Director **Jim Prendergast**

- Look back to membership stats. A little increase to be noted, 423,566 members at 2016 end.
- IEEEExplore
 - 20% of downloads are R8 (55% is R10)
 - Usage has increased from 16Million views in 2011 to 22Million views in 2016
 - New huge customers
 - Egyptian Knowledge Bank
 - Russian National Public Library for Science & Technology
 - University Partnership Programm (UPP) in Region 8
- Client services in Region 8
 - Visited Austria, Czech Rep., Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, and Switzerland in 2016
 - Sponsored R8 Student/YP Congress in Regensburg, Germany
 - Led two Student/YP events in Haifa Tel Aviv, Israel
 - Two author workshops in Barcelona Seville, Spain brought in 130 participants
- IEEE Standards Association to Europe Related activities
 - Became member of the OECD Internet Technical Advisory Group (ITAC)
 - Participated in the 2016 OECD Ministerial, Cancun Mexico
 - G20 Contribution issued under responsibility of Secretary-General of OECD
- Ethical Consideration of AI and Autonomous systems
 - IEEE is taking a Global leading role in this
 - Report on Ethically Aligned Design is out for comment by 15 May
 - New standards series established for standardization ideas coming from this group
- Global Initiative Key Events
 - First face-to-face meeting held at the Hague, August 2016
 - Civil Law Rules on Robotics: Prioritizing Human Well-being in the Age of Artificial Intelligence - K4I Forum Dinner Debate in cooperation with IEEE
- Collabratec: lots of initiatives in R8, many new ones in Africa
- IEEE Globalspec Engineering360
 - Goal of 10% EBITDA, very healthy return for this business
 - 4M \$ Royalties annually
 - Business-oriented, content-rich marketing platforms that drives traffic and audience engagement

- Provides advertisers with a multi-media platform to access and engage directly with the engineering community
- Epics in IEEE
 - Collaborating with R8 Young Professionals: Mind the Gap competition in Portugal, Spain, and Greece
 - Awarded \$39K USD to R8 projects - \$28K USD to projects in Europe
 - Sponsored event during the 2016 R8 YP Conference in Regensburg, Germany
 - 2017 plans include strengthening relationship with YP and Student Branches throughout Europe
- IEEE SIGHT
 - Croatia: Missing Children Emergency Response System
 - Tunisia: TAWASOL
 - SIGHT Groups have expanded to Croatia Section, Greece Section, Nigeria Section, Tunisia Section, and Western Saudi Arabia Section
 - Outreach sessions held in 2016 at R8 meeting in Monaco, Young Professionals meeting in Iceland, and SYP Congress in Germany
- IEEE Eta Kappa Nu Chapter Installations
 - IEEE-HKN Mu Eta Chapter, University of Kwazulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa
 - IEEE-HKN Mu Nu Chapter, Politecnico de Torino, Turin, Italy
- 2017 IEEE Medal Recognition Recipients
 - IEEE Medal of Honor: Kees Schouhamer Immink, President, Turing Machines, Inc., Rotterdam, The Netherlands
 - 7 of the 19 IEEE Medals and Recognitions recipients from Region 8
 - Alberto Broggi, Professor, University of Parma and General Manager, VisLab, Parma, Italy, recipient of the IEEE Medal for Environmental and Safety Technologies and featured speaker at the IEEE Vision, Innovation, and Challenges Summit
- 2017 IEEE Technical Field Award Recipients 6 of the 31 recipients from Region 8
 - IEEE Cledo Brunetti Award: Guido Groeseneken, Professor, KU Leuven, and Fellow, IMEC, Leuven, Belgium
 - IEEE Andrew S. Grove Award: Sorin Cristoloveanu, Director of Research CNRS, IMEP-LAHC, Grenoble, France
 - IEEE Gustav Robert Kirchhoff Award: Marcel J.M. Pelgrom, Consultant (Retired), Pelgrom Consult, Helmond, The Netherlands
 - IEEE Innovation in Societal Infrastructure Award: Antonello Monti, Professor, Institute Director, E. ON ERC RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany
 - IEEE Charles Proteus Steinmetz Award: David John Law, Distinguished Technologist, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Oban, Argyll, Scotland
 - IEEE Nikola Tesla Award: Adel Razek, Senior Research Director (Emeritus) and Professor (Honorary), The National Center for Scientific Research and Centralesupelec, Gif Sur Yvette, France
- IEEE Vienna Office Update
 - Co-located with Austrian Standards Institute (ASI)
 - Formal office opening ceremony to follow.
 - In negotiations with top professional staff candidates
 - Meeting space can be viewed and rented through [ASI website](#)

Questions:

- RolandSaam: What is purpose of Vienna Office?
 - Jim Prendergast :Coordination of multiple activities: Right now 2 staff are planned, one general and one focussed on standards staff, will grow depending on the demand that we have. We expect great success here as well.
- Egypt Section chair : Membership drop from 2000 to 700, there is a lot of effect from having IEEEExplore access for everybody.
 - Not only for Egypt, but for everybody. Major advantage. We continue to deal with these questions

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanks IEEE Executive Director **Jim Prendergast** for his presentation.

111. Nominations and Appointments

R8 Past Director **Costas Stasopoulos** informed the committee about the upcoming elections, and the nominations proces. Currently, the following positions are looking for candidates, for which the committee is invited to nominate people before the deadline 15 of May. He stressed that Director candidates need significant time, and that the current Vice chairs are expected to be reelected.

- Director - Elect (elected by whole R8 membership)
- Vice chairs (elected by R8 committee)

The Vice Chairs election is to be held in Sydney, at the next Region 8 Meeting.

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked IEEE Region 8 Past Director **Costas Stasopoulos** for his presentation and encouraged possible candidates to nominate themselves.

112. Student Activities Report

IEEE R8 Vice Chair Student Activities **Efthymia Arvaniti** presented her team to the committee.

- Efthymia K. Arvaniti, SAC Chair

- Mona Ghassemian, Past SAC Chair
- Ana Inês Inácio, Student Representative
- Paul Micallef, Student Paper Contest Coordinator
- Sara Ben Rabii, Student Branch Coordinator
- José Miguel A. Sepulcre, Communications Coordinator
- Yara Melki, Awards Coordinator
- George Papadimitriou, Projects Coordinator

IEEE R8 Vice Chair Student Activities **Efthymia Arvaniti** presented the team's goals, aligned with R8 priorities:

- Increase the IEEE Footprint
- Work closely with the Section SACs of the Sections to increase member retention
- Staying up-to-date with our Students: Events and Activities and assist when needed
- Approach and collaborate with the AFI and Young Professionals Subcommittee to increase the industry involvement in the student level (e.g. establish student internships)
- Be the voice of the R8 Students

IEEE R8 Vice Chair Student Activities **Efthymia Arvaniti** mentioned the cooperation between Young Professionals and Student Activities and Action for Industry Committee, as well as the fruitful discussion yesterday between those teams. Afterwards, she gave the word to her team members, starting with Student Representative **Inês Inácio**. Student Representative **Inês Inácio** presented the current cross-sectional Congresses.

- Gulf Cooperation Council SYP Congress : Bahrain, Manama, 7-8th May 2017
- Central European SYP Congress : Ukraine, Lviv, June 2017
- Middle Eastern SYP Congress : Tunisia, 1-4th of August 2017
- Hellenic SYP Congress : Greece, Athens, November 2017
- Western European SYP Congress : Spain, Valencia, TBA
- Nordic SYP Congress : Lithuania, TBA

Student Representative **Inês Inácio** presented the 2018 Student and Young Professional Congress deadlines:

- 17th of March Release of the Call
- 15th of April 1st Proposal Submission
- 1st of May Feedback
- 30th of June, Final Proposal Submission
- 31st of July, Results Announcement
- 10th of August, Feedback to R8 Meeting

Student Representative **Inês Inácio** presented the process of updating the R8 student branch database, as well as the results, which are the basis for the Revitalization project. Full details can be found in the presentation, on the [meeting website](#). presented the Revitalization Project:

Vision

- Facilitate the interaction communication with the Student Branches all over Region 8
- Make the information as accessible as possible to everyone
- By growing a FAMILY we are increasing numbers

Mission

- Engage with the students by sending personalized emails (may take a lot of time but totally worth it)
- Creation of volunteer pool: Investing in people
- Collect updated emails into a database

Student Branch Coordinator **Sara Ben Rabii** presented the network for IEEE student branch/student chapter counselors and advisors:

- First phase (2016):
 - Collected ideas and shared them with MGA SAC.
- Second Phase (2017):
 - Communicate with the winners of last year's Outstanding Counselor Awards and ask them 2-3 key questions to be able to find a model and provide to other SB counselors.
 - Evaluate and select ideas will form a pilot system to run in our region (2018)
 - Announce the programme (eNotice/Collabratec) to all the Region 8 Counselors and ask for their participations.
 - Report the outcomes to MGA SAC to get feedback and transfer the experience to the other regions.

Student Paper Coordinator **Paul Micallef** presented the Student Paper Contest, and urged the Section Chairs to promote the contest more, as this year only 10 submissions were received. He also mentions the rule changes that are in progress, especially to allow other authors on the paper, similar to other competitions.

Short Listed Five Students for EUROCON 2017

- Lucija Brezočnik University of Maribor
- Elly De Pelecijn KU LEUVEN
- Mathieu Jadin Universite Catholique de Louvain
- IstvanTacz Budapest University of Technology and Economics

- Tim Thielemans KU LEUVEN

Electronic Communications Coordinator **José Miguel A. Sepulcre** introduced the Facebook and webpage related to the Student Activities Committee. He stressed that both webpages are there to promote interaction between the team and the student members, as well as the importance of the visual aspect of information.

Awards Coordinator Yara Melki introduced the awards submission for 2017, she stressed that R8 increased in all the awards. Full details can be found in the presentation on the [meeting website](#). Projects and initiatives coordinator **George Papadimitriou** introduced the project "Mind the Gap", initiatives that bridge the generations gap with technology. He stressed that the focus for this year is stabilizing this contest, as well as increasing the presence in Africa.

- Idea Submission Deadline: 22nd May 2017
- Winners Announcement: 22nd June 2017
- Idea Evaluation: 31st July 2017
- 6 Month Implementation: 22nd August 2017

The second project he introduced is IEEE Skills Match, a project management tool for IEEE Project Leaders. Questions

- Fatma Taher: Student GCC, no strong connections between the local team and SAC?
 - FA: we target at everybody, there are gaps, with UAE, and others, we need one person as student rep, We do our best to reach everyone.
- Sean Kaplan: SYP does not have a lot of presence in Africa. Africon has not awards presented?
 - Femia: Anita Mekwunye working on SYP in Africa, Awards are aligned already for this year.
- Ali Hessami UKI: We have an event that needs to have more attention, Young Entrepreneurs.
 - Femia: please reach out to us.

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

114: Technical Activities Report

IEEE R8 Vice Chair Technical Activities Christopher James presented his team, and gave an overview of the goals, in cooperation with his team members.

- Goals for the committee:
 - Support the SC chairs
 - Empower SCs to challenge the status quo
 - Learn best practice within this role from wider IEEE regions
 - Create a preliminary initiative linking Technical Society expertise to that of the Region
 - Ensure a stable, long-term view on the regions conference programme
 - Particular emphasis on Standards/Industry Programs
- **Amara Amara**: Chapter Coordination Committee
 - Chapter Coordination Meeting
 - 20 attendees, 11 societies, 2 councils
 - Presentation Paul Cunningham
 - Team to be set up about the possibility to form Student Chapter (technical, society related) without Student Branch.
- **Peter Nagy**: Conference coordination
 - Information sharing, refer to presentation online. Many links for organizers as well as attendees.
 - **Tomislav Capuder**: R8 continues to be the leader in organizing conferences. Of the 400+ organized in R8, 20 are cosponsored, 2 requests per month, a template exists.
 - **Adel Alimi**: organizers only need to commit to
 - Plagiarism check
 - Have a level of IEEE R8 involved
 - Tech Co-chair should be know IEEE society member
 - 2 current or previous R8 committee members involved in review process
 - Discount for IEEE members
 - **Sean Kaplan**: Flagship conferences
 - Three geographic ones
 - 2 themed conferences
 - Encourage anybody to consider hosting one
 - **Stamatis Dragoumanos**: Planned activities
 - Morocco accreditation workshop
 - Webinars
 - Competition and funding
 - **Andrejs Romanovs**: Action for industry
 - Promote YPs
 - Intermediate steps
 - Immediate steps
 - **David Law**: Standards

- Recent highlights in Kenya and Uganda, MoU's signed.
- www.standardsuniversity.org, joint activity from SA and EA.
- Opportunities, grants for research on standards.
- Standards education student grants

IEEE R8 Vice Chair Technical Activities Christopher James thanked his team for their presentation. The full presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

115 Workshops-Interactive Session Instructions

Region 8 Secretary **Jan Verveckken** introduced the parallel workshop division of the committee based on lanyard colors. He invited the three workshop leaders, **Efthymia Arvaniti, Sara Barros, Rui Costa** to present themselves. He invited all workshop holders to present themselves and the topic of their workshop in 2 min.

- First workshop slot: 14:00-14:40: Sections Congress motions
 - **Efthymia Arvaniti** and **Martin Bastiaans**
 - **Rui Costa** and **Magdalena Salazar Palma**
 - **Sara Barros** and **Costas Stasopoulos**
- Second workshop slot: 14:45-15:25
 - Gloria Chukwudebe, Africa Workshop
 - Antonio Luque, Membership Activities Workshop
 - Jim Prendergast, Vienna Office Workshop
 - Tim Lee, SIGHT
 - Paul Cunningham, AH Humanitarian Activities
- Third workshop slot: 15:30-16:10
 - Vincent Kabuunga, Africa Area Meeting
 - SAC, YP, Afl, Electronic Communications, PA
 - AR, Strategy, Humanitarian Activities, Educational Activities, Chapter Coordination
 - MD, WiE, R8news, Section Vitality, Standards
 - VCF, Ha, Life Members, Conference Coordination

117. Recess

No formal Recess call was given.

118. Group Photo

A group picture was taken in the middle of the room. IEEE R8 Secretary Jan Verveckken thanked the committee, and gave out final instructions concerning locking the room during lunch, as well as the group photo after the lunch.

201. Sections Congress 2017

IEEE Region 8 Sections Congress Coordinator **Marko Delimar** introduced the Section Congress Recommendations, the material that exist to prepare for it, as well as process to create these recommendations. He introduced the workshop group leaders, recommendations criteria matrix. He stated that such templates would be available during the workshops.

- What are Section Congress Recommendations?
 - a unique forum to collect input from our grassroots leadership to help shape the future of our organization
 - the 2017 recommendations process builds on the experiences from previous events with some refinements
- Supporting Documents
 - A message from Vin Piuri, IEEE Sections Congress Program Committee Chair, highlighting the Sections Congress 2017 Recommendation Process (Word document)
 - IEEE Region 8 Sections Congress Recommendations Template (Word document)
 - Member Segmentation Data (specific to Region 8) (Excel worksheet)
 - Member Segmentation Highlights (PDF)
 - Recommendations Process 2017 (PowerPoint presentation)
 - 2014, 2011 and 2008 Recommendations (PowerPoint presentation)
- Recommendations process
 - Each region is requested to submit up to three prioritized recommendations must be based on evidence of importance to members as pointed out by the 2016 Member Segmentation Study - focus should be on high importance but low satisfaction
 - Recommendations must support one of following strategic areas:
 - Networking
 - Skills Improvement
 - Public Service
 - For each recommendation, the target member group(s) must be specified (e.g. YP, WIE, students, industry professionals, underserved geographic areas, ...)
 - Recommendations are due 1 May 2017. OpCom will review the recommendations for clarity, potential overlap with other submissions and budget impact

- The region will be informed if the recommendation does not meet criteria, is currently in process, or may have significant budget impact
- All recommendations and back up information will be distributed to Sections Congress attendees by 30 June 2017
- Discussion on the recommendations will be encouraged via social media prior to, during, and after the Congress
- Voting by primary delegates can be completed anytime during the Congress, up to 9:00 am, Sunday, 13 August 2017, using the SC2017 mobile app and web
- Top three recommendations will be presented on 13 August 2017 at the Sections Congress Closing Ceremony
- Products and services sorted by difference of total importance and total satisfaction
 - 1) Technical Skills (for example, algorithm development techniques)
 - 2) Online access to standards
 - 3) Continuing education opportunities
 - 4) Promoting the appreciation of technology and our profession to the general public
 - 5) Opportunities for professional networking
 - 6) Representation on public policy issues related to the profession
 - 7) Online access to transactions, journals, and magazines
 - 8) Online access to conference proceedings
 - 9) Interaction with other members
 - 10) Open access publishing

Questions:

- Dirk van Hertem: How can we strategically make recommendations that will actually go through?
 - Marko Delimar: We had very few recommendations that were implemented. We need ideas that are good local but also globally. Possible the past recommendations failed because they were a wishlist for R8.

IEEE Region 8 Secretary **Jan Verveckken** reminded the committee of the afternoon parallel sessions plan. IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** wished the committee fruitful discussions. IEEE Sweden Section chair **Mats Edvinson** reminded everyone of the sharp departure time of the busses for the evening plan.

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

202: Parallel Tracks

Due to their nature, these are not minuted. The recommendations that resulted, have been shared with the committee in an online survey. The resulting recommendations were sent to MGA. The results will be presented to the committee in Sydney meeting.

204: Overview of the results of the Motions for Sections Congress

IEEE R8 Secretary **Jan Verveckken** explained the further procedure for selecting the R8 preferred recommendations from the created ones. First, R8 OpCom would filter those recommendations that are realistic enough to present to the committee. The committee would then receive an electronic survey, to select their preference. The preferred recommendations would be sent to MGA.

IEEE R8 Secretary **Jan Verveckken** reminded everyone about the bus schedule, as well as the daylight savings time change. IEEE R8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** requested a motion for recess, which was given, and carried.

300: Call to Order and Roll Call

IEEE R8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** welcomed the committee back for the second day of meeting.

301: President-Elect Candidates' Debate

Rui Costa moderated a debate between the two IEEE President-Elect Candidates **Vincenzo Piuri** and **Jacek Zurada**. All candidate presentation can be found on the meeting website and on the websites of the respective candidates. The informative session gave all meeting guests a good overview of the two candidates.

302: Secretary's Report

IEEE Region 8 Secretary **Jan Verveckken** presented the report as it was printed in the agenda book. He stressed the importance of his team, as well as the local organizing team, and urged the committee to thank both groups. He stressed that the largest responsibilities of the team are to organize meetings, as well as to support the committee and the R8 OpCom.

The members of the Secretary Team:

- Christian Schmid
- George Michael
- Dora Fourou

The members of the local organizing team:

- Alberto Lorente Leal
- Andreas Nylander
- Elena Vasileva
- Babak Taghavi
- Pouya Pelghami
- Samarth Deo

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

303: Treasurer's Report

IEEE Region 8 Treasurer **Ralph Kennel** thanked IEEE Region 8 Past Treasurer **Brian Harrington** for his fantastic work during the past 12 years. He explained that currently, the transfer of powers between the treasurers is not complete, and delayed by software issues between the UK and German software providers.

IEEE Region 8 Past Treasurer **Brian Harrington** explained that the steps taken to transfer the treasurer power might have to be retaken due to this software issue. This will be resolved.

IEEE Region 8 Past Treasurer **Brian Harrington** discussed the various meetings and SYP congress that have been a large burden on the budget in 2016. He discussed all major expenses as well as major incomes. He discussed the independent auditing of the financials, to coincide with the transfer between treasurers, to present the next treasurer with a clean slate.

IEEE Region 8 Treasurer **Ralph Kennel** thanked IEEE Region 8 Past Treasurer **Brian Harrington** for his fantastic work during the past 12 years.

IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked both past and current Treasurer for their presentations.

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

313: Region 8 Meeting and Section Congress

IEEE R8 Section Congress Coordinator **Marko Delimar** presented the schedule for R8 meeting as well as the Sections congress. He stressed the organization concerning hotel rooms and congress registration. He explained the Visa procedures, which differ depending on the country of residence or nationality of the applicant. **Cheryl Sinauskas** stressed the R8 committee that the visa costs would be reimbursed. The full presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

Questions:

- unclear who asked: Can we all register ourselves without invitation?
 - Marko Delimar: You are free to register, but will pay yourself to attend, lodge, etc. Any member is welcome to attend at their own cost. Sections are encouraged to send delegates, get in contact with Jan Verwecken or Marko Delimar to help you with accommodation.
- Costas Stasopoulos: So we register with a code to the Sections congress, but not for a hotel?
 - Marko Delimar: Indeed, nobody registers to a hotel, we will combine all hotel reservations together.
- Costas Stasopoulos: extra room, extra days?
 - Marko Delimar: We can arrange extra rooms, we can not arrange extra days outside of 9-14 August.
- Ali Hessami: Secondary delegates?
 - Marko Delimar: All Secondary delegates will have to be covered by their section/themselves, count with a cost of 4000\$.
- Costas Stasopoulos: Reimbursement only in August?
 - Marko Delimar: Advance reimbursement is possible, either through MGA or through R8. Reimbursement on actual cost, you need an actual R8 expense reimbursement sheet to be filled.
- unclear who asked: What is secondary delegate uses the same room?
 - Marko Delimar: that would be without extra cost, as the cost is per room. Maybe a small extra for the breakfast.
- unclear: Same form to ask reimbursement?
 - Marko Delimar: Both those funded by MGA or R8 will fill in the R8 expense report.
- unclear: Visa and passport validity?
 - Marko Delimar: Your visa is valid for 12 months, your passport needs to be valid for the same period
- unclear: The weather?
 - Marko Delimar: Australian weather, you will need long sleeves, a jacket, maybe rain. But not winter jackets.
- unclear: Anything organized to stay longer, together with other delegates?
 - Marko Delimar: nothing organized to stay longer.
- Jan Haase: POCO is planned just before R8 meeting, would be interesting to stay.
- Ralph Kennel: Some airlines offer free layover nights.
- unclear: can we stay longer?
 - Marko Delimar: you are free to stay as long before or after as possible
- unclear: personal question regarding staying longer,
 - Marko Delimar: such questions we will deal with 1 on 1.
- Fatma Taher: If we book business class, how do we arrange reimbursements?
 - Marko Delimar: we will not reimburse business class tickets?
 - Cheryl Sinauskas: if you provide us with a price estimate for an economy ticket on the same day, we will reimburse the latter.
- Martin Bastiaans: additional delegates from a section?
 - Marko Delimar: additional delegates will not be reimbursed.

304. Awards and Recognitions

IEEE Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** shortly presented his team. He reminded the section chairs can give certificates of appreciation to anybody they deem deserving, and that templates are available.

The presentation includes all awards handed out during the Awards ceremony the night before.

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

IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked IEEE Region 8 Director **Costas Stasopoulos** for a short and sweet presentation. She reminded the committee to nominate as many people as deserving for the different awards.

305. Member Activities Report

IEEE Region 8 Vice Chair Member Activities **Antonio Luque** presented the goals for his team, as well as his team to the committee.

- The point is to engage, if possible become member, if possible forever, if possible become volunteers.
 - Number of subcommittees, present the teams.
- Membership Development: **Andrejs Romanovs**
 - Best team possible, part of the team present, some virtual meeting too.
 - Some statistics, we can prepare training for your MD officers.
 - We are increasing only a little, now we are stable, but constantly losing members.
 - In February we have the real number of members that stay with us?
 - Well prepared trainings are available, such as the workshop held in Tunis, Tunisia. A similar workshop will be held in Bratislava Slovakia in May 19-20, 2017.
- Sara Barros: YP chair.
 - Long detailed report in the agenda book
 - Almost a 3rd of our members. It is vital to address their needs. "...to inspire, energise, empower and engage young professionals to envision and realise their dreams..."
 - Focus on your members, as well what we can do
 - GSM no issue
 - YP just starting their careers, we lose 1-2/3rds of members there. We are focussing on the company branch program
 - YPitch, new program.
 - Sections that do not have an affinity group yet are shown, encouraged to contact the YP team, and to encourage the YP volunteers in their section to start their affinity group.
 - Presenting the team
- Jan Haase: PA chair
 - Soft skill topics
 - Explains the cost division to have meetings
- Bojan Nikolic: R8 News
 - Presents the team.
 - Last year, 2 issues of the R8 news.
 - Our team needs to grow, we want to have more volunteers to improve our efficiency.
 - Hard copy, website and facebook page are the main products.
 - Goal is to be more visible and social media presence.
- Youmna el Bitar: WiE, aided by team member Maria Alexandra Paun
 - Presents her team, the memberships data as well as the affinity groups
 - Revitalize dissolved and dormant affinity groups
 - present how to form new section or student branch affinity groups. Many may be active, but not officially create. Encourages all section chairs to assist the official creation of such affinity groups.
 - Help us, form these affinity groups!
 - Other goals, on the report. Have your branches apply for the awards.
 - Programs: coffee talks, star program, mentorship program
- Charles Turner : Life members
 - AD: 2000 Life members, most in 12 life member affinity groups
 - After retirement, people no longer renew their membership
 - Increase your membership, look at the older members too, sharp drops there
 - You can have a life member affinity group without having life members
- Tony Davies: Technology History Activities
 - Myself a historical exhibit, Roland and Martin, Antonio and Antonio.
 - How to develop future, by documenting the past
 - Creativity necessary
 - Milestone : It takes a few years, prepare it well. Many great possible candidates, but long procedure.
- Alexandros Osana of Humanitarian Sub Committee passes his speaking time to Tim Lee
 - Team presented of R8 Humanitarian Committee
 - Answers to several working groups. Please check the presentation for details.

IEEE Region 8 Vice Chair Member Activities **Antonio Luque** opened the floor to questions. Questions

- Costas Stasopoulos: to MD team, Do we keep up with those section representatives that we trained in the MD workshops?
 - Andrejs Romanovs: we inform MD officers, about the current topics.
- unclear: will presentations be available?
 - Jan Verveckken: all presentations will be available online.
- Ali Hessami: question for HA from the SIGHT group. Is it necessary to complete write the project proposal, or is a conceptual application acceptable? Deadlines?
 - Alexandros Osana: 3 deadlines, to be seen on SIGHT website. It is required to have a feasible project proposal, as their is little interaction before the deadline on this subject.

IEEE Region 8 Vice Chair Member Activities **Antonio Luque** thanked his teams.
The full presentations can be found on the [meeting website](#).

307. Technical Activities

IEEE Technical Activities Board Vice President **Marina Ruggieri** recalled her presentation last year, where she shared her ideas with the committee. Since January 1st, she jumped into the different responsibilities from this positions.

- Jim Prendergast presented strategy, as well as outcome of the board retreat.
- Keywords to remember, but the plan is much broader, the strategic retreat confirmed some keywords,
 - new communities: Africa
 - Young Professional, Entrepreneur!
 - I want IEEE to be in:
 - NorthSouth Pole
 - * Why are we not there ?
 - * We need to be aware of what is happening there
 - Food engineering
 - Dig Once
 - * Broadband internet, you dig for every utility, why not only dig once, for the future
 - Design 4 Ethics
 - TAB AdHoc Committees on the topics
 - Membership by topic: Would be the new access point for the membership model.
 - YPs in the new topics, the team is part of the different groups.
 - * Eddy Custovic: Food engineering,
 - * Rafal Sliz, Samarth Deo: Poles
 - * Shashank Gaur, Mohammed El-Dallal :Dig once
 - * Sara Barros: Design for Ethics
 - * Come to TAB in June!!!
 - * All topics, it should be mandatory to focus on them
 - In Each topic, what is Region 8 doing ?
 - Poles:Let's do something : Marina Ruggieri at the Artic Talks, just an attendee, create awareness.

Questions

- Christopher James: How do we solve that some societies do not recognize regions or sections, and do not cooperate, leading to doubled efforts. How do we do this?
 - Marina Ruggieri: last year was hard for TAB, I know this issue, but we are very interested. Group people by Topic framework, not umbrella of organizational unit. Everybody can contribute to the topics.
 - Mats Edvinsson: Why are paying if there are other topics anyway
 - Marina Ruggieri: we need to deeper in the structure, reminder with new ideas
 - Alex Osana: Suggestion: focus on working with some companies. I think that we may make use of these contacts, with these priorities. This may drive also the academics.
- Marina Ruggieri: if you have specific information about companies and cooperations, please contact me.

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

308. IEEE Region 10

IEEE Region 10 Director **Kukjin Chun** presented Region 10 general numbers.

- No longer India, but China is growing fastest now, and Indonesia will follow soon
- APOIEEE Office, the large membership was the driving reason
- Student YP WiE Life member event
- R10 SAC, quite the same as R8
- TENCON big conference, 848 attended. Similar to Eurocon
- R10AdHoc Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Internship

- Few workshop, going on for a few years
- Internship for student members
 - 2400 participants,
 - 30+ speakers,
 - 11 cities, including of and online,
 - 20 programs
- eNotice: R10 charges money to spread conference announcement via IEEE eNotice to all members in R10
- Geographic OU Submissions

IEEE Region 10 Director **Kukjin Chun** ended his presentation with extending a warm invitation to Sydney Section Congress! The full presentation can be found on the [meeting website](#).

309. Silent Reflection

IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** invited the committee to reflect on the past presentations, and formulate actions to take within their sections for the future.

310. Future Conferences

IEEE Region 8 Technical Activities Vice Chair **Christopher James** invited the hosts of the different future R8 flagship conferences to present their conference.

- Eurocon 2017: **Ljupco Karadzinov**, Orhid Macedonia
 - Visit to Monastery
 - YP etc will be added to agenda later
 - 216 submitted paper, 126 accepted
 - Plenary lecture, 7 in total, very interesting
 - Student paper competition
- Africon 2017 **Sean Kaplan** presents Africon in Capetown, September 2017
 - Conference Venue: V&A Waterfront, beautiful location.
 - Technical Topics: More technical program chairs are welcomed
 - bids expressed for 2019 by Kenya and Ghana, all interested are invited to contact Sean Kaplan.
- Melecon 2018, Morocco Section, **Mohammed el Mohajir**: will be held in Marrakesh
 - Was the host of many big events for the last years
 - very convenient and inexpensive to reach
 - nice country, rich culture
 - Marrakech is very ancient city
- EnergyCon June 2-7, 2018 Cyprus, **Nicos Micaelidis**
- Self healing, resilient and green electric power and energy systems
- Limassol, Cyprus, most important touristic city
- Eurocon 2018, Novi Sad, Serbia by **Vladimir Katic**
 - very easy to reach through Nikola Tesla airport
 - Conference connects timewise with the EXIT festival
 - the weekend before, the Tesla museum is a great place to visit.

IEEE Region 8 Technical Activities Vice Chair **Christopher James** suggested to colocate Histelcon 2019 with Eurocon 2019.

311. Section Development & Vitality

IEEE Region 8 Region Vitality Coordinator **Aleksandar Szabo** discussed the importance of Section Vitality. Topics he covered included:

- He urged the section chairs to train and inform themselves, and indicated the tools to do so in their presentation.
- He pointed out the differences between sections that may have big influences on the vitality. He pointed out the fact that many sections require elections this year, and briefly mentioned the general rules for elections in IEEE Sections.
- He pointed the committee to the easy tools that measure section vitality, and can be used for self assessment.
- He urged the committee to report officers always and as soon as possible.
- He discussed the importance of reporting meetings.

IEEE Region 8 Section Vitality Coordinator **Adam Jaztrebski** discussed the financial situation of the sections, and their reporting issues. He discussed

- the Finance reporting reporting results, all section financial reports were submitted on time.
- direct involvement with the section treasurers made this possible.
- easier and improved financial reporting procedures have helped.

Questions

- Costas Stasopoulos: let's aim for 100% bonus for every section next year.
- unclear: Section vitality dashboard is nice for the section, but we would like to add the student activities information.
 - Aleksandar Szabo: Vtools still growing, I will contact staff to do this.

312. Silent Reflection

IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** invited the committee to reflect on the past presentations, and formulate actions to take within their sections concerning the vitality, as well as the learning from the advice from Region 10.

314. Motions

IEEE Region 8 Past Director **Costas Stasopoulos** presented a motion to approval the Formation of the Kazakhstan Subsection in Region 8. The motion read: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A petition was submitted by Alex James containing the required number of qualified signatures, requesting the formation of the IEEE Kazakhstan Subsection in Region 8.

The boundaries of the Subsection correspond to the boundaries of the country of Kazakhstan (see map).

The Kazakhstan Subsection will be a part of Region 8.

There are 28 voting members (2 GSMS, 18 Members, 8 Senior Members) and 35 Undergraduate Student Members in Kazakhstan. The organizer is: Alex James.

IEEE members in Kazakhstan have been very active in increasing IEEE membership in their country and are already active in organizing meetings in cooperation with local industry and universities.

Region 8 Committee is asked to approve the formation of the Kazakhstan Subsection.

Implementation: The IEEE Kazakhstan Subsection will be formed upon MGA Board action in June 2017.

The motion carried.

IEEE Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** welcomed the Kazakhstan Subsection into Region 8. IEEE President Elect Candidate **Vincenzo Piuri** lauded the work of the Kazakhstan members in preparation of their formation as subsection.

315. New Business

Region 8 Past Director **Costas Stasopoulos** introduced a new competition, which is supported by a signed MoU with General Electric. This European competition starts in April, lasts a full month. The first 3 teams are awarded with 15k Euros, a chance to create their own company, using an industrial platform, free training, free mentorship, working in the cloud. The competition is build around three different tracks: Energy, Aviation, Power Transformers.

316. Adjournment

Region 8 Director **Margaretha Eriksson** thanked everyone who organized and attended the meeting before entertaining a motion to end the Region 8 Committee meeting. The motion carried.

Section/Subsection Officers

Current Section and Subsection officers – with their position start dates – as available from SAMIEEE on 31 July 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	Coordinator	01-07-17	Philipp Huebner
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	01-03-17	Melanie Marianne Schranz
Austria	Organization	01-01-14	Friederich Kupzog
Austria	Organization	01-01-17	Norbert Eidenberger
Austria	Professional Activities	01-01-11	Gerhard Zucker
Austria	Public Relations	01-03-17	Melanie Marianne Schranz
Austria	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-03-17	Werner R Drexel
Austria	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-05-17	Melanie Marianne Schranz
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	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Wael Mohamed El-Medany
Bahrain	Industry Relations Coordinator	14-11-15	Hanan Hasan Saleh
Bahrain	Membership Development	13-06-17	Asim Mehmood
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	Assistant	01-01-17	Wilhelm C Van Etten
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	01-01-17	Robert E Bierwolf
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	03-05-17	Lieneke Kusters
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
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Membership Development	01-01-17	SABINA DACIC
Bulgaria	Chair	01-01-17	Kiril M Alexiev
Bulgaria	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Rossitza I Goleva
Bulgaria	Secretary	01-01-17	Katya K Asparuhova
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	Student Activities	10-09-15	Borislav Y Bedzhev
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	Assistant	21-04-17	Tomislav Pokrajcic
Croatia	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-01-17	Josip Balen
Croatia	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-17	Aleksandar Szabo
Croatia	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-17	Igor Kuzle
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	Industry Relations Coordinator	30-01-17	Dubravko Sabolic
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	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	Women in Engineering	01-02-16	Soulla P Louca
Cyprus	Young Professionals (YP) Member	01-02-16	Konstantinos Michail
Czechoslovakia	Chair	01-01-15	Matej Pacha
Czechoslovakia	Vice Chair	01-01-15	Jan Vrba
Czechoslovakia	Secretary	01-01-10	Tomas Fryza
Czechoslovakia	Treasurer	01-01-10	Jan Sistek
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	Secretary/Treasurer	01-08-17	Troels B Sorensen
Denmark	Industry Relations Coordinator	06-05-13	Ole M Lauridsen
Denmark	Membership Development	02-05-16	Erik Stilling
Denmark	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-08-17	Frede Blaabjerg
Denmark	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Erik Stilling
Denmark	Student Activities	12-01-17	Xiongfai Wang
Denmark	Student Activities	01-08-17	Florin Iov
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	Vice Chair, Technical Activities	01-01-16	Ahmed Hassan Yousef
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	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	01-01-17	AHMET KOSE
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	Treasurer	01-01-14	Sarang Thombre
Finland	Past Chair	01-01-16	Rafal Pawel Sliz
Finland	Assistant	01-01-16	Mario Jorge Pereira da Costa
Finland	Assistant	01-05-16	Mario Jorge Pereira da Costa
Finland	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-16	Perttu Parkatti
Finland	Membership Development	01-01-14	Sarang Thombre
Finland	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-14	Sarang Thombre
Finland	Student Activities	01-01-16	GAURAV PRAVIN KHAIRKAR
Finland	YP Representative	01-01-16	Joonas Kustaa Kokkonieni
Finland	YP Representative	01-06-17	Jenni Maria Rekola
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	eNotice Coordinator		Maria Trocan
France	Membership Development	01-01-17	Johan Debayle
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 Gutsmiedl 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	Membership Development	01-01-17	Mensah Sitti
Ghana	Professional Activities	01-01-17	Quist-Aphetsi Kester
Ghana	Student Activities	01-01-17	Maxwell Darko Addison
Ghana	Webmaster	01-01-17	MAHENDRA SHRIVAS
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	Newsletter Editor	16-02-17	Jozsef Klespitz
Hungary	Professional Activities	16-02-17	Gyorgy Eigner
Hungary	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	16-02-17	Gyorgy Eigner
Hungary	Student Activities	16-02-17	Gyorgy Eigner
Hungary	Webmaster	16-02-17	Jozsef Klespitz
Iceland	Chair	11-03-15	Thomas P Runarsson
Iceland	Vice Chair	11-03-15	Magnus Ulfarsson
Iceland	Secretary	11-03-15	Agust Valfellis
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	Vice Chair	01-01-17	Amin Nobakhti
Iran	Secretary	01-01-17	Farzaneh Abdollahi
Iran	Treasurer	21-09-15	S. Mohammad Razavizadeh
Iran	Chapter Coordinator	01-01-17	Mahmoud Shahabadi
Iran	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Hamid Soltanian-Zadeh
Iran	Membership Development	01-01-17	Sadjaad Ozgoli
Iran	Newsletter Editor	04-02-15	Aliakbar Tadaion Taft
Iran	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-17	Jawad A Salehi
Iran	Professional Activities	01-01-17	Nosratollah Granpayeh
Iran	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-16	Hussein Shirvani
Iran	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-17	Farzaneh Abdollahi
Iran	Student Activities	10-03-15	Reza Sarvari
Iran	Women in Engineering	01-01-17	Maryam Tayefeh Mahmoudi
Iran	YP Representative	01-01-17	Mohammad javad Emadi
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	SAMIEEEE 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	Treasurer	01-05-15	liran katzir
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	Student Representative	15-05-17	Andrea Rossi
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	Educational Activities	01-01-16	Ezzaldeen Jamil Najjar
Jordan	eNotice Coordinator	22-03-16	Ahmad Saeed Ayyad
Jordan	Historian	25-06-14	Mohammed Z Mohammed
Jordan	Industry Relations Coordinator	05-04-17	Ahmed Al-Omush
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	Student Activities	17-04-17	Haya Yousef AlAreeni

Jordan	Student Representative	17-04-17	nada manna
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	Administrator	01-01-17	Reinhardt Rading
Kenya	Awards	01-03-17	Humphrey M Muhindi
Kenya	Conference	12-09-16	Reinhardt Rading
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	Publicity	01-12-16	Vincent Egessa
Kenya	Representative	11-01-16	John Baptist Matogo
Kenya	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	07-05-12	Wilfred N Mwema
Kenya	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	23-02-17	Humphrey M Muhindi
Kenya	SIGHT Chair	05-09-16	Robert Macharia Wanyoike
Kenya	Student Representative	19-09-16	Sarah Wanjohi
Kenya	Webmaster	12-09-16	Reinhardt Rading
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	Newsletter Editor	04-02-14	fedalshahwan
Kuwait	Professional Activities	03-01-16	Hanan A Al-Awadhi
Kuwait	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	14-02-12	Fadhel H Abulhasan
Kuwait	Student Activities	01-01-16	Mohammad S Alfares
Kuwait	Student Activities	03-01-16	Abdullah K Alqallaf
Kuwait	Webmaster	03-01-16	zainab adel abulhasan
Latvia	Chair	01-01-16	Andrejs Romanovs
Latvia	Secretary	01-01-16	Anastasia Zhiravetska
Latvia	Treasurer	01-01-16	Nadezhda Kunicina
Latvia	Membership Development	01-10-16	Anna Litvinenko
Latvia	Professional Activities	01-01-16	Arturs Aboltins
Latvia	Student Representative	01-01-16	Armands Senfelds
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	Awards	01-01-17	Abdallah Kassem
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	Assistant	03-04-17	AbdelHakim Anouar Boudhir
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	03-04-17	Mustapha Benjillali
Morocco	Student Activities	01-10-15	Zoubida Alaoui Mdaghri
Morocco	Webmaster	01-03-17	Amr Marrakchi
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
Nigeria	Women in Engineering	01-01-16	Chidimma Ijeoma Ibeh-Dimnwobi
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	28-01-14	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	Educational Activities	01-05-17	Mahmoud I. Masoud
Oman	Membership Development	13-04-15	Mohammed M Beit-Suwailem
Oman	Publicity	13-04-15	Ahmed S Al-Maashari
Oman	Representative	13-04-15	Ali Amur Al Shidhani
Oman	Representative	01-07-17	QAIS AL-SARIRI
Oman	Student Activities	01-01-17	Ashraf Saleem
Oman	Technical Activities	13-04-15	Salah M. Al-Majeed
Oman	Webmaster	15-02-16	ABDELKAWY ABDELHADY ABDELHALEEM ABDELAZIZ
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	Industry Relations Coordinator	25-03-15	Marcin Michal Ziolk
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	Student Activities	01-07-17	Maciej Grzegorz Borowka
Poland	vTools Coordinator	01-01-16	Sebastian Michal Stynski
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	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	SAMIEEEE RECIPIENT	01-01-14	Lupco Karadzinov
Republic of Macedonia	SAMIEEEE 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	Federenciuc Dumitru
Romania	Membership Development	01-02-16	Liviu Goras
Romania	Membership Development	01-02-16	Sergiu S Nedevschi
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	SAMIEEEE 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)	Chair	01-01-17	Mikhail Shestopalov
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	01-02-17	Abdullah S Al-Yousef
Saudi Arabia	Professional Activities	01-02-17	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	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	28-12-12	Bratislav D Milovanovic
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	Primoz Kocevar
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	Assistant Treasurer	01-03-17	Jacques H Van Wyk
South Africa	Assistant Treasurer	23-04-17	Jacques H Van Wyk
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	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	21-07-17	Antonio Robles
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	Student Representative	02-04-17	Angela Martinez Martinez
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	13-04-17	Manuel Antonio Ballesteros Carballo
Sweden	Chair	01-01-14	Mats Edvinsson
Sweden	Vice Chair	17-03-16	Luis Guillermo Martinez Ballesteros
Sweden	Vice Chair	16-03-17	Samarth Deo
Sweden	Secretary	16-03-17	Yuxiang Zhu
Sweden	Treasurer	17-03-16	Christofer Silfvenius
Sweden	Assistant	16-03-17	Luis Guillermo Martinez Ballesteros
Sweden	Industry Relations Coordinator	17-03-16	Viacheslav Izosimov
Sweden	Membership Development	01-01-13	P Rune H Persson
Sweden	Membership Development	16-03-17	Arnold N Pears
Sweden	Newsletter Editor	17-03-16	P Rune H Persson
Sweden	Newsletter Editor	16-03-17	Celestine O Iwendi
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	Women in Engineering	01-01-17	Elena Vasileva
Sweden	YP Representative	01-09-16	Alberto LorenteLeal
Switzerland	Chair	28-04-17	Maria-Alexandra Paun
Switzerland	Vice Chair	28-04-17	Danilo Zanatta Filho
Switzerland	Treasurer	31-03-15	Danilo Zanatta Filho
Switzerland	Past Chair	28-04-17	Andreas Koschak
Switzerland	Past Chair	28-04-17	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 Giardina
Switzerland	Student Activities	31-05-13	Hans-A Loeliger
Switzerland	Webmaster	01-01-11	Sara Grassi
Switzerland	Women in Engineering	19-05-11	Maria-Alexandra Paun
Switzerland	YP Representative	28-04-17	Joana Machado
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 Khalfa
Tunisia	Conference Coordinator	01-01-17	Mohamed Laaraiedh
Tunisia	Coordinator	01-01-17	Samar Baba
Tunisia	Educational Activities	01-01-17	Fdhila Raja
Tunisia	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-01-17	nihel ben youssef
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	Professional Activities	01-01-17	Nadhem Bardaa
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	14-04-16	Berna Ozbek
Turkey	Coordinator	15-04-16	Serhat Erkucuk
Turkey	Educational Activities	14-04-16	Tuncer Baykas
Turkey	Industry Relations Coordinator	14-04-16	Basak Yuksel
Turkey	Membership Development	23-12-16	Basak Yuksel
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	Secretary	01-01-16	IRYNA B IVASENKO
Ukraine	Treasurer	01-01-16	Mikhail V Balaban
Ukraine	Chapter Coordinator	02-02-16	Yuliya Averyanova
Ukraine	Conference	02-02-16	Olexiy Roshchupkin
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	Professional Activities	02-02-16	Vladimir I Fesenko
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	Treasurer	01-01-17	ADNAN ALRAIS
United Arab Emirates	Assistant	01-01-12	Eesa M Bastaki
United Arab Emirates	Assistant	01-06-14	Ahmed Dabbagh
United Arab Emirates	Awards & Recognition Committee Chair	01-03-17	Alavikunhu Panthakkan
United Arab Emirates	Chapter Coordinator	01-06-14	Nazih Khaddaj Mallat
United Arab Emirates	Conference Coordinator	01-03-17	Piyush Maheshwari
United Arab Emirates	Educational Activities	01-03-17	Vishwesh Akre
United Arab Emirates	eNotice Coordinator	09-08-16	Essa I Basaeed
United Arab Emirates	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-03-17	Bushra Abbas AlBelooshi
United Arab Emirates	Membership Development	01-01-07	Adeel Sultan
United Arab Emirates	Newsletter Editor	01-03-17	Kamarul Faizal Hashim
United Arab Emirates	Nominations and Appointments Chair	01-01-16	Kahtan A Mezher
United Arab Emirates	Professional Activities	01-03-17	Mahesh Nair
United Arab Emirates	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	15-12-13	Nazih Khaddaj Mallat
United Arab Emirates	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-03-17	Bushra Abbas AlBelooshi
United Arab Emirates	Student Activities	19-06-14	Wathiq M Mansoor
United Arab Emirates	Student Representative	01-06-17	Sirine Dhaouadi
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	Chapter Coordinator	01-06-17	Premesh Shehan Lowe
United Kingdom and Ireland	Conference Coordinator	11-10-12	Roy C Ediss
United Kingdom and Ireland	Education	01-06-17	Zeyad Al-Shibaany
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	eNotice Coordinator	03-07-17	Lai Bun Lok
United Kingdom and Ireland	eNotice Coordinator	03-07-17	Premesh Shehan Lowe
United Kingdom and Ireland	Historian	01-01-10	Peter C J Hill
United Kingdom and Ireland	Industry Relations Coordinator	01-03-17	Roderick Ian Muttram
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	Representative	01-02-17	AHMED F ZOBAA
United Kingdom and Ireland	Representative	01-03-17	Maria M De Souza
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	Educational Activities	13-04-17	Justin Varghese
Western Saudi Arabia	Industry Relations Coordinator	05-06-17	BASIM JAMAL ALOFEE
Western Saudi Arabia	Membership Development	12-03-17	Mohamed Mostafa
Western Saudi Arabia	Newsletter Editor	13-04-17	Justin Varghese
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
Western Saudi Arabia	Webmaster	10-03-17	Mohammed I ALghamdi
Zambia	Chair	09-01-17	Simon Shangwa Muwowo
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	19-05-17	Shedden Masupe
Botswana Subsection	Vice Chair	19-05-17	Ecco Ditshupo Maje
Botswana Subsection	Secretary	19-05-17	Ezekiel U Okike
Botswana Subsection	Treasurer	19-05-17	Sajid M Sheikh
Botswana Subsection	Membership Development	01-01-10	Ronny Orlando
Botswana Subsection	Membership Development	19-05-17	V Lakshminarasimhan
Botswana Subsection	vTools Coordinator	23-10-15	Ezekiel U Okike
Mauritius Subsection	Chair	18-02-16	Vinaye Armoogum
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	Executive Administrator	19-02-16	Rishi Hans Heerasing
Mauritius Subsection	Executive Administrator	04-03-16	Perienen Appavoo
Mauritius Subsection	Membership Development	19-02-16	Eswaren Chetty Allaghery
Mauritius Subsection	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-02-16	Hansley J Chadee
Mauritius Subsection	SAMIEEE RECIPIENT	01-02-16	Seven Amic
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	Chair	21-08-16	Sharief F Babiker
Sudan Subsection	Vice Chair	13-12-15	Tarig A Khalid
Sudan Subsection	Coordinator	13-12-15	Mahmoud Adil Elkhidir
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	Vice Chair	01-01-16	Herbert Lwanga
Uganda Subsection	Treasurer	02-01-17	Olema Vincent

Membership

Membership dd 31-07-2017	Total	<i>AF</i>	<i>StM</i>	<i>GSM</i>	S	A	M	LM	SM	LS	F	LF	Non-S
Algeria	129	2	21	29	50	2	53		24				79
Austria	1234	68	102	202	304	35	765	14	88	10	12	6	930
Bahrain	195	2	87	7	94	4	79	1	17				101
Belarus	43	2	4	8	12		27		4				31
Benelux	3244	<i>139</i>	130	621	751	36	1899	94	309	32	90	33	2493
Bosnia and Herzegovina	272	<i>1</i>	86	56	142	2	119		8	1			130
Bulgaria	228	2	27	12	39	3	167	1	16	2			189
Croatia	646	7	63	116	179	4	374	13	67	9			467
Cyprus	282	3	53	50	103	5	137	2	32	2	1		179
Czechoslovakia	601	<i>13</i>	20	94	114	10	383		93			1	487
Denmark	834	29	17	137	154	17	524	29	88	11	9	2	680
Egypt	966	3	249	162	411	5	387	10	120	29	2	2	555
Estonia	184	<i>1</i>	32	43	75	6	88	2	13				109
Finland	939	27	49	185	234	15	544	15	105	7	11	8	705
France	3697	<i>154</i>	314	461	775	106	2168	52	473	26	76	21	2922
Germany	7404	<i>364</i>	320	1536	1856	150	4449	112	636	45	100	56	5548
Ghana	140	2	8	13	21		115		4				119
Greece	1583	45	491	177	668	13	689	18	163	12	19	1	915
Hungary	376	6	40	48	88	7	231	5	25	8	7	5	288
Iceland	76	3	8	3	11	5	49	1	9		1		65
Iran	1668	6	581	445	1026	18	484	2	134	1	3		642
Iraq	227	2	11	58	69	5	126		27				158
Israel	1040	<i>31</i>	68	126	194	17	498	51	173	46	33	28	846
Italy	4624	<i>166</i>	288	701	989	99	2546	87	709	23	128	43	3635
Jordan	958	3	719	12	731	12	170		41	3		1	227
Kenya	200	<i>1</i>	50	19	69	2	119	1	8	1			131
Kuwait	225	2	69	13	82	3	116		23			1	143
Latvia	131	<i>1</i>	16	28	44	2	75	1	8	1			87
Lebanon	1170		686	96	782	21	304	2	55	5	1		388
Lithuania	105	2	13	12	25	3	58	1	18				80
Malta	141	<i>1</i>	15	28	43	2	84	2	10				98
Morocco	314	2	122	60	182	2	118		11	1			132
Nigeria	536	8	60	77	137	6	351		41	1			399
Norway	893	<i>34</i>	14	99	113	17	621	25	93	17	5	2	780
Oman	315		145	15	160	2	122		31				155
Poland	952	26	75	69	144	19	594	8	158	11	14	4	808
Portugal	1063	<i>37</i>	171	174	345	5	500	8	180	10	15		718
Qatar	224	<i>1</i>	17	15	32	4	141	1	44		2		192
Republic of Macedonia	144	3	30	18	48		59	1	32	2	2		96
Romania	892	24	52	109	161	5	620	3	94	7	1	1	731
Russia (Northwest)	383	4	59	73	132	10	208	1	27	4	1		251
Russia (Siberia)	241	<i>10</i>	26	20	46	5	170	1	17	1	1		195
Russia	761	<i>34</i>	64	106	170	20	529	4	35	2	1		591
Saudi Arabia	985	15	255	71	326	33	537	3	77	9			659
Serbia and Montenegro	688	3	61	117	178	3	456	6	36	5	4		510
Slovenia	278	7	9	27	36	7	201	8	17	8	1		242
South Africa	944	<i>10</i>	68	114	182	6	625	11	108	7	3	2	762
Spain	3242	<i>114</i>	375	352	727	44	1773	41	595	22	35	5	2515
Sweden	1918	49	18	359	377	27	1082	47	294	40	35	16	1541
Switzerland	2741	<i>120</i>	98	359	457	56	1742	149	220	22	72	23	2284
Tunisia	1765	<i>1</i>	1233	172	1405	42	264		54				360
Turkey	2167	17	861	338	1199	23	787	4	129	8	14	3	968
Ukraine	383	5	30	55	85	3	225	3	61	2	3	1	298
United Arab Emirates	1101	9	340	66	406	16	549	1	125	2		2	695
United Kingdom and Ireland	9471	<i>239</i>	418	1711	2129	141	5633	184	1109	68	155	52	7342
Western Saudi Arabia	461	6	150	66	216	9	185	1	47	2	1		245
Zambia	124	3	1	2	3	5	115	1					121
Outside Sections	1084	8	430	78	508	18	507	2	47	2			576
APO/FPO	57	<i>1</i>	3	8	11	3	38		5				46
Region 8 total	67689	<i>1878</i>	9822	10228	20050	1140	36579	1029	7187	527	858	319	47639

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

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Director

Margaretha Eriksson

Goals

- **Getting closer to Industry**
We focus on the needs of the present and future engineers and related professionals and to define IEEE products and services in support of them since more than 50% of Region 8 members work in Industry.
- **Our Future members - Students and Young Professionals**
Students and Young professionals are key to grow and develop Region 8. We have established strong teams in our Students and Young Professionals Committees. We are planning Regional SYP Congresses to support students and YPs to exchange ideas, network and create friendship.
- **Section Vitality**
Section vitality is the result of active members in Sections and Chapters. Active Sections, Chapters, Affinity groups and Student Branches provide this.
- **IEEE in Africa**
Develop roadmap for Africa by Africa Area Chair and Africa Ad Hoc Committee Increase membership from 6000 members in 9 sections and 6 subsections Support various activities in African Sections for all sorts of members.
- **Specific Activities**
Create new Geographic Units in the region where no Sections exist. Conduct Membership development workshops Inform about low membership dues in extremely low income countries.

Status and Past Contributions

All sections in R8 have reported their financials to IEEE, which is a significant sign of activity.

Major technical activities are the flagship conferences EUROCON 2017 in July in Ohrid, Macedonia, AFRICON 2017 in Cape Town, South Africa. In total more than 300 IEEE co-sponsored conferences has taken place from January to mid July 2017. We have regional SYP Conferences in R8, CEuSYP in Lviv, Ukraine; GCC SYP in Manama, Bahrain; and later on this year MESYP in Tunisia and a SYP in Nigeria.

A new subsection is formed in Kazakhstan.

The transition of treasurer's duties are ongoing, and administrative and technical handover has taken somewhat longer time than expected.

Outlook

The future looks good, and we have a great support team in region 8. We are emphasizing the development of new Membership Development Officers through MD Workshops, activities in African countries supported also by the IEEE Africa Ad Hoc Committee, and many activities for Students and Young Professionals. The total number of members is stable, however with a slight decrease, and we believe these actions will change the trend. The IEEE Technology Center in Vienna is opening in September under leadership of Dr Clara Neppel, and R8 leaders will collaborate with her to shape her role as well as the services to be provided.

Points of Concern

R8 need more and faster internal communication. The paper-based R8 Newsletter has fallen dormant and is mostly replaced by presence in social media as Facebook. We need to find better ways to communicate between OpCom and Section chairs, between Society chapters and Sections, and between Section chairs and members.

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 March 2017

- IEEE Region 8 Meeting – Stockholm, Sweden, 25-26 March
- IEEE Milestone event, Kiev, Ukraine, 30-31 May
- IEEE OpCom meeting – Barcelona, Spain, 10-11 June
- Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee, Barcelona, Spain, 12 June
- IEEE MGA Board meeting - New Brunswick, USA 22-24 June

V/C Member Activities

Antonio Luque

V/C Student Activities

Efthymia Arvaniti

Team Members:

- Efthymia Arvaniti (Chair)
- 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 year 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 (in progress)
- Support and encourage the Students to organize/attend the Sectional, Cross-Sectional Student and Young Professional Congresses (MESYP, HSYP, CEuSYP, WESYP, GCCSYP, NSYP, ASYP) (in progress)
- 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 (done)
- Prepare the Cross-Sectional SYP Congress guide together with the Young Professional Team (done)
- Design the Student Awards and Contests Campaign and evaluate the award submissions (done)
- Engage with the Region 8 Students through the social media channels (in progress)
- Restructure and enrich the R8 SAC Website (done)
- Support the Regional Student Paper Contest (done)
- 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 (done)
- 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. (in progress)
- Approach and collaborate with the Afl and Young Professionals Subcommittee to increase the industry involvement in the student level (e.g. establish student internships) (in progress)
- Increase the IEEE Footprint by continuing successful programs (e.g. Mind the Gap) and introducing new and exciting projects (in progress)
- 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 (in progress)

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 and Past Contributions

Awards and Contests – Yara Melki

This year, the award nominations from the Region 8 Students were significantly higher than the last years' ones. This comes as a result of the successful award campaign and advertisement, prior to the submission deadline, as well as from the support that the team shows to the students when questions or problems occur. In more detail, the number of nominations submitted by R8 Students is the following:

- Exemplary Student Branch Award: 54 (35 in 2016)
- Larry K. Wilson Award: 12 (10 in 2016)
- Outstanding Branch Counselor and Advisor Award: 7 (7 in 2016)
- Darrel Chong Award: 67 (32 in 2016)

As it can be seen from the numbers, the team should encourage more Students to nominate their Counselors and Advisors, to recognize the efforts that they put for the success of the Student Branch and Student Branch Chapter.

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 7.843 page likes as of 15th July 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. In addition to the regular updates and posts, R8SAC FB page features active Student Branches under the "Sunday Branches" Initiative. More ideas and initiatives are scheduled in order to increase the visibility and engage with the students.

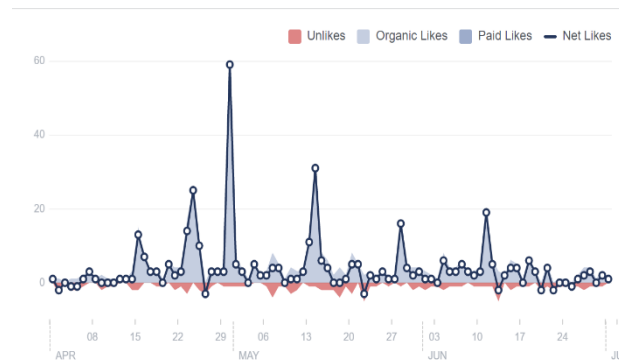


Fig. 1. Likes and dislikes on Facebook.

Projects and Initiatives – George Papadimitriou

R8 SAC received 7 valid submissions for Mind the Gap (MtG) Contest until the 22nd of June 2017, which was the extended deadline. Three Jury members are currently evaluating the submitted ideas and by the 22nd of July 2017, the winners will be decided. The results will be announced in the Region 8 Meeting in Sydney, Australia.

Another new initiative, IEEE Skills Match, born under IEEE Region 8 SAC, is under construction and it will be live in the following couple of months. IEEE Skills Match aims to be a large scale project management tool, a single place where projects and volunteers' skills match.

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.

According to SAMIEEE Records, the current number of registered Student Branches is 592, with the 471 associated with a Student Branch Chair and Counselor, and the 199 of them submitted the annual report for 2016. The number of Student Branch Chapters is 521 and 87 Affinity Groups.

All information regarding the Student Branch Counselors and Chairs per Branch per Section in Region 8 can be now found in the interactive map that was created in order to have a more visual and up-to-date tool that everyone can use and navigate through. The information featured on the map includes Sections, Student Branches, Past and Future Events.

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. It is worth mentioning that under the MGA SAC's request, the zero-member and inactive student branches will be put in probation. This will give a better idea of how many active student branches exist in the Region. Currently, the RSR is working on cross-checking the provided data with the research that is already done from the R8 SAC side, regarding the dormant Student Branches.

Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses 2017 and Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress 2018

As in every odd year, in 2017, there are seven (7) Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses planned, with two of them already taken place. The list below shows the Congresses and the dates:

- GCC SYP Congress in Manama, Bahrain, 7th-8th of May 2017
- CEuSYP Congress in Lviv, Ukraine, 30th of June-2nd of July 2017
- MESYP Congress in Gammarth, Tunisia, 1st-4th of August 2017
- ASYP Congress in Abuja, Nigeria, 8th-10th of September 2017
- WESYP Congress in Valencia, Spain, 20th-23rd of September 2017
- NSYP Congress in Vilnius, Lithuania, 20th-22nd of October 2017
- HSYP Congress in Athens, Greece, 3rd-5th of November 2017

In addition to the above, there are numerous Sectional Events that are being organized, which help Students, Young Professionals and other IEEE and non-IEEE Members to come together and exchange information, ideas and experiences.

The R8 SYP Congress Call for Proposals had been released, and after a two-stages process, the final submissions were received by the 30th of June. The final stage proposals received were from Student Branches in Egypt, Portugal and Tunisia. All of the submissions were evaluated by all members of R8 SAC and YP Teams, and the results will be discussed with R8 OpCom for final approval. The hosts of the R8 SYP Congress 2018 will be announced on the 31st of July 2017. The SAC and YP teams will provide full support to the organizers throughout the year, to ensure a Congress of value and quality for the attendees.

Student Paper Contest – Paul Micallef

Ten papers were submitted for this year's contest. The deadline for submission was December 22, 2016. The papers were 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. The five students chosen by the jury members after the first stage in this year's SPC competition attended MELECON 2017 at Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia, where they presented their papers in front of the jury members and other interested attendees of the conference. The organizers of Melecon 2017 hosted the five students at the conference, in a beautiful location on Lake Ohrid, giving them free registration and participation at the conference functions. The final winners are:

- Lucija Brezočnik from the University of Maribor (First Prize)
Paper Title: Feature selection for classification using particle swarm optimization

- Tim Thielemans from KU Leuven (Second Prize)
Paper Title: A Capacitive Gearbox DC/DC Converter enabling Skyscraper CMOS with Dynamic Voltage Scaling
- Ely De Pelecijn from KU Leuven (Third Prize)
Paper Title: High Speed Time-multiplexed Continuous Time Sigma-Delta Converters

The certificates to the finalists were presented by Region 8 Director Margaretha Eriksson during the gala dinner on July 7. The advertising campaign for the SPC 2018 has already started in order to encourage more students to participate to the contest. Moreover, the winners of previous years will participate in a mini interview, to share some tips and advice of success, an act that it is believed to help future participants of the Student Paper Contest.

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. Additionally, support the Cross-Sectional and R8 SYP Congress Organizers when needed, encourage students to participate, and develop a plan for the 2018 SAC.

Moreover, R8 SAC will advertise and support initiatives such as IEEE Day, IEEE Xtreme, and of course, reminding the students to submit their annual report in November. The main goals, as it can be seen above, are either fulfilled already, or in progress. The team will work on achieving all goals and create new ones for the upcoming months.

Points of Concern

Overall, the team has managed to overcome any challenges that appeared throughout the year, by working closely with each other and being supportive, motivating and encouraging to the team members and all students in the Region. A few points of concern that are identified since the beginning of the year and the team is putting efforts in changing them, 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) Significant difference between the registered Student Branches, the SBs associated with a Chair and the ones that are actively reporting their activities. Staying engaged with the students and keeping in touch with the Chairs and Counselors has shown signs of improvement. This is a task that R8 SAC will continue working on.
- 4) 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 by a seasoned veteran of their respective area within IEEE.

My major goals for 2017 remain:

- 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 one-to-one discussions with each SC chair on strategy and focus
- Sub-committees are having routine online/ tele-conferences discussing their relevant areas.
- 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 looking at budgetary requirements for each SC 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. We have started targeting 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. We have started by planning an event, set to run in the Vienna office.

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

Overview

The Treasurer is pleased to report to the Region 8 Committee on the financial position of IEEE Region 8. This report gives the final audited position of the Region as at the 31st December, 2016, and indicates the progress that has been made in the first months of 2017.

A major expense during year 2016 was for the Region 8 Committee meeting in Monte Carlo, held during the Spring. This was followed in the fall by a very successful Committee meeting held in Porto. We are very grateful for the generous sponsorship and support that was received from the France Section and the governing authorities in Monte Carlo which, together with the good organisation contributions of the Portugal Section, enabled us to contain these expenses. In year 2015 Committee meeting expenses were \$233.85K. In year 2016 these were reduced to \$215.64K.

Region 8’s prestige event; the biannual Student and Young Professional (SYP) Congress, was held during August, 2016 in Regensburg, Bavaria, Germany. This was one of the largest and most successful such events so far held in IEEE. The pie graphic shows that 13% of Region 8 funds were allocated to student activity in 2016. The chart also shows that a higher percentage of funds were allocated to travel in 2016. Travel in 2016 rose to a figure of \$151.18K from the value of \$101.43K in year 2015.

The financials as at the 31st December, 2016 indicate that Region 8 was holding Assets of \$1,031,478.35 of which \$941,660.66 was being held as Reserves and \$88,817.69 was due to the Profit and Loss account.

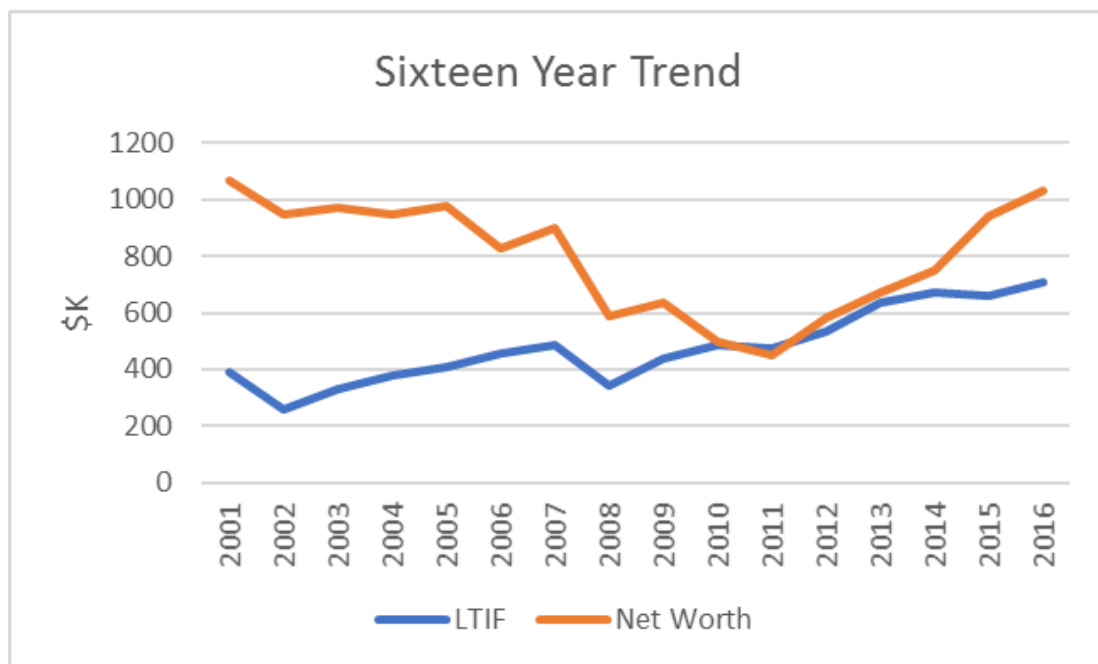
The Receipts

The activity in Region 8 can vary significantly from year to year with a Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress at two-year intervals and a Sections’ Congress every third year. However, the overall indication is that a steady growth in assets and in cash accounts continues to be achieved.

The ‘Statement of Region 8 Net Worth’ shows an increase in the Cash Accounts, an increase in the Long-Term Investment Fund, and a consequential increase of the Net worth of the Region.

The “Sixteen Year Trend” graphic shows that the net worth of the Region has returned to that which existed before the global economic recession and before the cash flow difficulties that occurred after the changes in Assessment account administration that were imposed by IEEE finance.

The Region 8 bank accounts and the associated personal bank account data of the IEEE members paid by the Treasurer are archived in a bank location close to Edinburgh in Scotland. This ensures that the maximum security of their personal data is guaranteed for our members. The arrangement is insensitive to funds transfers from the United States. Any deviation in currency exchange rates that occurs is that purely determined by the International market and not by any U.K. event. The Income report indicates that year-on Assessment income was again down, and in this instance by \$7.57K. This is indicative of the continuing fall in numbers of those persons having full Region 8 membership. This continuing loss of Assessment Income is a major concern to the Treasurer.



The Treasurer has to inform the Committee that these accounts are subject in year 2016 to a “Bogus Boss” or “CEO Fraud”. This is now the major fraud affecting Commercial organisations. This now exceeds some Euro 1.6 Billion. The loss to Region 8 was contained, but the income to Region 8 is reduced as shown for “Adjustment to Income” receipts.

It will be seen that receipts to the Voluntary Contribution Fund (“Receipts from Individuals”) and that “Received from Corporations” (Technical Co-sponsorship) remain at a lower level than is expected.

Interest received from the Region 8 Concentration Banking Account (USD) reflects the low banking interest rates available in the global market.

I would like to express my thanks to the Italy Section for their assistance in the final resolution of the taxation issue affecting the conference revenue due to Region 8 from Energycon 2012, Florence.

The Expenditure

Indications from the Disbursements (2016) report are of an increase in expenditures.

However, whilst the arrangements for the Committee meetings in Monte Carlo and Porto were largely to budget, the location of Monte Carlo did not help the travel cost, and for some Committee members there was a difficult departure owing to some air traffic delays.

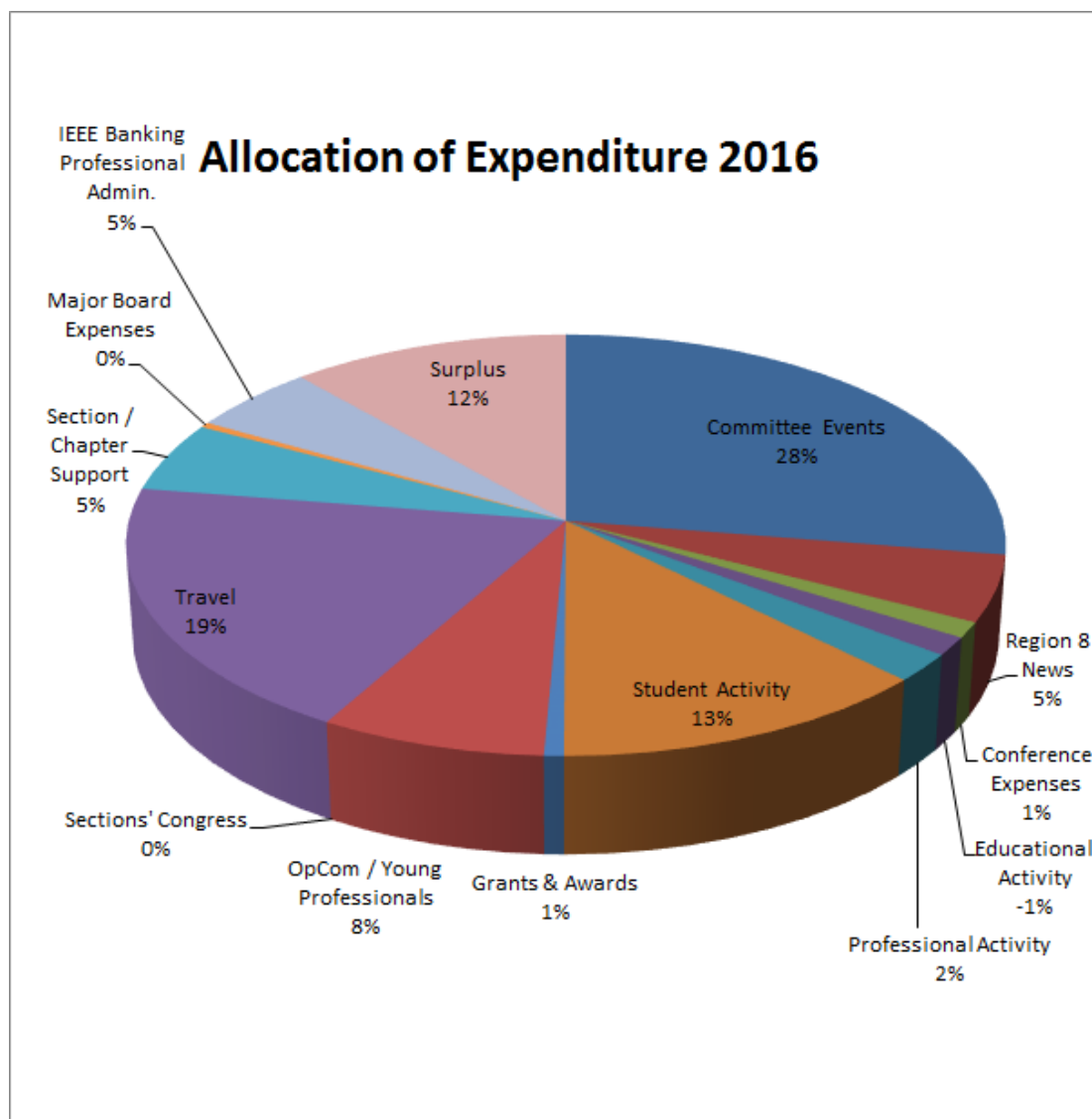
The increase in 2016 of the costs to our Students and Young Professionals is reflected by the support given by Region 8 to the Congress held in Regensburg, Bavaria.

The pie graphic shows the distribution of expenditures made during year 2016. There is a slight distortion to show a 'surplus' figure, but it is considered that a fair comparison is shown between the respective expense categories.

Independent Examination

The financial accounts of the Region are subject to an "Independent Examination" each year. This Review includes all reports made to the Committee by the Treasurer, Committee meeting Agenda Books, OpCom reports, all expense reimbursements that have been made, and a download of the software system used for accounting and banking.

The "Independent Examination" for the year 2016 financials acknowledged the transition of the accounts' administration from London to Munich. The Region 8 appointed independent accountant and examiner was asked to take account of any long outstanding loans that were present in the accounts and that these should be written off. This was accomplished without any change in the declared Net Worth of the Region.



Outlook

A significant expenditure in 2017 will be the support of Region 8 to take part in Sections' Congress in Sydney. Sections' Congress will be funded by IEEE MGA for the primary delegates (the Section Chairs). The Region 8 budget as declared for 2017 will support our invited sub-committee members and will enable a Region 8 Committee meeting to be held prior to the Congress.

A full "start of year" Region 8 Committee meeting was held in Stockholm in March, 2017. The accounts for this highly successful event are in the process of being finalised.

IEEE Region 8 Financial Report for 2016 / 2017

All Amounts are in \$K US

Income (2016):

	2016	2015
Region 8 Assessment	533.90	541.47
Direct Support from MGA	173.00	169.40
Voluntary Contributions	12.45	11.37
Technical Co-Sponsorship	0	4.26
From Foundations	1	1.50
Meetings and Social Events	0	5.93
Conference Revenue	19.42	0
Educational Activity	0	1.93
Project Revenue	0	7.05
Interest	1.07	0
Receipts from MGA	0	13.96
IEEE HQ and Societies	0	11.38
Unrealised Gain / (Loss) on Investments	37.92	(23.49)
Dividends on Investment	11.37	8.44
Adjustment to Income	(31.97)	0.87
Total	758.16	754.07
Surplus	89.83	189.69

Disbursements (2016):

	2016	2015
IEEE Region 8 Committee	215.64	233.85
Region 8 News	39.85	7.01
Conference Expenses	9.32	14.92
Educational Activity	(10.93)	11.91
Professional Activity	17.04	29.65
Student Activity	98.82	25.28
Grants and Awards (VCF)	5.08	9.55
Other Programmes (OpCom)	58.43	51.88
Sections' Congress	0	1.60
Travel	151.18	101.43
Section and Chapter Support	42.10	15.76
MGA and Board Expenses	3.16	9.55
Bank, IEEE HQ, Audit, and General Expenses	40.87	62.28
Foreign Exchange Variance	(2.23)	(10.29)
Total	668.33	564.38

Statement of Region 8 Net Worth as at 31st December, 2016:

	Beg. Balance 2015	Increases	Decreases	End Balance 2016
Cash Accounts	326,579.67	25,484.90		352,064.57
Investments	656,723.29	49,288.67		706,011.96
Loans and Advances (Receivables)	12,153.04	57,096.66	95,847.86	(26,598.18)
Total Assets:	995,456.00	131,870.23	95,847.88	1,031,478.35
Liabilities and Net Worth:				
Loans and Advances (Payables)	53,795.34		53,795.34	
Net Worth at 31st December, 2014	941,660.66	131,870.23	42,052.54	1,031,478.35

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 and Past Contributions

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

Exceptional circumstances relating to the reservation of hotel rooms have cost the team unforeseen amounts of time and effort. This has reduced their available time for other responsibilities, which impacted our service to the committee. Steps are being taken to prevent such circumstances to occur ever again.

A communication channel towards the Region 8 members and general public has been established through a Facebook Page. Other options are being considered, as well as a cooperation with Region 8 News.

Outlook

The secretary team will work on

- helping to organize the upcoming Region 8 meetings in Spring and Fall 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,
- the preparation of the complete handover between past and current secretary's duties.

Points of Concern

Through the discontinuation of IEEE VTools Survey Tools, we will need to use a different tool. Google Forms seems the most easy to use, but we have concerns related to privacy. Optimal tool will be selected.

Meetings are costly. Efficient organisation is crucial in keeping costs down. Large absenteeism on the last meeting comes with a considerable financial waste.

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Action For Industry (Afl)	55
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Awards & Recognition Subcommittee (A&RSC)	57
Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC)	58
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Electronic Communications Coordinator (ECC)	62
History Activities Coordinator	64
Humanitarian Activities Subcommittee	66
Life Member Coordinator	68
Membership Development Subcommittee (MDSC)	69
Nominations and Appointment Subcommittee (N&ASC)	71
Professional Activities Subcommittee (PASC)	72
Region 8 News	73
Section Vitality	74
Standards Coordinator	76
Voluntary Contribution Fund Coordinator	77
Women in Engineering Coordinator	78
Young Professionals Subcommittee	80

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. 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.

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.

Highlight of Activities Since Last Region 8 Meeting

- 1) IEEE Virtual Events Program in Africa: Big Data 2017 held in May, was a great success, with almost 500 attendees across in 6 countries. (Nigeria, Ghana, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia).
- 2) IEEE President, Karen Bartleson visited Kenya in May 2017.
- 3) Tunisia section received the 2017 IEEE MGA Outstanding large section award
- 4) IEEE President, Karen Bartleson, and Magdalena Salazar Palma, IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect participated in IEEE Middle East Student and Young Professional CME-SYP Congress in Tunisia in August.
- 5) 2017 IEEE PES Power Africa Conference held in Ghana, 27 – 30 June, 2017.
- 6) IEEE Nigeria Section organized a Maker Event 2017, June 2017.

Upcoming Conferences/Congresses

- 1) IEEE African Student Young Professionals Congress (ASPYC) 8th -10th Sept. 2017
- 2) IEEE AFRICON 2017, Cape Town, South Africa, 18 - 20 Sept 2017.
- 3) IEEE East Africa Students and Young Professionals Congress (EASYP), Kenya, 5-8 October 2017.
- 4) IEEE Virtual Events Program in Africa - Smart Grid 2017 planned for October, 2017.
- 5) IEEE NIGERCON 2017 Conference, 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. IEEE President has visited more countries in Africa and is rolling out the planned strategy. IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect, Magdalena Salazar Palma, has successfully visited South Africa, Botswana, Kenya and Tunisia.

Grants/Financial Support

IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Activities in Africa (AHCAA) has established Travel scholarship grant for the following African countries for student and members : Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and Zambia.

Challenges

- No finances to support Africa Area Committee activities.
- 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.
- Access to Internet and Power are still issues for sub-Saharan Africa.

Future Plans

- Introduce Competitions to improve Section vitality.
- Paper Contest for African students is on-going, winners will be declared at SYP Congress in Abuja.
- Introduce innovative activities to retain members and recruit new ones.
- Improve on TISP Participation.
- Organize 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.
- Help subsections to organize IEEE activities in their countries.
- Have more discussions on Africa Council.

Awards & Recognition Subcommittee (A&RSC)

Costas Stasopoulos

Awards & 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

- Website: <http://www.ieeer8.org/awards>

During the awards ceremony in Stockholm in March 2017, the following awards were given:

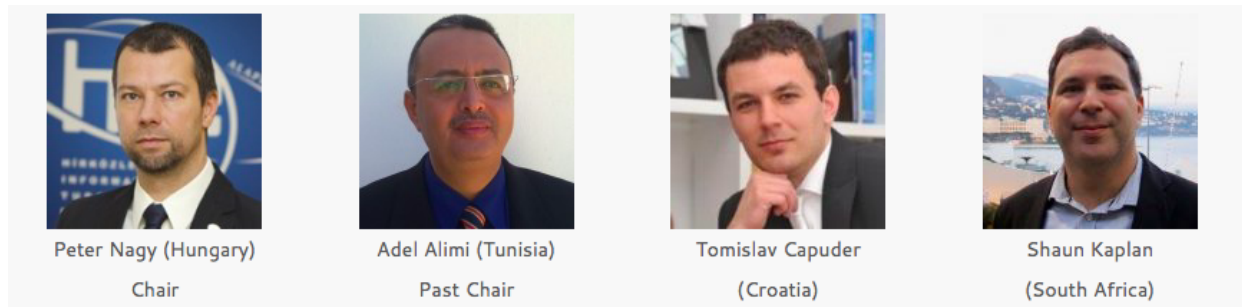
- The Region 8 Volunteer Award
 - Ryszard Jachowicz, Poland Section
- The Region 8 Outstanding Section Award (categories: Small, Medium and Large)
 - Cyprus– Small Section
 - Lebanon – Medium Section
 - Italy – Large Section
- The Region 8 Chapter of the Year Awards (categories: Small/Middle and Large)
 - Robotics and Automation Society Chapter, Tunisia - Small/Middle category
- The Clementina Saduwa Award
 - Daniela Danciu, Romania section
- The Region 8 Young Professionals Exceptional Volunteer Award
 - Dovile Kurpyte, Lithuania Section
- The Region 8 Outstanding Young Professionals Affinity Group Award
 - Jordan Young Professionals Affinity group

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>.

Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC)

Péter Nagy



Goals

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

Status and Past Contribution

- 1) Committee website
- 2) eNotice service
- 3) Technical Co-Sponsored conferences
- 4) IEEE R8 Flagship conferences
- 5) POCO 2017 in Australia, POCO 2018 in Germany
6. Recent Webinars, Center for Leadership Excellence, IEEE Conference Organizers' Newsletter

Point of Concern

- 1) Conference coordinators in Sections

Committee Website

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 organisers.

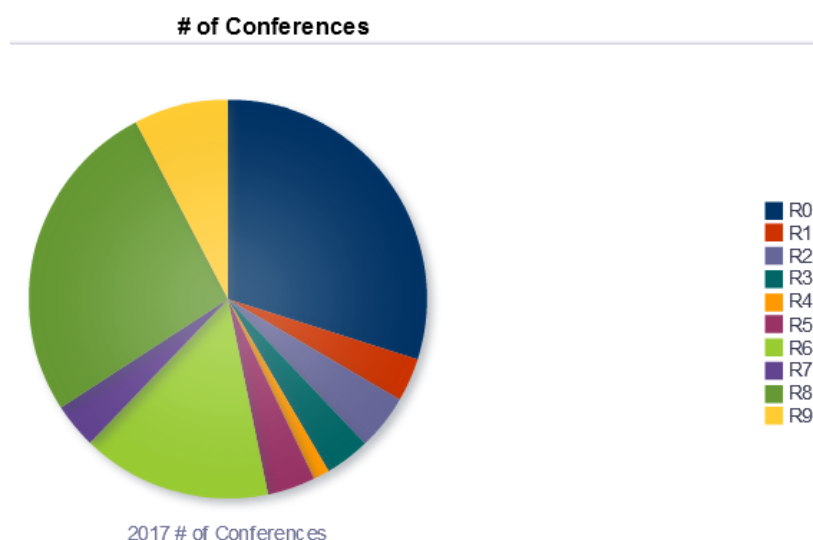
<http://www.ieeer8.org/technical-activities/conference-coordination/conference-coordination-subcommittee-cocsc>

e-Notice Service

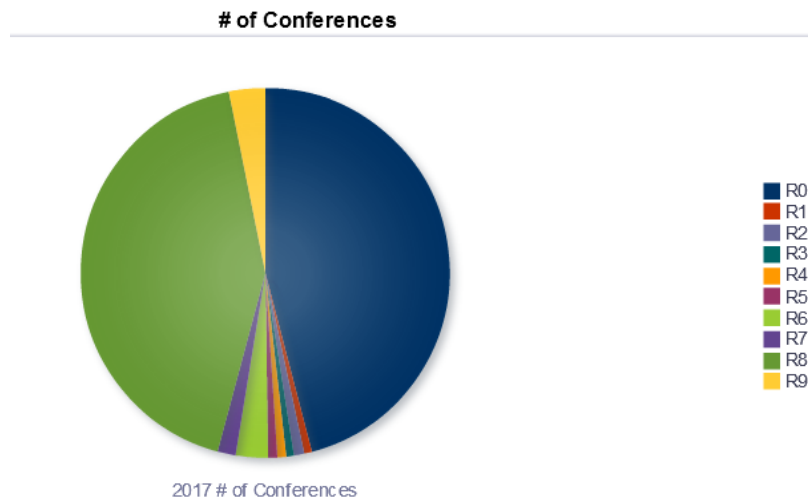
e-Notice requests approved are approved by IEEE R8 CoCSC member (Tomislav Capuder) after checking if the conference requesting e-Notice service is technically co-sponsored conference of the R8. IEEE Director is kept in the loop of all communication and has a final word in case of any issues. By doing this we have speed-up the process of approving e-Notice requests.

Technical Co-Sponsored Conferences

Region 8 is still leading the IEEE other regions in the number of IEEE conferences organized in its different sections. Financially co-sponsored conferences by IEEE in 2017 (dark green is R8):



Technically co-sponsored conferences by IEEE in 2017 (dark green is R8):



Number of technically co-sponsored conferences by IEEE R8 remains constant. The benefits are recognized, among others, in using R8 e-Notice service. Questions/issues: R8 requires plagiarism check to technically co-sponsored conferences. However, only in cases where full publication copyrights are transferred to IEEE the tool is free for organizers.

IEEE R8 Flagship Conferences

- IEEE EUROCON 2017
17th edition of IEEE Eurocon was held in Ohrid, Macedonia from 6-8. July 2017. Over 170 regular papers, special session and 7 plenary speakers contributed to an excellent scientific program. In addition, the organizers effort in organized and offering multiple social events (organized trips, conference dinner...) significantly contributed to wonderful experience of Macedonia and Ohrid for all participants. Additionally, the organizers or IEEE Eurocon 2017 have included the organizers of the next event (IEEE Eurocon 2019 in Novi Sad, Serbia) in the organization and committees of this years event and have passed on experience on how to organize an excellent event.
<http://eurocon2017.org>
- IEEE Africon 2017
The 13th IEEE AFRICON conference is to be held in the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town, South Africa from the 18-20 September. Over 300 papers have been accepted for presentation at the conference. The primary venue is the Avenue conference centre with rooms being used in the neighbouring One&Only Hotel and Workshop17. There will be 5 plenary sessions, a workshop, robotics forum, Section workshop and N2Women event In addition to the technical tracks. Registration is now open (1 August 2017). We will also be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the South Africa Section during the conference.
<http://africon2017.org>
- IEEE Energycon 2018 (Limassol, Cyprus)
3-7 June, 2018
<http://www.energycon2018.org>
- IEEE Melecon 2018 (Marrakesh, Morocco)
2-7 May, 2018
<http://www.ieee.ma/melecon18/>
- IEEE Eurocon 2019 (Novi Sad, Serbia)
8-10 July, 2019
<http://eurocon2019.org>
- IEEE Africon 2019
- IEEE Histelcon 2019 TBA

POCO 2017 in Australia, POCO 2018 in Germany

The Panel of Conference Organizers was/is organized 8-9 August in Sydney, Australia. The most advised event for conference organizers. The next edition in 2019 comes to Region 8, to Germany. Sections can plan to send representatives to that very helpful event. <http://ieeepoco.org>

Recent Webinars

- 19.07.2017 IEEE Conference Finance Topics: Closing Your Conference & Handling Indirect Taxes (GST/VAT)
- 15.06.2017 Organizando Eventos Dirigidos a Profesionistas Trabajando en la Industria
- 24.05.2017 IEEE Conference Sponsorship Overview
- 27.04.2017 CrossCheck plagiarism screening tool

Center for Leadership Excellence

There are many resources, templates, tutorials at IEEE Center for Leadership Excellence (CLE) website. The new redesigned CLE offers a 'one stop' training solution designed to serve the multiple and diverse range of IEEE user communities. From volunteers, non-volunteers to students, members and conference organizers, the site offers a simpler and effective learning experience.

<https://iee-elearning.org/CLE/>

IEEE Conference Organizers' Newsletter

The Newsletter is intended to communicate important information about conference organizing practices, new services and tools available, IEEE policy changes, and industry information or issues relevant to conference organizing.

http://www.ieee.org/conferences_events/conferences/organizers/organizers_newsletter.html

Point of Concern

- Conference coordinators in Sections

It would be beneficial if Sections provide us a Conference coordinator's contact details, to provide relevant information regarding conferences, procedures, webinars. Please, send the contacts to Peter Nagy (nagy.peter@ieee.org)

See you at the Region 8 meeting in Sydney, Australia! Pèter 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 atleast 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 promotional 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;

In addition to the items listed above, we will also be working on the following non-SMART 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 and Past Contributions

During the first half of the year, we conducted the following initiatives and events:

- 1) Invited presentation at the joint UNESCO and ECO Accreditation Workshop for Central Asian States in Dushanbe, Tajikistan;
- 2) Spring EASC Meeting in Porto, Portugal;
- 3) IEEE Educational Activities promotional marketing drive;
- 4) TISP and EPICS-in-IEEE sessions at the IEEE Middle Eastern Student and Young Professionals Congress, Tunis, Tunisia.

Planning is complete and final organizational items are being coordinated for the following programs and events:

- 1) Educational Activities Officer Meeting – scheduled for September 2017;
- 2) Early Career Faculty Development Workshop – in collaboration with EAB; scheduled for September 2017;
- 3) TISP Week – scheduled for November 2017;

Planning is in the initial stages for the following items:

- 1) Pre-University and Continuing Education webinars;
- 2) Accreditation Workshop with Morocco Section – Current engaged with EAB in this regard;
- 3) EA sessions at IEEE Region 8 Africa and Hellenic SYPs;
- 4) Participation and possible invited session at the UNESCO World Science Forum 2017.

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 timeframe 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 applications for Committee Meeting

Two mobile applications were developed for our next committee meeting (one for Android and one for iOS devices). These applications hold all available reports and basic information of the 109th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting to be held in Sydney on 10-11 of August 2017. Specifically they 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.

The link to the applications for the Sydney committee meeting are available through the meeting website <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2017-august-sydney/>.

New Gallery

As part of our continuous development on the site, amongst other changes and updates, we removed the gallery that we used in the past as it was too heavy for our server. A new gallery was implemented instead that uses Google Apps to take the load. An example of the new gallery can be found at the bottom of the Stockholm meeting page <http://www.ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2017-march-stockholm/>.

Website Theme Changes

Updates that were required, were performed on the source code of the theme template to adapt to the new base API. These changes were needed to better improve the performance of the website and be more compatible with newer devices and browsers.

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 8th of March 2017 to the 28th of June 2017. Over this period, near 46,000 people visited the website and over 52,600 pages were viewed with our homepage receiving more than 40,53% of the traffic with more than 21,300 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 7,300 members! A new Facebook page was created for our Region <https://www.facebook.com/ieeer8/>, it already has almost 700 followers and it is linked to our group. Thanks to the efforts of Dora Fourou our page is receiving regularly updates with interesting content for IEEE members. Our Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/ieeer8>) receives the posts from our website. Right now we have 315 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

Goals

The two primary aims of the History Activities are unchanged: [1] to encourage IEEE units in R8 (Sections and Chapters) to retain and keep available their historical development and past achievements (the action of the Sweden Section, as described in the Region 8 Committee meeting in Stockholm, indicates what should be done by others) and [2] to encourage interest in historical achievements in Region 8 via History Milestone proposals and in other ways. Success can be judged by the Section and Chapter (and Society) histories which are readily available, the numbers of new Milestones, their locations if in Sections which have had few or none previously, and particularly by any signs of interest in technology history by students and young professionals

Status and Past Contributions

Together with the Life Members Activity Group, the development of History Milestone Proposals is one of my main volunteer activities. We hope that a milestone at Dundee, Scotland, about amorphous thin-film silicon transistors will be approved shortly - this was an essential step in the development of flat panel TV displays. See http://ieeemilestones.ethw.org/index.php/Milestone-Proposal:Amorphous_Silicon_TFT_Switches

Work is underway on proposals to recognise the development of superconducting magnets for medical applications by Oxford Instruments and for the LEO Computer (world's first computer for commercial data processing), and several others at lower priority. The Region 8 conference HISTELCON 2017 is taking place this year in Japan <http://www.ieee-jp.org/section/kansai/histelcon2017/> It will be the fifth.

A bid has been made to the R8 Conference Committee for HISTELCON 2019 to be held in the UK and Ireland Section in August or early September, probably at Strathclyde University in Glasgow, Scotland. Glasgow has good rail and transport links and many accessible places of tourist interest nearby. The active involvement of other organisations is being developed: the Computer Conservation Society <http://www.computerconservationsociety.org>, the LEO Computers Society <http://www.leo-computers.org.uk/> and various others including appropriate museums. In May, I gave an invited talk about the history of Surface to Air Guided Missiles to SREK (Society for Retired Engineers in Kent) which attracted a nice audience of about 50 people. I hope that such activities increase interest both in IEEE and in Technology History. Martin Bastiaans will 'represent' the R8 History Activities Committee at the Sections Congress in Sydney, because no other members of the Committee are able to attend.

Outlook

I see no reason to suggest a change in the general scope and direction: the challenge is to keep that going and preferably grow the amount of activity, while at the same time involving more people, especially stimulating the interests of students and young professionals. Additionally it would be good to find ways of encouraging 'managements' to financially and otherwise support those who take an interest in Technology History - since this provides some real protection against 'reinvention of the wheel' and assists in trying to make engineering and scientific progress. The next conference ICECS of the IEEE CAS Society is planned for December 2017 in Batumi, Georgia. As far as I know there are no plans for a Section in Georgia, nor any Chapters, so this should be a good opportunity for the Region 8 Committee to stimulate IEEE activity and membership there. However, I think that there is NO involvement by the organisers of ICECS 2017 with any of the R8 Committee - I have just pointed that out to the ICECS 2017 general co-chair and organiser.



Historical Plaque illustrating one of the many languages of Region 8



Label on restored steam locomotive now in Wales, once in South Africa - apparently showing a change in the Afrikaans language which would now be Spoorweg rather than Spoorweë.

This year is the 60th anniversary of the formation of the British Computer Society. Recently approved milestones in Region 8 include [1] Fermi's contribution to semiconductor statistics, Florence, Italy. [2] Dadda's multiplier, Milan, Italy. [3] Germany's first broadcast transmission, Koenigs Wuesterhausen, Germany. Several more are in progress, including one jointly with Poland and Germany: the Czochralski method of crystal growth, 1916, which it is proposed will be at Berlin, Warsaw and Kcynia (e.g. three plaques altogether for the same Milestone). The first History Milestone in Sweden (Gotland HVDC link, 1954) was installed in May 2017.

Points of concern

It will be a substantial challenge to get active volunteer support and the sponsorship needed for financial viability to proceed with the successful organization of HISTELCON 2019: History related activities have to be affordable because many participants have to pay their costs personally, so that a low registration fee is essential and sponsorship and volunteer support from collaborating organisations is essential.

The absorption of the IEEE's Global History Network (GHN) into the Engineering Technology History Wiki (ETHW) <http://ethw.org> has broadened the coverage but made finding IEEE-relevant material (especially the pages and procedures related to History Milestone Proposals) much more challenging. It is also notable that the eight other organisations in ETHW are mostly far more 'USA centred' than IEEE, half of them having "American" as part of their title. Their presence therefore makes ETHW look much more of a USA operation than was the case with the GHN. One bad consequence of the altered structure is that comments on Milestone proposals in process are hardly ever being provided, for the reason that it is far harder for members and non-members to find out how to do that. That risks undermining the rigour of the evaluation process for Milestones.

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 program, 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 (primary indicator);
- 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;
- In order to serve its purpose (according to the primary indicator) the Committee is dealing with 3 Sub Missions: The outreach of the SIGHT program, the communication with the existing groups and the internal committee operations.
- Specific goals were assigned to three unit leaders so as to achieve a wider range of activities, measurable by the deliverables of each task;

Status and Past Contributions

The committee leadership has prioritized three axis of activity: Outreach, Communication with existing groups and Operations and Strategic planning.

- The outreach team has invested a tremendous effort is formulating a strategy to increase awareness of the SIGHT program within R8.
- The team has developed a concise Market Approach Plan, examining the opportunities within the region and proposing a strategy for exploitation.
- A special communication channel has been developed for the collaboration with the SIGHT steering committee Outreach officers, to increase effectiveness of the outreach effort globally.
- A new collaboration with the Young Professionals Committee has been agreed and the two committees are currently in the process of establishing an implementation strategy on how to engage YPs in SIGHT activities.
- The LinkedIn and Facebook Groups of HuAC are now fully Operational, with weekly posts and activities involving existing SIGHT group members and other IEEE volunteers. In the same context, new digital promotional material has been developed.

Communication with existing SIGHT groups:

- The communications team is establishing contact with the existing groups, to monitor their activities and assist them with their operational or other problems
- New groups in R8 are offered guidance through an introductory email upon establishment.
- A new R8 SIGHT activity document has been developed as a database to monitor group activity updates.

Operations group:

- The operations team has been tasked to provide the documentation and material required for the operation of the other two groups, as well as the management of shared documentation, TelCo management and preparation and minutes.
- The team has been planning the Committees strategy and presence in regional events, such as Eentral European SYP, the Middle East SYP, the Jordan SYP, the Tunisian SYP and the Africa SYP. A presentation has been give or will be given to all those events.
- A unit of the operations group is dedicated to examine SIGHT project proposals and assist groups in their preparation. This unit operates in close collaboration with the Steering committee.
- The chair of the committee is planned to participate in first meeting of Regional Humanitarian Activity Chairs in San Jose California, next October. This event will be a milestone for the global IEEE humanitarian activity.

Notes:

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

- 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:
 - Work on developing the recently established collaboration with the Young Professionals and aim for collaborations with other IEEE Committees, such as SAC.
 - Seek a collaboration with the the Society 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.
 - Establish a network of SIGHT ambassador's in every country, to promote the humanitarian activity in the section.
 - 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 and Young Professionals who work in industry.
- 2) Actively support the existing groups to reach their goals and accomplish their projects
 - On a group basis, we plan to decide a semester report of the group to monitor the progress of their work.

- Having in mind that experienced SIGHT groups can mentor newly established groups, the HuAC is willing to foster the necessary environment for to make this mentoring effective.

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;
- A monitoring system of regional SIGHT activity is examined, since until today all the groups report only to the Steering Committee.
- The participation in the Global SIGHT chairs meeting in San Jose must be partially supported by each Region.

Life Member Coordinator

Charles Turner

Membership Development Subcommittee (MDSC)

Andrejs Romanovs

Goals

The main MDSC goals 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. With the slight membership decrease for last 3 years, which continues this year too, the role of Section MD Officer became vital component of the overall health of the Section and Region as a whole. They need to be informed operatively about the membership changes in their Sections and trained well to solve all possible issues. MDSC directly and frequently communicates with Sections MD Officers in both virtual and face-2-face ways - emails, skype-meetings, teleconferences, private R8 MDOs Community in Collabratec and during annual MD Workshops. MDSC maintain the previous traditions of communication not only with MDOs, but with Section Chairs too, to increase the momentum of retention and recruitment campaigns. Close cooperation with the MRRC ensure the Sections awareness of their respective recruitment and retention goals, so they can plan accordingly all necessary MD activities. MDSC putting new attention to IEEE members, who belongs to the countries where we do not have an official section, starting new activities in Africa - region with a huge potential in membership.

Status and Past Contributions

In the June 2017, membership in the Region was at 63,621, with a YoY loss of -2.2%, compared to global YoY loss of -2.8%. Retention in the first half of 2017 is 67.0% - the same number as in IEEE overall (higher grade 74.4% vs 77.1% overall and student 44.7% vs 33.6%). Cumulative recruitment positively changes for higher grade members (+1.7%) with the loss of 3.0% for student members, totally with 13,851 new member, 2.1% less than the same period last year.

Region Snapshot	This Month	'17 vs. '16	% Change
Total Membership	63,621	▼ (1,407)	-2.2%
Higher-Grade	43,647	▼ (1,002)	-2.2%
Students	19,974	▼ (405)	-2.0%
IEEE Worldwide	349,868	▼ (10,020)	-2.8%

In the first half of 2017, 14 Sections are successfully met their Recruitments goals, 16 Sections - Retention goals, and five Sections - Island, Jordan, Belarus, Latvia and Russia (Siberia), have earned the gold medal of recognition for meeting both goals.

During the first half year period, MDSC continue the best practices and starting new activities:

- Communication activities: continuous monthly MD reporting to Sections MDOs and Chairs, virtual meetings with MDOs (skype meetings, half-year R8 MD teleconferences - first was held in June 2017, discussions during annual MD Workshops), developed (in May 2017) new platform for MDOs to exchange ideas, best practices, discuss problems etc. (in Collabratec private group - IEEEER8 MDO Community).
- Training activities: frequent sharing MD Tools and resources with MDOs by email in R8 MD monthly reports, encouraging volunteers to utilize IEEE tools like Vitality Dashboard, MD-Kits, Collabratech, GoogleApps@IEEE, MentorCentre, Resume Lab, for Section events, campaigns and everyday business; discussing and exchanging best practices in IEEEER8 MDO Community Collabratec platform; face2face annual 2 days MD Workshop for R8 MDOs - recently, the MD Workshop was organized in Bratislava, Slovakia, 2017 May 19-20, with main focus on the MDOs, who are new to their positions in a European part of the R8 (when the next one, will be organized in beginning of 2018, with the main focus of Africa and Middle-East). The Workshop was well attended with 25 participants from 20 countries within the Region 8 and the post event feedback suggested an extremely positive outcome.
- Membership expanding activities: MDSC focuses 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. First such event was successfully organized in Uganda (by John Matogo) in May 2017, discussing the plans of organization of IEEE Sub-Section with valuable IEEE members from Uganda.

Outlook

MDSC should 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 membership development activities in R8, which is one of the most geographically and ethnically dispersed IEEE regions, with no much similarities in a Sections even in one continental area. It is important to provide MDOs with a tools that will be most effective in the selected country or region, thus, success stories and best practices of Sections are the best teaching materials and the primary source of inspiration for other Sections and volunteers, so MD Subcommittee should focuses on following these best practices, popularizing it and implementing across R8. The continuation of previous communication and trainings practices should be the essential part of MDSC activities, organization of face2face and virtual activities is a must for successful membership development in R8. 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 M SM elevations. MDSC activities should be realized

in close cooperation with other IEEE entities, such as Society Chapters, Professional Activities and SYP, together promoting IEEE membership. MDSC should focus their attention to IEEE members, who belongs to the countries where we have weak or do not have an official section/sub-section, e.g. in Africa.

Points of concern

The previous practices shows, that always the most successful event in informing and training MDOs is an annual face2face workshop, as it engages all the people in, and people like to be a part of something bigger and feel the energy. R8/MGA can support the organization of future workshops helping in legal procedures, e.g. with visas (that could be done in Vienna R8 office).

The synergistic effect could be reached by combining MDSC informing and training activities with other IEEE entities, such as Society Chapters, Professional Activities and SYP, together promoting IEEE membership during common events. MDSC organizes annual MD workshops focusing one year on European part of R8 and the second - to African and Middle-East, still, MDSC receives numerous request from African regions, asking MD Subcommittee to organize trainings of volunteers, working directly with a members. Taking into account, that in Africa we have IEEE members, who belongs to the countries where we do not have an official sections, the small regional events could be organized to inform and train local volunteers in MD, vitality, professional or SYP activities. R8/MGA can support the organization of such events 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 (UK&Ireland)
- jupco Karadzinov (Macedonia)

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).
- Call for nominations was announced at the 108th IEEE Region 8 Meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, 25-26 March 2015. Position descriptions are available here: http://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/position_descriptions.html.
- The IEEE Region 8 Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee had a face to face meeting in, Barcelona, Spain on the 12th of June and proposes the following slate:
 - Antonio Luque (Spain Section)
 - Rafal Sliz (Finland Section)
- 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.

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. The IEEE Region 8 Nominations and Appointments Subcommittee proposes the following slate:

- IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chair, Member Activities 2018
 - Antonio Luque (Spain Section)
- IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chair, Student Activities 2018
 - Efthymia (Femia) Arvaniti (Austria Section)
- IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chair, Technical Activities 2018
 - Christopher James (United Kingdom and Ireland Section)

Professional Activities Subcommittee (PASC)

Jan Haase

Team consists of three members: Jan Haase (chair), Shashank Gaur (Portugal) and Bassem ElMeleegy (Bahrain).

Goals

- PA offers talks given by distinguished lecturers covering non-technical topics contributing to member's careers, such as leadership, organizational or communication skills, technical paper or proposal writing skills, oral and presentation skills, entrepreneurship skills, etc. The speakers are all experienced lecturers giving multi-hour workshops. Some workshops even run over several days, according to speaker requirements. A local IEEE group (e.g Section, Student Branch, Young Professionals affinity group etc) may contact the speaker directly to find a suitable time. Local funding (by the IEEE section or sponsors) is necessary, but there is also funding available to cover travel expenses to/from the location.
- One of the goals is a much enhanced visibility of PA. Many section members (even the section excom members) and many conference attendees don't know about IEEE PA.
- Another goal is to have more PA representatives in the sections (so they should appoint local PA officers).
- And the number of PA distinguished lecturers (DL) should increase in order to have good chances of being able to send a DL on request. The DLs should furthermore come from different countries (sections). This way it is more probable to find a DL to send to a conference, student work shop, or similar event at low travel costs.

Status and Past Contributions

- The new PA Subcommittee's logo was designed by Bassem ElMeleegy and looks like depicted here. It adheres to IEEE's rules and is intended to be used in order to strengthen the recognition value of PASC.



Professional Activities
Sub-Committee
IEEE Region 8

- Furthermore, there now is a Facebook group concerning PASC, found at <https://www.facebook.com/IEEEER8PA/>
- The PA DL team grew: Andreas Neumeier, Germany, joined and can give lectures on topics like product management, value proposition, or information security.
- A further approach to enhance visibility is to be present at IEEE R8 flagship conferences and man a booth explaining the goals and opportunities of PASC to attendees. This was now performed for the first time at IEEE Eurocon in Ohrid/Macedonia in July 2017. At Eurocon, PASC hosted a pre-welcome reception gathering together with R8YP where Shashank Gaur, Margaretha Eriksson, and Vinko Lesic were present to start the conversation in a more informal manner.

Outlook

It is planned and organized to host at Africon in Cape Town/South Africa (September 2017) a similar event like at Eurocon. First lessons learned at Eurocon (such as a better timing, better approaching of the appropriate audience and better marketing for PA) will be implemented. Enhancement ideas include gamification such as a contest or having to meet some people serving as check points, or choosing a time for the presentation when attendees are relaxed and having a drink and/or food in their hands. Of course, the DL program will continue and speaker requests be acted at.

Points of concern

One of PA's problems is that even local sections don't always know about PA and many did not appoint a local PA officer. Section chairs who did not yet have a PA officer appointed should do so. Furthermore local PA officers should accept the offer to be informed by R8 PASC members about what is their goal, and what are good approaches to reach their local members.

Region 8 News

Zhijia Huang, Roland Saam, Bojan Nikolic

Goals

The IEEE Region 8 News is the member newsletter for Region 8 members. It is published quarterly by the Region 8 committee of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers). It is distributed free with [IEEE Spectrum](#) and [The Institute](#) to more than 50,000 IEEE members in the Region. Region 8 News is produced by volunteers only with contribution from all our members over the region.

The team will focus on delivering 3 issues to the members this year focusing on key region meetings, conferences and events as well as important mile stones and key initiatives by different committees.

Status and Past Contributions

Due to the limitation on resources in the first half of the year, we have been able to produce the Aug/Sep issue of the Region8 news and deliver it through PDF (through R8 website, Facebook group) and printed version.

Outlook

We will have new volunteers joining the team with professional experience on publishing, journalism and contact to IEEE members. This will dramatically increase the capacity to gather stories, review articles and produce high quality member newsletter.

On the other hand, we will still continue to focus on the three goals set earlier this year.

- More digital formats that are targeting mobile, tablet and ebook reader users who have only digital membership.
- More online and social media presence
- Attract more volunteers to the team to get more frequent contact with the members and volunteers

Points of Concern

The main concern we have is with the volunteer capacity on editing and communication with the authors and members.

Section Vitality

Aleksandar Szabo

Goals

The basic goal is to have vital Sections serving better their members. That means successful Section operation, timely reporting (officers, meetings, financials) to receive the rebate, retaining and recruiting members, training new volunteers and holding elections on time by taking care about the period of service following the rules presented in the MGA Operations Manual. An important goal is to increase the activity of Subsections having Region 8 as their parent. If we meet these goals, we can say at the end of the year that we were successful.

Status and Past Contributions

Since 2015 the section vitality has been significantly improved. Especially the situation with elections and reporting has been much better from year to year. The Sections officers' sense of duty has been significantly increased.

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, received 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 less than 50% of organizational units qualified for it. In 2016 it was more than 75% and in 2017 it was about 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 and to report the new officers before 1 January. 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.

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 a majority vote of the Section ExCom.
- 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.

Next year the R8 Vitality SC should

- Keep and improve the good work.
- Take care about, encourage and increase activity/vitality of Subsections having R8 as their parent.

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.

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 activities in these units. Organizing Section Operation/Vitality workshops (possibly together with MD workshops) on the Regional level should be taken into consideration.

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.
- 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

- **May 2017:** The IEEE-SA Board of Governors (BoG) held its second meeting of the year on 17th and 18th May 2017 in Dublin. In association with this meeting teams engaged with local stakeholders through meetings and events with the local start-up communities (Ireland and Scotland), national standards bodies (Ireland and UK), as well as a lecture at Dublin City University and a BoG forum and reception with local speakers and guests, facilitated by the IEEE SSIT President (from Ireland).
- **June 2017:** The IEEE-SA Standards Board (SASB) will held its second meeting of the year on 13th to 15th June 2017 in Milan. In association with the meeting teams engaged with local stakeholders through outreach, a young professionals/standards education event, and forum/social reception.
- **IEEE Standards University:** The IEEE launched IEEE Standards University (ISU), a joint program of IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) and IEEE Educational Activities Board (IEEE EAB), last year. The ISU <http://www.standardsuniversity.org/> 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).
- **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.

Outlook

- **26th and 27th September 2017:** IEEE-SA will host the 21st Global Standards Collaboration (GSC-21) meeting on Tuesday 26th and Wednesday 27th September 2017 in its new home in Vienna. At this meeting leading standards organizations from around the world will exchange views on key ICT topics, focusing on Smart Cities and Artificial Intelligence/Autonomous Systems.
- **October 2017:** Working towards a roundtable with key experts who will be able to help explore what the standards needs are for performance safety legal metrology, to be held in the October timeframe at the IEEE office in Vienna.
- **21st to 26th January 2018:** The IEEE 802.1 Higher Layer LAN Protocols Working Group and IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group will both be holding their January interim meeting series from Monday 21st to Friday 26th January 2018 at the ITU Headquarters and CIG in Geneva, CH. There will be no registration fee to attend these meetings.
- **27th January 2018:** A joint IEEE 802.1, IEEE 802.3 and ITU-T Study Group 15 Workshop is being planned for Saturday 27th January 2018 at the ITU in Geneva, CH. This will be immediately following the IEEE 802.1/3 interim meeting series the previous week, and immediately prior to the ITU-T Study Group 15 plenary the following two weeks. The agenda is still being discussed, but topics are likely to include Long(er) reach optical interfaces, Passive Optical Networking, Mobile fronthaul, 5G mobile transport, and management, YANG, Data Modelling. There will be no registration fee to attend this workshop.

Points of Concern

- **IEEE Standards University:** Looking for support in promotion of IEEE Standards University <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.

Voluntary Contribution Fund Coordinator

Andreas Koltes

Overview

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.

Status

The VCF has seen a stable incoming donation stream of approximately \$11,500 per year in recent years. In addition, the donation account holds a financial reserve to compensate donation fluctuations.

Year	Planned Budget	Donations	Approved Funds	Issued Funds
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)	\$ 6,100 (July)	\$ 4,430 (July)

At the time of this writing, all pending activities stemming from 2016 have been completed. In total, 13 grants have been issued for the previous year. For the current year, there were a total of 14 applications for VCF grants so far, out of which 8 conference travel grants have been approved supporting grant holders from 5 different sections. 4 grants have been rejected due to non-eligibility of the applicants, 2 further grants are currently awaiting completion of the application process.

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 target volume of grants issued will likely be achieved. A systematic publicity and promotion concept for the VCF is currently being developed alongside an overhaul of the application criteria and process. This is planned to be ready for implementation by the end of 2017.

Women in Engineering Coordinator

Younna El Bitar

Goals & Actions

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

- Increasing the vitality of Section and Student Branch Affinity Groups
 - Currently reaching out to Sections without a WIE AG, encouraging them to form one and provide the needed assistance
 - 4 new AGs were formed, more in the process
 - 1 AG was officially revived
 - Identify and revitalize dormant Section AGs
 - Vitality check is ongoing
 - Next step
 - Work on increasing WIE membership for Sections having less than 6 members
 - Identify and revitalize dormant SB AGs
- Having a stronger Social Media presence
 - Increase the awareness about WIE activities across Region 8
 - Share the news on social media
 - Newly formed AGs are being encouraged to share their events with us
 - Next step
 - Contact existing AGs and ask them to share their events
 - Encourage Section and SB AGs to share their experiences with each other, and serve as candidates for the mentorship program
 - 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
 - Currently working with Section AGs, the next step will involve SB AGs
 - Establishing new WIE AG and individual awards: pilot ongoing
 - 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
 - Getting involved with industry to widen the opportunities for women in STEM in general and for WIE members in particular
 - Currently communicating with Google, Intel, and IBM about their programs in the Middle-East and Africa
 - Currently communicating with the AFI team
 - In conjunction with the vitality check: encouraging AGs to organize Coffee Talks and / or panels with Industry Representatives as guests
 - Next step: look for other female-oriented programs carried by STEM companies
 - Collaborating with WIE representatives within Societies such as IAS and PES
 - This was raised during the face-to-face WIE meeting in April 2017; MGA WIE are developing a strategy to follow and Region 8 will be one of the first regions to implement it
 - Having a stronger presence in currently held events, such as:
 - ILS – Krakow (September 2017)
 - AFRICON (September 2017)
 - Regional / Cross-Sectional / Sectional SYP Congresses
 - * Participated in GCCSYP and MESYP
 - IEEE Day
 - International Women's Day
 - October awareness campaigns, and others
 - 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 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
- 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
- Ultimately increase the WIE membership in R8 due to the success of the programs and initiatives mentioned above

Status

Currently, there are 3004 WIE members in Region 8, distributed among 130 Affinity Groups: 37 Sections and 93 Student Branches. Newly formed Section AGs are:

- Poland (officially re-instated)
- Morocco
- Latvia
- Malta
- Austria
- Lithuania (started the formation process)

Points of Concern

- There are currently no WIE AG / volunteer awards
 - A pilot is currently being prepared
- 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, especially with the lack of funding
- The committee is receiving invitations for events and is not able to send representatives due to the lack of funding. We hope to be able to be more involved within the Region 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) create at least 1 new Young Professionals Affinity Group in the Region;
- 2) 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;
- 3) Bridge the gap between the 3 main segments of Young Professionals by:
 - a) Supporting Young Professionals Affinity Groups to organize more STEP events and work closer with students in their Section;
 - b) Supporting Young Professionals Affinity Groups to organize 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;
- 4) Relevant partake in the IEEE Sections Congress to be held this August in Sidney, Australia;
- 5) Cooperate with SAC for the continuous success of Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses and the Region 8 SYP Congress;
- 6) Cooperate with the other MA subcommittees and take advantage of each others' strengths to achieve our goals, particularly with SIGHT, PA and LM;
- 7) 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;
- 8) Increase visibility of the Young Professionals program in Region 8.

Status and Past Contributions

For a complete overview of the followed strategy to achieve the aforementioned goals, please refer to the previously submitted report. In this section, solely the achievements of this first half year will be described, following the same order:

- 1) The year started with 47 Young Professionals Affinity Groups (AGs), 2 of each were in dormant and 2 were at risk of being dissolved. All 4 were successfully revitalized. Additionally, 2 new AGs were formed (Algeria and Romania) and 2 are in the process of submitting their petition. Out of the 49 AGs, only 1 is missing the minimum reporting for this year. It is the 6th year in a row that a Region 8 YP AG wins the MGA YP Hall-of-Fame Award, proving the dedication and quality of work of our YP volunteers. Through collaboration with the respective Section Chairs during the previous Region 8 Committee meeting, a smooth transition was guaranteed for the AGs that required new officers. Out of the 49 AGs, only 2 are of concern on this matter.
- 2) The manuals Guidelines to organize a Cross-Sectional SYP Congress (in cooperation with SAC) and the ready-to-use YP slide presentation for local Young Professionals Affinity Groups have been finalized and distributed. Furthermore, a webinar on Publicity & Visibility for YP Chairs' training, as well as Best Practice manual for the Region 8 YP teams to come are under development. Manuals on how to use the vTools platform for officers and event reporting were put together by IEEE staff and thus been dropped from our task list. The Event Exchange Program is now available online at yp.ieee.org.
- 3) Considerable time and effort have been put in ensuring that the local Young Professionals AGs were aware of the funding opportunities available to them. As a result, 9 STEP events, 5 Meet-ups and 6 Seed-Funding activities have taken place in our Region, fully or partially funded by MGA YP, putting the Young Professionals community in Region 8 in the front row. All the events are evaluated based on success metrics and deliverables, after which the funding is released.
- 4) During the IEEE Sections Congress, the Region 8 Young Professionals Chair will deliver a Breakout Section with the Region 8 Student Activities Vice-Chair on "Engaging Young People: Listening to their Needs" and will be part of the Industry Panel Session "Young Professionals: Challenges and Needs". As a group, the Region 8 YP team will focus on experience sharing and learning of best practices from other Regions. Furthermore, interviews will be held and surveys distributed to expand the understanding of our role in the engineering community and how to effectively grow our impact.
- 5) This year, 7 Cross-Sectional SYPs will be organized in Region 8, GCC SYP (1st edition), CEuSYP, MESYP, ASYP (1st edition), WESYP, HSYP and NSYP. From the 7, 2 have already taken place: GCC SYP (Bahrain) and CEuSYP (Ukraine). All dates are now fixed and all OCs are actively working on the organization of their congresses under YP and SAC guidance. The organization of African SYP, the first ever event of this kind and scale in the Africa area, is a significant milestone for its members and our Region. Regarding the 2018 Region 8 SYP, the second stage call of proposals has been closed and the submissions are currently under evaluation. The final decision will be released on the 31st of July. For further details on these activities, please refer to the SAC report.
- 6) Collaboration with the fellow subcommittees under Member Activities as so far been successful with:
 - a) PA – joint efforts on the delivery of content and presence at IEEE flagship conferences as Eurocon and Africon;
 - b) SIGHT – by foresting the delivery of soft-skills training by local Young Professionals to newly formed SIGHT groups.

- 7) Based on the results from the segmentation study, two main programs and one visibility strategy were designed, focusing on reaching out directly to the Young Professionals members:
 - a) Company Branch Program, concept development and proposal finalized. A survey targeting the young professionals in industry segment has been drafted and is ready for release this month.
 - b) YPitch is the new entrepreneur-aimed program from Region 8 YP. Concept development and proposal finalized. First steps taken into involving IEEE N3xT and IEEE Entrepreneurship for collaboration.
 - c) Organization of 2 Signature Events by R8 YP: one at an IEEE flagship conference, Eurocon, and one at a large scale event, comprising of 3 conferences and an exhibition fair, with around 4000 participants, the European Microwave Week (EuMW). Both events aim at exposing IEEE Young Professionals and its mission inside and outside the IEEE community, while at the same time contributing to a closer collaboration with Academia (Eurocon) and Industry (EuMW). Foremost, the events focus on reaching out to the members and piercing out of the volunteer bubble.
- 8) Increase of the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 has been achieved by participation and delivery of workshops in SYP Congresses, support of Meet-ups at technical conferences, organization of Signature Events, redaction of the YP Newsletter and online media campaigns. The YP Newsletter is now finalized and ready for distribution in the next Region 8 Committee Meeting in Sydney. Within the online media campaigns, #YPVoice was extremely successful, being recognized by IEEE staff, who requested permission to use the quotes in the IEEE website and marketing materials. In the last 4 months, there has been an almost 20% increase in the number of Facebook followers, showing the steady growth of the Young Professionals community engagement and the Region 8 YP team visibility.

Outlook

Based on the experience gained during this year, the Business Plan from MGA YP and the priorities of Region 8, the next committee should try to design its strategy around 2 main pillars: a strong academia/industry collaboration and the extra step towards the non-volunteer member experience and satisfaction. A sum of guidelines to introduce the new team to the YP team role are already being written, summarizing best practices and on-going programs, so only a few advices and directives will be pin-pointed below:

- Continue the AGs division scheme, reducing the work load per team member and creating a more personalized contact with the local volunteers;
- Work on maintaining a strong collaboration with SAC and PA;
- Develop new links with other subcommittees under MA and TA, e.g. as it is now being done with SIGHT;
- Expand the Company Branch Program and contribute to the YPitch momentum until it is fully sustainable;
- Continue the guidance and support of SYP congresses, as well as Meet-ups, working towards new succession solutions and budget optimization;
- Do not underestimate the power of social media.

Points of Concern

Young Professionals have always represented a major fraction of the IEEE members, over 25%, but only recently it has become undeniable their impact and contribution to the future of the institution. With retention and satisfaction rates steadily decreasing among young people, IEEE is finally realising that it is essential to adapt to this new changing world in order to remain a relevant engineering organisation. As a result, the Young Professionals program is exponentially growing and becoming inherent to IEEE's strategy.

The Young Professionals community in Region 8 (close to a third of the total membership) is one of the most vibrant and engaging globally, recurrently piloting new programs that end up being reproduced in other Regions. This year, the R8 YP team is reaching out to this community through initiatives as YPitch, Company Branch Program, Signature Events and the expansion of Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses. We hope that Region 8 continues showing its constant support and enables the growth of this program to its full potential, in the same fashion IEEE as an institution is.

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Algeria Section

Amar Tilmatine

Getting Closer to Industry

- *What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to foster Industry Relations?*
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.
- *What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations?*
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.
- *What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations?*
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.
- *How are you going to continue to foster Industry Relations?*
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

- *What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and Young Professionals?*
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.
- *What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better Attract and Support Future Members?*
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.
- *How are you going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals?*
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

- *What activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section?*
The national conferences on electrical engineering and computer science are regularly organized in various universities. Moreover, we have to encourage student activities and organize student events such as PhD days..
- *What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability?*
We think that membership fees should be more decreased for third World countries. As noted before, IEEE should 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.
- *What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality?*
Algeria Section is almost a new section, the number of new members is increasing. We are proud to announce that the number of the members has increased more than 100 % in comparison with the last year!
- *How are you going to continue to foster Section Vitality?*
The main problem of membership development is that in my country the payment by credit card is not generalized, especially for the students. However, our financial officer has obtained the permission to use his personal credit card to make group payment when there are at least 7 new members who want to renew their membership. This opportunity has allowed increasing the number of the members this year for more than 100 %.

IEEE in Africa

- *What are your recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster 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

Recommendation: to give more advantages to enhance the MD in African countries, such as giving one free year membership or a 50 % discount after 2 successive memberships.

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 Success since last meeting:
- Young Professionals are re-vitalized
- WIE are now not just an officer but a regular Affinity Group

Section Vitality

works well:

- many technical activities in the Section

IEEE in Africa

- we have organized IEEE TEMS activities with “Focus Africa” in our Section; three events in this year (in collaboration with “Aphropean Partners”)

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) Some local companies were contacted by section industry ambassador to support section events
- 2) Section has invited the Under Secretary of Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication and the CEO of VIVA Telecomm Company as main speakers for IEEE-GCC conference & exhibition which was held on May 2017. The keynote Speaker for the conference was Prof. Margaretha Eriksson, Region 8 Director and for the SYP was Mr. Costas Stasopoulos, Region 8 Past Director, while many others from Industry supported the event and promised to be in touch.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) Section has participated in the Careers/ Jobs fair in collaboration with Ministry of labor and social development which was held on March 2017
- 2) Honoring of SYP participants /volunteers, May 2017
- 3) Continues Registration of Bahrain Section by the Bahrain Government as a local branch of IEEE international.

Section Vitality

- 1) Holds of a social evening on 22nd April 2017
- 2) Holds several ExCom meetings
- 3) A new Communication Society Chapter has been formed.
- 4) Completed a petition for a new humanitarian group (SIGHT)
- 5) Starts a new IT & Computer Society Chapter
- 6) 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

- 1) Emailed Prof. Gloria Chuckwudebe to discuss that issue with her. As no response was received, we hope meeting her at SC 2017 to hear possible future collaboration.
- 2) To share ideas about vocational training and common humanitarian technology-based 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 comment about The 9th IEEE GCC CONFERENCE, EXHIBITION and SYP CONGRESS which had been held at Manama, Bahrain, 7-11 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) Bahrain Section is going to celebrate its 15th. Anniversary shortly, CONGRATULATIONS !

:: BEST WISHES FOR ALL ::

Benelux Section**Dirk Van Hertem****Getting Closer to Industry**

We try to hook up with industry through our chapter activities. Within our section committee we have 3 members from industry. We continue to support activities that try to link with industry, but we agree that IEEE remains unknown to many in industry and we hope to increase our impact.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We have a new program which supports our student branches with additional funds if they attract more students. We had a well attended general assembly as we invited our newly elected IEEE fellows to give a short technical seminar immediately after the seminar. Such top level presentations attracted the attention of over 100 attendees, including non-members. We have a student branch support scheme <http://www.ieee.be/ieeebnl/?q=node/17> which we intend to continue.

Section Vitality

We have a well established team of volunteers which we continuously expand with new volunteers. We are now specifically targeting our chapters, with a new chapter chair coordinator. We hope to get them better involved in the section activities. For all conferences organized in our section, we link the organizers with the chapters in their field and offer support.

IEEE in Africa

Focus on some core regions/aspects and try to work from there.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Local support for activities with our sections (A4-size printed brochures, conference support with a local understanding,...)

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We organized a symposium for the IEEE medal of honor recipient Kees Schouhamer Immink:
<http://homepage.tudelft.nl/2k00k/ImminkSeminar/>

Bosnia & Herzegovina Section

Meliha Selak

Getting Closer to Industry

Meetings with the representatives of the BH Power Utility Company engaged in sponsoring ISGT 2018 to be hosted in Sarajevo Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Meeting with representatives of the Energoinvest, the largest consulting government owned corporation and negotiating that company provide venue for the regional workshop They is a high interest in “Energy Market” in the region thus, we are planning to organize workshop related to this subject.

PES Chapter organized visit to HZ-HB Power Utility Company in Mostar including the technical lecture by DL Meliha Selak, IEEE PES DLP “What we need to know for the power system upgrade and DG connections?”.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Starting new Student Branches, reviving dormant and fostering activities of active SBs. We had organized several workshops and technical lectures: technical lecture “Power System Protection - Where We Are Today” by Meliha Selak for newly revived SB University of Tuzla April 2017; Workshop “Team Work and Group Dynamics”, by Dušanka Bošković for YPAG and SB University of Sarajevo May 2017.

Visit of the IAS President Tomy Sebastian and IAS CMD Peter Magyar to IAS SBC University of Sarajevo. Visit included several lectures and visit to “Solar Tree” in the UNSA Campus built by the IAS SBC University of Sarajevo members, and meeting with students from the SB University of east Sarajevo. On that occasion IAS DL David Vaglia delivered lecture “Nuclear Energy Today and the Future: What in the World is Going On?” in Sarajevo and also lecture “What really happened in Fukushima” at the Intsikt 2017 symposium in Tuzla.

We also support the local conference INFOTEH-JAHORINA 2017, main organizer: Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of East Sarajevo.

Promotion activities at all universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the 2nd BH SYP Congress in December 2017 and YEP/IEEE Innovation Challenge in co-operation with the Young Employment Project.

Co-operation with the national association for bio-medical engineering and providing free participation at the CMBEBIH 2017 conference. IEEE Region 8 SAC Past Chair Mona Ghassemian was present at the conference and students had a chance to meet and discuss good practice in IEEE volunteering

Section Vitality

Bosnia And Herzegovina Section received 2017 Outstanding Section Membership Retention Performance recognition from the IEEE Membership Recruitment and Recovery Committee. This recognition is result of many activities launched in the section, and also through the YPAG activities in motivating our active student members to stay with the IEEE and IEEE PES DLP technical lecturers.

Meliha Selak is the IEEE PES 2017 Award Recipient “For Leadership in power system operation and for inspiring new engineers and women in engineering throughout the IEEE Regions”.

MD team is also very active in recognizing volunteers eligible for the Senior Member elevation and already started several nominations.

IEEE in Africa

We could provide some assistance related to our activities if needed.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

To help us in promoting IEEE PES ISGT-Europe 2018 that will be hosted by our section, in Sarajevo.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Special NOTE: Our SYPC 2016 and Hackaton has been reported in IEEE President Report for 2016 on 20th page:

<https://www.ieee.org/about/corporate/ieee-annual-report-2016-final.pdf>

Bulgaria Section

Kiril Alexiev

Getting Closer to Industry

Nevertheless we have attracted several person from the industry (former scientists) to serve on key positions in Chapters and Section ExCom, the participation of industrial partners remain very limited. Usually the former academic people after their transition in industry support the IEEE initiatives with decreasing intensity in time. Up to now we could not find a successful approach to improve our relations with the Industry. We will continuously try to build relations with standalone industrial partners and Chamber of Commerce .

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We have one active Student Branch at one only University. We will try to share good practice in other technical Universities. The Young Professionals Activity Group is well established with many organized events annually. Many of the events were jointly organized with students.

Section Vitality

- This year we organized a joint meeting of ExCom with Chapter Chairs. At this meeting we discuss all problems to be solved in organization of scientific events, membership renewal. Many interesting opinions were how to choose the most suitable form of the process of membership renewal. ExCom will continue efforts to in preparation of the membership renewal documentation and in the collection and transferring of the membership fees of more than half of our members, because this mode of action is more flexible and preferable for 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 now to organize one new Chapter. This year we are preparing voting procedures for all Chapters except one. We would like to meet 2018 year with newly elected officers in the Chapters.
- This year the list of planned events includes organization of 3 IEEE conferences, 2 other conferences, 7 seminars, 2 invited lectures, several administrative meetings, etc.

IEEE in Africa

We have not established permanent links with African Sections. The contemporary political situation in the most North African countries, which are closer to our country is very complicated and doesn't stimulate organization of joint events. We could invite our colleagues from Africa to participate in the organized conferences.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Perhaps the question about IEEE Vienna's office is relevant because I know nothing about his activities so far. When one institution is newly open, it is appropriate somebody to announce the results of this investment.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- In 2017 we will continue good tradition to organize IEEE Approved conferences in our country and the Section was doing its best to help the publicizing and the organization of these events.
- Our Section together with Chapters will co-sponsor or endorse several other 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.
- We are trying to reverse the trend and more our members to apply for an IEEE Senior membership.

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 Relation 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.
- Croatia Section has appointed Industry Relations officer who is a member of ExCom. Networking and social events have been identified as points of interest for industry members, which will be the focus of further activities in this area in order to increase the membership share of industry professionals in IEEE.
- 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

Activities/programs/initiatives that work well to attract and support Future Members in Croatia Section:

- Student branches organize lectures that present “success stories” from local companies. Such lectures give students the opportunity to informally network with industry representatives and to learn about future employment opportunities.
- Similar activities are organized on a regular basis by the Croatia Section Young Professionals (YP) affinity group through the IEEE Elevate program, which they themselves conceived and launched 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.

Our major success since the last meeting was an event called IEEE TOPWeek (Technical Opportunities Week), organized for the first time in May 2017 by the Industry Applications Society Chapter, Power & Energy Society Chapter, and YP in cooperation with the local university, innovation centre, and alumni organization. The four (half-)day program featured 19 speakers, most of them from local companies, who presented successful projects, achievements and innovations. This event attracted about 50 students who were also introduced to IEEE activities.

To attract more members and strengthen the relationships between current IEEE members, the following events are planned by the end of 2017:

- Croatia Student and Young Professionals Congress (CroSYP) in Zagreb, where we will invite students from University of Split. This will help us revitalize local Student Branch in Split.
- IEEE Day celebration within all student branches in Croatia. Students will represent IEEE to their colleagues and take part in “Become a Member” workshop for non-IEEE members.

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:

- member retention and recruitment (Croatia Section received “2017 Outstanding Section Membership Retention Performance” Award);
- recruitment and training of new volunteers;
- cooperation among organizational units within the Section;
- organizing meetings and workshops;

- inviting Distinguished Lecturers;
- celebrating the IEEE Day;
- organizing IEEE conferences;
- sponsoring local conferences;
- annual Croatia Section awards to recognize outstanding members and achievements;
- organizing Pre-University education and STEM programs;
- involving members from industry;
- organizing lectures/talks with well-known speakers from industry;
- launching a local IEEE Senior Member initiative - personal invitations to outstanding members to be nominated by Section.

IEEE in Africa

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

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- We propose that the new office put some effort into devising a better member benefits strategy, which would provide members in Europe (and elsewhere) with a wider range of member benefits - specifically those currently available only to members in Regions 1 through 6 (e.g., discounts).
- We propose that the new office in Vienna 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, would significantly reduce the delivery time and cost for Sections based in Europe (and, possibly, other geographically close 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.
- It could be considered in near future that Marketing & Sales takes a larger role in Europe, rather than forwarding them to for-profit companies (such as EBSCO).

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

New initiatives:

- IEEE SIGHT initiative has been launched in Croatia during 2016. Its project proposal "Missing Children Emergency Response System" has received funding under IEEE SIGHT programme.

Special achievements:

- Croatia Section received the 2017 Outstanding Section Membership Retention Performance Award.
- Davor Bonefacic, who served as the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT17) Chapter Chair from 2011 to 2015, received an IEEE appreciation certificate for "Notable Services and Contributions towards the advancement of IEEE and Engineering Professions"
- Igor Kuzle, who served as a Power and Energy Society (PE31) Chapter Chair from 2012 to 2015, received an IEEE appreciation certificate for "Notable Services and Contributions towards the advancement of IEEE and Engineering Professions"

Anniversaries:

- In 2017, Croatia Section marks the 25th anniversary since the 1992 petition by which it was formed under its present name (as one of the successors of the former IEEE Yugoslav Section, est. 1971).

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 2017 has implemented the MOU agreements for internship programs with 10 big companies from the telecom, energy and computer sectors and has secured more than 50 internship positions for our student and YP members. IEEE Cyprus Section will participate in two important industry events that will take place during November 2017. The Information Technology and Telecoms (Infocom 2017) and the International Information Security Conference & Workshops (Infosec 2017). Industry experts will also be invited in section events. The SBs of the IEEE Cyprus Section will organize 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:

- Legal Registration of IEEE Cyprus Section
- Update our website <http://ieee.org.cy/>
- Keep metrics related to membership development. Contact deactivated members and ask them to renew.
- Organize the annual event for membership recruitment (IEEE day).
- Conduct a joint meeting between the SBs
- Organize seminars and workshops for our members.
- Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) - organize workshops in high schools Continue supporting the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative.
- Review the national society agreements.
- Hold officer elections
- Organize annual meeting/Announce the new officers

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

The IEEE Cyprus Section will organize the IEEE R8 flagship International Energy Conference ENERGYCON 2018 in Cyprus. 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

Czechoslovakia Section

Matej Pacha

Getting Closer to Industry

Currently, we are implementing the Action for Industry initiative. However, the negotiations take some time since the companies are very careful about any kind of agreement. We have contacted Honeywell, NXP, Siemens, EVPU and we are about to start with Eaton and more local companies. Another activity is a connection between companies and student branches activities, usually by a sponsorship or a company involvement in workshops (lectures, etc.).

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

This year we have invested in Membership Development Workshop, either by organizing the R8 MD Workshop in Bratislava and by invitation of an additional MD officer. Our MD officers are trying to make the IEEE more visible and more valuable, aligned with other activities such as conferences.

Section Vitality

Last months we are talking to new potential leaders to create one new chapter and to extend one joint chapter. This initiative will bring more members and activities, thus better visibility of the IEEE brand. However, we are still struggling with our volunteers, hoping for newcomers from student branches and young professionals.

IEEE in Africa

Africa is a very diverse region with many different needs. I would recommend to communicate with the section leaders and MD officers in Africa, to listen to their needs and to encourage them to be initiative and not to wait for an advice. During our MD workshop, I've found out that many officers wait for some guidance, while themselves are the ones who know the best, what is needed. Sometimes it's better just to trust them and appreciate them.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

It would be nice to have an access to some meeting room in Vienna in case we have an important meeting with some company. In case we need a help with visa invitation letters for our guests from outside of Europe, the office could help us.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Our Section is celebrating 25th anniversary this year. The celebration will take place in late Autumn/Winter (the date is still to be decided).

Denmark Section

Erik Stilling

Getting Closer to Industry

With his extensive contacts to both industry and academia, our current IRO and Past Chair Ole MLauridsen is in an ideal position to activate industry relations and arrange joint technical meetings like during the period 2008-12. However, in addition to his regular work, his engagement in our longterm efforts to get our bank to accept transfer of drawing rights to the present treasurer has severely limited his time for motivating industry to join IEEE and for arranging joint section-industry activities. Resolving this obstacle to enabling the section to, e.g. finance Distinguished Lecturers visits in DK for joint IEEE-Industry meetings, would clearly be one way of motivating industry to see advantages in cooperating with IEEE.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

A new generation of very active students and young professionals at Aalborg University has initiated ""rebirth"" of the former SB and created a joint SB chapter. Unfortunately, the section is still unable to actively support this promising development financially because of the bank issue described above. Still left to do is revitalising the SB at Denmark Technical University and personalise contacts between the section and student volunteers there. Motivating students to engage in SPCs and join the SB congresses is among the means to foster personal relations and activities in an IEEE context.

Section Vitality

Repeated addresses at a personal level to former chapter officers for reactivating dormant chapters are beginning to show results. A nomination and subsequent election of a new board for the joint chapter IE13/IA34/PEL35 is currently under way. As the bank issue hopefully is resolved as the summer holidays ends also at our bank, the section will be able to once again to be the driving force for arranging joint seminars and meetings with both universities, the national danish engineer association and with industry.

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Creation of a pan-European DL Program and identifying DLs would facilitate and help sections in attracting industry and members from high-tech companies, in particular DLs from industry itself.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Egypt Section

Samir I. Shaheen

Getting Closer to Industry

The section has close cooperation with industry. First we provide assistant to student to get support from industry in both summer training and to support in the development of products in their graduation projects. We also held many seminars in the different chapters in cooperation with industry in Cairo, Alexandria and Assouit. These are the largest three cities in Egypt with large industrial base.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Several meeting in different universities were conducted by the section officers to attract student members. In addition professional activities committee offers seminars to engineers in industry and academia to increase membership.

Section Vitality

Egypt section has three activities that has been performed annually. These are EED (Egyptian Engineering Day conducted since 2002), MIE (Made in Egypt Competition since 2005) and Future City since 2009. All these activities are executed yearly in August or September. It is a gathering of new Engineering graduates to show their graduating projects and get prizes supplied by industry and government (EED). Made in Egypt is another competition that attract projects of B.Sc. graduation to the industry and again prizes are given to projects that prove real industrial adoption. The last activity, namely; Future City is a competition for children from schools (13-15 Years old) to compete in international Future City which is held in USA. Young professional volunteers manage the whole process from training students and teachers and the local competition. The winning team travels to USA to attend the finals.

All these activities are managed by the section and by the Young Professional volunteers. Number of projects range from 250 to 400 Projects. Number of competing graduates and School kids reach 2000. Number of attendees from industry, students, government, .. etc. in the range 8000-10000.

IEEE in Africa

We tried to provide IEEE in Africa with our activities to help other sections in Africa.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

IEEE Vienna should be a hub to help all sections and IEEE members, conferences, and affinity groups.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We need to start an education activities to universities in developing new programs and advance the Electrical and Computer Engineering Programs.

Estonia Section

Peeter Ellervee

Getting Closer to Industry

Contacts with the national industry associations are rather good and are improving. The goal is to let the industry people also to feel that they'll benefit from being IEEE member. One of the ways to do this is to exchange information about various events like DL visits. Preparations for the traditional summer seminar in August are on the way and presentations are expected from both industrial and academic members of the section.

Two new industry oriented joint chapters have been created - IA/PE/RA (Industry Applications / Power & Energy / Robotics and Automation) and IE/PEL (Industrial Electronics / Power Electronics) - to intensify contacts with industry.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The activity of students has not been so high during the last few months because of the examination period and graduations. However, new activities are planned for autumn. This includes also getting IEEE student members more active in counseling new students, especially those of foreign background. Also, WIE of Student branch of TUT has been very active.

To attract more student members, the Section is supporting their participation at various events (e.g., IEEExtreme). The students are also welcome to participate at Section's events. Representatives of Student Branches are present at ExCom meetings.

Section Vitality

No significant changes here during the last few months and the same features can be outlined, essentially. Namely, IEEExtreme 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.

On the other hand, Estonia Section has met its recruitment goal for the 2017 membership year already. We'll try to keep this growth. The new chapters - IA/PE/RA and IE/PEL - will probably increase the interest of potential members from industry. Extending an existing C/COM (Computer / Communications) with Information Theory (IT) will attract people from more theoretical fields.

IEEE in Africa

Students from African countries studying at universities (also in Estonia) are good candidates to distribute information about IEEE and its activities. Student Branches could be the best way to address these students. Plus looking at examples from the other Sections.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Finland Section

Toni Mattila

Getting Closer to Industry

We think that members of IEEE working in an academic environment gain a lot from their IEEE membership but IEEE, as a whole, should be able to serve its industrial members better by creating higher value for them especially. The Finland Section is closely engaged with the IEEE Action for Industry initiative and through our Section Industry Ambassadors, we reach out to local industries in order to recruit companies to join the AFI initiative and provide internships for the IEEE student members and YPs. Over the past two years the number of industrial contacts has increased substantially. We will continue our engagement with the IEEE Action for Industry initiative also in the future.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The academic institutions are actively seeking to engage with IEEE in organizing seminars and conferences that are open to our members. These events are good examples of essential value IEEE provides especially to academic members of IEEE. Finland Section actively engages and supports events that are of high quality and in the field relevant to our current and future members. We also encourage our technical chapters to level up their activities. Over the past two years, the latter activity has been particularly worthwhile.

Section Vitality

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 (IOP) with whom we are organizing our first joint seminar in September 2017.

Finland Section is also supporting its Technical Chapters to collaborate 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 traveling 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.

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 to participate in volunteering activities. 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

The existing activities among the different Sections in Region 8 are a good benchmark. Similar models/ideas that work in Europe and Middle-East may work in Africa as well.

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**

In continuation with a MOU signed last year with General Electric we are organizing workshops with this company. These workshops are dedicated to industrials and are open to IEEE and non IEEE members. The first one occurred in July and was a success (55 people registered). The attendance asked us to renew this kind of action and some other companies where candidates to host our workshops. We'll continue to work on that subject that is one of our Section main priorities.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We are now sending an email to new members to introduce the Section and also to insist on the “advanced technology for humanity” aspect of IEEE which is not always well known. We will organize in November a workshop with YP for networking and a better implication in IEEE activities. Non IEEE members will be invited to this workshop. We also are helping Student branches and chapters to develop their activity. IEEE could help us in providing supports (slides, etc.) to encourage European people to join us. The work on this subject is ongoing.

Section Vitality

We'll organize in October a meeting with all chapters and affinity groups presidents in order to help them to increase their activity.

IEEE in Africa

France is close to north Africa countries (Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco) and we could help to reinforce joined activities with these countries sections.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Essentially financial support in order to avoid to handle dollars but just euros.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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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. This 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 professionals 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.

Ghana Section

Eric Kuada

Getting Closer to Industry

The Ghana Section has initiated steps to sign an MoU with another professional association in the country as a way of getting recognition by the Engineering council of Ghana.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Organizing conferences and workshops to give publicity to IEEE in the country. The IEEE is still not very well know in Ghana so organizing major conferences and workshops that attract national media coverage is very useful in promoting membership.

Section Vitality

- The Ghana Section in collaboration with the Power and Energy Society, and Industrial Applications Society held the PowerAfrica2017 conference from the 27th to 30th June 2017 at Accra.
- The section held Ad-hoc committee on Activities on Africa virtual conference at two separate locations in Accra and Cape Coast. These were held in May 2017

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- The section will be hosting the 7th IEEE International Conference on Adaptive Science 2018 (IEEE ICAST18) in August 2018.
- The Ghana Section has but in the bid to host the Africon 2019.

Greece Section

Athanasios Kakarountas

Getting 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.
- The Section has been awarded for its contribution to the “Action for Industry initiative”

Attracting and Supporting 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
 - Organization of the forthcoming Hellenic SYP 2017
 - Social Media Networking
- Participation as sponsor/supporters of local conferences and scientific events.
- Participation of the Membership Development officer to Regional workshops.

The Section received this month the bronze award for Membership Development

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 that are not available in Region 8

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 workshops
- Support of YP AfG
 - Offer financial support for reviving the AfG The Section continues to support Students and Young Professionals
- Support of new SBs 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
- Summits
 - Section summits
 - SB summits
- Young officer 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, Membership Development and Educational Activities initiatives

Hungary Section

Levente Kovacs

Getting Closer to Industry

We have restructured (almost completely) our relationship with the industry. A new officer has been elected. In our annually or bi-annually organized IEEE conferences (yearly we organize 4-5 conferences) industry plays from now on an important role: we invite speakers, organize industry sponsored sessions (specially for PhD students). Mobile application was created running during our conferences, where participants can find the program, latest news during the conference and info about our industrial partners.

Industrial award will be given for the most practical / industry-oriented conference paper.

Our new web-site (under construction) will have a dedicated part for industrial partners as well.

The yearly most active industrial partner will be recognized every year by an IEEE HS industry award.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Fortunately IEEE Hungary Section members do not need much membership advertisement as they are aware with the benefits of IEEE. However, young or new members need several activities. The Best Student Paper award established last year turned to be a success involving talented young students in the IEEE community.

For Student and Young Professionals we are discussing with universities to have direct access to newly recruited PhD students being involved as IEEE members. For this we offer reduced registration fee for our IEEE conferences financially benefic for the doctoral schools. Obuda University already agreed, other universities are under discussion. BSc and MSc students will be appointed to join IEEE at different student competitions (starting with the most prestigious National Student Conference - an IEEE HS competition will be established in 2017 November), student-camps.

An SMC HS YP initiative has been created as well, for the best diploma or PhD thesis.

We encourage ad support participation at YP congresses empowering our existing branches' day-by-day life.

Section Vitality

IEEE HS continuously increases in members in the last 6 years. Local operation procedures are updated or under update. Most of the HS chapters have been revitalised, chapter leaderships renewed, including the Life Member Group as well.

This year IEEE HS celebrates its the 30th jubilee year. In memory of the famous Hungarian scientist, Rudolf Kalman, we will establish a professor award named by him, and the first time will be announced at our jubilee celebration event (IEEE day held for this occasion on 23rd November, the Hungarian Science day, in collaboration with Obuda University and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences).

We will organize the Neumann Conference in collaboration with the Neumann Society, where we will advertise the benefits of IEEE in front of the whole Neumann community as well.

IEEE HS officers will give lectures at different levels at different universities about the benefits of IEEE. New officers' presence is mandatory as best practices are presented at these events.

New student branches will be created at different Hungarian universities.

As already mentioned in the previous points, different awards have been created or will be created during the year by which we will advertise IEEE and attract new members.

The MD officer sends out renewing e-mails for the IEEE HS members. Non-renewing members are asked to give feedback why not renewed their membership.

IEEE in Africa

By the Stipendium Hungaricum program, big number of students arrive from the World (mostly from Africa) in Hungary to learn (BSc, MSc or PhD levels). We advertise them IEEE, and firstly this year we give for the bests of them (nominated by their university) the possibility to join IEEE conferences by presenting their scientific work under a special session.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

MD materials

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- 30th year jubilee of IEEE HS
- New webpage under construction
- Mobile conference application
- Best Student Paper award
- Industry sponsored sessions
- Newly established awards:
 - Industrial award for best practical paper
 - Most active industrial partner award
 - Kalman Rudolf professor award
 - IEEE HS paper award at National Student Conference contest

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

This spring we held a successful workshop with leading startups on data analytics. The companies presented challenges in data analytics and big data while academics presented recent research in the area. Following its success we are planning a similar workshop in the fall on entrepreneurship. We will continue fostering our Industry relation by working with the Icelandic Association of Chartered Engineers (VFI) and organizing three events each year, including the VFI-IEEE Joint Engineer of the Year Award.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Student competitions and supporting student projects. Short courses held by the student branch. This year we continue 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 and having a continuing program in the form of training / workshops.

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.

IEEE in Africa

IEEE sponsored conferences in Africa and section meetings.

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 Counselors 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 the priority it deserves.
- 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
- 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.

Israel Section

Yuval Beck

Getting Closer to Industry

We have opened a new section in the local website for enabling companies to publicize jobs for students and for engineers.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Publicizing IEEE in professional conferences.

Section Vitality

The section had members and general meeting for planning the next conference in 2018 as well as plans for distribute the IEEE in the industry.

IEEE in Africa

We are participating in Africon 2017.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

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Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We are in the process of new election for the Israeli section officers.

Italy Section

Tiziana Tambosso

Getting Closer to Industry

The Industry Relation Committee, with the coordination and other members of the committee from industry and the contribution of chapter chairs and other volunteers, is working on strengthen the relationship with industries through: increasing the Italian Industry participation in the R8 Mentor Program and R8 Internship Program; informative specific meetings with selected big industries; organization of panels and other joint events; organization of student visits; organization of job fairs during Section conferences.

A second edition of the special meeting with industries is part of the program of the annual conference of Italy Section IEEE-RTSI International Forum on Research and Technologies for Society and Industry Sept. 12, 2017 (Modena). The objective of the meeting is to inform all participants of the initiative that IEEE Region 8 and IEEE Italy Section is promoting in favor of industries and to gain new ideas and initiatives of common interest. In this second edition the special participation of the chair of IEEE UK & Ireland Section (the largest in R8) will present a useful experience and another perspective on the IEEE-Industry Partnership.

In the RTSI 2017 edition a strong technical program with contributed and invited papers and three panel with local industries is organized. In the three panels industry and university representatives will discuss on future strategies in the fields of: Smart mobility, Industry 4.0 and Smart healthcare.

A special exhibition with innovative start up and university spin off is organized in parallel to the technical sessions. Cooperation with Italian District of Industries in Modena (Confindustria and Democenter) is established with the strong support of University of Modena and Reggio Emilia Department of Electronics.

A special meeting on innovative startups is also organized for the first time at the 2017 edition of RTSI with the objective to inform young graduated and entrepreneurs on how to develop an innovative enterprise project also with the examples of some success cases of Italian start-ups.

A new award of Italy Section was introduced for recognizing an IEEE member of industry who is an excellent speaker and have made high quality technical contributions on advanced topics that are of primary importance to the industry and to IEEE Italy Section community. At the same time, the speakers and their employing companies are given the opportunity to make a strong impact on IEEE Italian community. Ultimately, this award aims to strengthen the ties between IEEE members and industry leaders.

See: <http://sites.ieee.org/italy/industrialdistinguished-lecturer-award/>.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The effort of the Student Activity Committee of the Italy Section has been concentrated on the inactive SBs with more IEEE student members. New counselors were found and nominated, meetings with present counselors and other active member of the universities are organized. Thanks to these actions new SBCs are under way and two/three SBs have been revitalized. Some Student Branches are very active and their effort will be recognized with a dedicated award, the Exemplary Student Branch Award (see <http://sites.ieee.org/italy/files/2016/12/IEEEItalySectionExemplarySBAward-DEF.pdf>). The award Ceremony will be held in Modena in conjunction with the IEEE RTSI 2017 annual conference of the Section. The second IEEE Italy Section meeting of Student Branches will be organized during IEEE RTSI 2017 in Modena. The event was a special occasion for the student members to discuss new ideas and exchange experiences and also meet industries representatives. The official representative of Italian Student Branches has been nominated during the last meetings of the Italy Section EXCO (Executive Committee) and he has been registered on IEEE vtools. During the annual meeting of the Italy Section RTSI 2017 in Modena, for the second time it will be offered an important opportunity to young graduated and PhD student to be on the stage showing their advancement in the field. The focus will be on innovative prototype implementations, systems and technologies in the research fields of RTSI2017. Demos were considered as real, practical, and interactive proof of the presenters' research ideas and scientific or engineering contributions, with the goal of offering YP the opportunity to discuss systems, applications, prototypes, or proofs-of-concept with Senior researchers and people from industry. All demo submissions will be subscribed to the "YP Demo competition". An evaluation committee scored posters/demos/speeches to award the best one. Demos will be judged on originality, execution, and illustration of the core research ideas. In addition, four YPs were awarded with a development kit sponsored by an important semiconductor company.

In 2017 IEEE Italy Section is organizing two international schools for master and PhD students and also young professionals (IEEE student members will have a participation diploma from IEEE R8 and professionals will have credits from local Order of Engineers). The third edition of the IEEE Italy Section PhD Summer School will be held in Perugia from 17 to 23 September. The main topic of this edition is: "Smarter Engineering for Industry 4.0" (web site: ieees2017.unipg.it). With the support of "IEEE Smart Cities Initiative", Italy Section in cooperation with University of Trento, is organizing the IEEE European Summer School on Smart Cities (<http://events.unitn.it/en/ieees3ceu2017>). The school will be held from 4 to 8 of September, 2017 in Trento.

In several events, co-organized with the IEEE Italy Section, a poster area to illustrate the benefits for a IEEE Student Member and IEEE Member has been organized, with the presence of a IEEE Italy Section volunteer.

Section Vitality

A new Committee on Professional and Career Activity was created. Its activity is in progress. The objective is to obtain certified credits from Engineering National Committee (CNI) for the courses, tutorials, schools, organized by the Italy Section for the career development of professionals. This action is intended to increase the number of professional affiliation to IEEE.

The newly created committee on History activity is working on two new milestones. The milestone ceremony is always an important moment of communication and advertisement of IEEE and Italy Section.

See: <http://sites.ieee.org/italy/history-activity/>.

The Section has a Section Awards Program: six new awards were established and assigned in 2017: Honorary award, Distinguished Service Award, Industrial Distinguished Lecturer Award, Best Chapter Award, Exemplary Student Branch Award, Best Demo Competition for Young Professionals (for details see: <http://sites.ieee.org/italy/awards/>). Italy chapters, each year, assigned a tenth of awards to students and young researchers, i.e.: Best PhD thesis award, Best master thesis award, Best paper on an IEEE journal published by young researcher. These awards are supported by Italy Section and, sometime by the IEEE Societies.

Italy Section continues to strengthen its relationship with Italian Technical Associations. In particular Italy Section has signed MoU with: AICA - Associazione italiana per l'informatica ed il calcolo distribuito (www.aicanet.it/) AEIT - Associazione Italiana di Elettrotecnica, Elettronica, Automazione, Informatica e Telecomunicazioni (www.aeit.it) that is also sister society of IEEE. According to the new IEEE procedure to partnering with national technical organization, Italy Section is organizing joint events with AICA and AEIT. Italy Section started its cooperation with FAST (the Italian Federation of the Scientific and Technical Associations) (<http://www.fast.mi.it/inglese/english2.htm>) and joint activity are on the way.

A two per year Newsletter of the Section is sent to all members. The newsletter informs the section members about the recent news of the Section, the Chapters, Section Committees, Student Branches, Young Professional, other activities, announcements. See Section website for the June 2017 edition of the newsletter (<http://sites.ieee.org/italy/newsletter/>).

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. It is possible to organize visits of Fellow and Senior Members of the Italy Section to Africa Sections/Chapters.

Italy Section can participate in humanitarian programs of R8 for Africa also with active cooperation of some very active Student Branches.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

IEEE Office in Vienna could give help:

- in coordinating technical activities shared from the different Sections and European Industries.

and also, as already said:

- in the process of registering IEEE Sections as a juridical person.
- in case of fiscal problems
- in obtaining new benefits for members like: discounts on flight tickets, discounts on SW packages,

It can be a place were to meet:

- organize joint meeting between Sections
- organize special meetings of R8 committees
- organize special meeting s of EPPI
- organize standardization committees meetings

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Jordan Section

Gheith Abandah

Getting Closer to Industry

We are trying to get closer to industry through the following techniques:

- 1) Having more members in the section committee from industry; seven members of this committee are now from industry
- 2) Our young professionals hold several professional and technical activities that involve young professionals from industry.
- 3) We organize special workshops targeting engineers from industry such as Amman Metro Area Workshop. The second workshop of this series will be held in September.
- 4) We have expanded our annual student branches congress to include young professionals this year. JSYPC 2017 was held in July.
- 5) Our biannual conference on applied electrical engineering and computing technologies targets participants from industry and focuses on academia/industry relationships and joint research. AEECT 2017 is scheduled in October.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We attract and support future members through the following techniques:

- 1) Our section, chapters, affinity groups, and student branches hold many activities every year that give value to members and generate great visibility to IEEE in Jordan. Such activities continuously attract new members.
- 2) We encourage and support creating new student branches and student chapters; several new branches and chapters were created this year. Such new organizational units attract new members and hold additional activities.

Section Vitality

We continue to foster section vitality and sustainability through the following techniques:

- 1) Holding periodic elections for all organizational units including the section, the chapters, student branches and chapters, and affinity groups.
- 2) Encouraging all units to hold periodic activities and meetings and to report these activities.
- 3) Continue attracting new members and improve the retention rates.
- 4) Hold general meetings and congresses such as JSYPC 2017 and the Section General Meeting. This year's Section General Meeting was in May. In this meeting, the Section and Chapter Chairs reported past year activities and their plans for 2017. The meeting included a keynote speech on recent technologies and recognition awards for distinguished volunteers, organizational units, and loyal members (more than 30 years of membership).
- 5) The section financially supports activities organized by affinity groups and students and supports their participation in regional and international professional meetings.

IEEE in Africa

Jordan Section is open to collaboration with IEEE activities in Africa.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

To facilitate the mobility of the Region 8 members between the different countries, e.g., help in securing visas. To help in legalizing the existence of IEEE offices in the different countries of Region 8.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Jordan Section continues to achieve good results:

- 1) Jordan Section has received the IEEE Gold Medal for 2017 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment and Retention Performance.
- 2) Our YP AG received Region 8 Outstanding Young Professionals Affinity Group Award.
- 3) We organize a biannual conference and technically co-sponsor several conferences in Jordan. The AEECT2017 conference will be held in Amman in October 2017. We are co-sponsoring four conferences in Jordan this year.

Kenya Section

Martin Nzomo

Getting Closer to Industry

Industry visits and engagements, talks for young professionals by industry operators and promotion of IEEE membership for professionals in the industry.

The changes required are:

- 1) follow up on the recent industrial outreach visit by IEEE Global President (15-18 May 2017)
- 2) joint activities with industry
- 3) organise joint symposium and exhibitions
- 4) encourage industry professionals to join respective IEEE Societies and promote mentor ship of students and young professionals

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

In line with the IEEE Strategy on Africa, continue mobilising members by strengthening the membership development committee. Plans to hold welcoming and networking sessions with new members and engage in all activities, including encouraging them to volunteer.

For the students, plans to support and strengthen student chapters, including structured mentor ship for students.

The section requests IEEE to consider payment of membership fees in local currency.

Section Vitality

Currently, the section is holding welcome and networking events with new and old members. For example, the section held a hand-over cocktail where new and old member attended and as a result, there was an increase in renewal and new membership. However, with additional financial support, the section will increase the frequency of these events.

IEEE in Africa

- 1) Encourage benchmarking within Africa
- 2) Create sub-regional (Southern Africa, Eastern Africa, Northern Africa and Western Africa) coordinators to support the Africa Area Chair
- 3) Increased communication with the regional coordinators and section chairs

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Learn more about their role and new financial support

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The Section hosted the Global IEEE President and her delegation during their Kenya outreach visit in May 2017

Kuwait Section

Fadhel Abulhasan

Getting Closer to Industry

Met with Kuwait Industrial Union General Manager last Feb. 2017 with Dr. Abdulla Alqallaf one of IEEE Kuwait Board Member.

Points raised to strengthen the the industrial values and Connections with our Future Engineers in different Universities in Kuwait, also to get some guidance form the industrial entities on the Fields of Studies mostly demanded by the local Industry and the job opportunities available for the Future Engineers and Just Graduated Engineers. The feedback from Eng. Huda Albaqsh GM of the Union was excellent and ready for cooperation with IEEE Kuwait Section Board Members on that respect.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

By our IEEE GCC continued conferences for the 9th time , with a successful and high numbers of attendees (around 600 Engineers and Future Engineers) we attract may Fresh University Students and Private Company Engineers to join IEEE and benefit from it.

Other Social media Activities and events such as Instagram, Facebook and Twitter Plus the Knowledge Cafes.

IEEE Kuwait Section support financially, the Future Engineers in the University to participate in the IEEE GCC Conferences , in last May 2017 around 40 students we supported to attend and participate in the GCC Completions during the 9th IEEE GCC Conference and the 1st IEEE GCC SYP Student Congress held in Kingdom of Bahrain.

Section Vitality

Section Vitality Dashboard is an excellent tool for the section officers to work more closely with IEEE HQ and to update Section information, activities and reporting of new officers.

IEEE in Africa

Last Nov. 2016 IEEE Kuwait Section Delegate attended the MD Workshop held in Tunis .

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

No idea at this moments about the role of IEEE Vienna Office.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

NEED MORE PUBLICITY AND THE ROLE OF IEEE VIENNA OFFICE.

Latvia Section

Andrejs Romanovs

Getting Closer to Industry

- collaboration with the largest professional associations (e.g., Latvian Information Technology and Telecommunications Association, Association of Latvian Electrical Engineering and Electronics Enterprises)
- organizing of Industry Tracks on Section supported conferences and events
- technical and financial sponsorship of local IEEE events with invited industry speakers
- organizing of industrial visits for pre- and university students

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- regular student visits to industrial and research institutions (e.g., contest for robots builders “Robotica”, visits to Latvian Television, Incukalns natural gas storage)
- organization or support of student competition programs, which provides IEEE student membership to awardees
- collaboration trainings for secondary schools in electrical engineering and computer applications, promoting IEEE membership
- organization of the scientific events (open for non-members) with publications, included in IEEEExplore and indexed in WoS and Scopus (higher level students are interested in) and regional practical and scientific events with neighboring countries with social programs; Nordic cooperation would be beneficial

Section Vitality

- well organized team of volunteers, continuously expanding with new blood
- regular face-to-face ExCom meetings, planning Sections activities and special events, inviting non-IEEE important persons and students
- direct mailing special events
- organizing / sponsoring at least 3 international conferences and 5 local events yearly gives a good recognition level both locally and internationally

IEEE in Africa

Collecting the best working practices from different regions of Africa and development of the working tools for African Sections is a key to success -the ideas, that works in EU of northern Africa may not work in central or south Sections. Traveling grants for students and young professionals from African academia or industry to R8 organized conferences can increase interest in IEEE membership, the same with the invitation of speakers from Africa to our local events (free of charge or funded by R8).

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Vienna Office can organize promoting IEEE in EU and provide legal support for R8 Sections, e.g. visas to EU for non-EU volunteers, visiting R8 organized events; helping in foundation of IEEE legal entities in EU countries. Still, the main goal and the necessity of Vienna Office is unclear.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Lebanon Section**Hadi Sawaya****Getting Closer to Industry**

We are mainly organizing technical activities with the Order of Engineers and Architects (OEA) - Tripoli, Lebanon, and with Alfa, a leading mobile operator in Lebanon. Now, we are working on signing an MoU with the Order of Engineers and Architects of Beirut. 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 organized the YP Lebanon congress who attracted around 150 attendees. Now we are working on organizing the IEEE day and on organizing several visits to Lebanese universities. Region 8 must foster/encourage more joint events among student chapters and YPs from different countries.

Section Vitality

We continue working on creating new student branches and affinity group. A life member affinity group was formed recently, and a petition to form the Antonine University Student branch was sent to IEEE.

Based on the figures of June 2016 and June 2017, we have a 4% increase in total membership and a 6.7% increase in higher grade membership.

Our financial position remains strong with a current balance of about \$50K.

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

Get closer to Young professionals and students.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Not really convinced of the need for this new office.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Lithuania Section

Vytautas Urbanavicius

Getting Closer to Industry

Activities/programs/initiatives that work well: 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. Major successes (since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations):

- The database for bachelor and master theses topics was created, cooperating with local companies (it was also started filling in).
- The cycle of elective classes on microwave technology and antennas was organized and implemented in cooperation with local companies.
- The volunteers of our section provided mediation services for the employment of trainee students.

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.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Activities/programs/initiatives that work well (to Attract and Support Future Members):

- 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.

Major successes:

- Several conferences supported by our Section were held recently: “Electronics 2017”, “Noise and Fluctuations (ICNF 2017)”, the 3rd Open Conference of Electrical, Electronic and Information Sciences (eStream 2017) and 20th Conference for Junior Researchers “Science - Future of Lithuania. Electronics and Electrical Engineering”. Our Section organized a review of the papers and the publication of the Proceedings of these Conferences.
- MoUs on the 5th IEEE Workshop on Advances in Information, Electronic and Electrical Engineering (AIEEE’2017) and 2018 International Conference BIOMDLORE 2017 were signed.
- The Organizing Committee of the 2nd Nordic Student and Young Professionals (NSYP 2017) Congress is formed and actively works.

Continue to support Students and YP:

- 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/programs/initiatives 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:

- A representative of our section, Tomyslaw Sledevic participated in the Annual 2017 MD Workshop, which was organized in Bratislava, Slovakia on May 19-20.

Required changes (by our Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability):

- Section should complete the formation of IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group.

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.

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.
- We 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

Chair of the IEEE Lithuania Section Young Professionals Affinity Group Dovile Kurpyte was recognized as “Exceptional Volunteer of 2017 Region 8 Young Professionals” and has been awarded at the IEEE R8 Meeting in Stockholm.

Malta Section

Conrad Attard

Getting Closer to Industry

We reach out in several ways to industry. Currently we are preparing a study that will allow us know more of what we can offer to industry. We have setup a committee made of experience people from industry who will become later part of the project we are preparing to ensure better collaboration with local industry. These are the underlying objectives we are addressing.

As part of a concerted effort for IEEE to continue updating itself with industry processes and remain relevant to a rapidly evolving 21st century market, our organisation shall be conducting an external evaluation study exercise in order to take stock of our strengths and weaknesses and discover what is needed to face the challenges ahead of us and better work to fulfill the needs of our members and industry professionals.

For this purpose, we are seeking the assistance of industry professionals to serve as external consultants. The role of such consultants would be to peer review the process of the study and give their expert opinion on the pilot testing the research instruments being used, the data gathering and analysis of such data.

The external evaluation study shall consist of a focus group and a series of online questionnaires with industry professionals, employers, educators and career advisors; the target groups for this study. In more detail, the aims and objectives of the study are:

- To obtain a snap-shot of the patterns and processes shaping the industry and private sector in order to be further updated on the socio-economic, political, technological and legal factors shaping the future trajectories of sectors which are of particular interest to IEEE;
- To determine the needs of industry professionals and thus enable IEEE to fine-tune its approach and future positions on Continuous Professional Development and lifelong learning required by the industry. The study shall aim to investigate whether current education and training mechanisms are providing the skills sets which are required by employers and industry professionals and the validity of IEEE projects to transfer research and knowledge, thereby establishing recommendations for the way forward;
- To investigate the state-of-play within schools with regards the further development of science, engineering and ICT curricula, teaching methods, implementation curricula and career advisory pertaining to science and technology. In this regard, the study aims to establish further policy recommendation on how to improve career advisory at secondary level, postgraduate level and the lifelong course;

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The External Evaluation Study for IEEE reaching out to industry will increase our presence and make more people aware of what we offer. Young professionals and organizing a number of activities throughout the year.

Section Vitality

We have organised the following events.

- A STEM Fair in a school where 1000 guests have attended and participated in several of our activities. (with more than 30 teachers and 25 from our volunteers supporting the various activities organised)
- A debate on women in engineering.
- Awards to best Final year projects in ICT, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering
- The chair was invited to give a speech to graduates with the aim to show case what IEEE Malta are doing. We had the opportunity to reach out to more volunteers and invite student members to remain with IEEE after they graduate.
- We are setting up an Science Club in collaboration with a local school. This will be a pilot project and we plan to reach out to other schools.
- The IEEE YP Section organised an Industrial visit to Ascent Software for University Students, in conjunction with the student branch. While this visit only lasted for around 1 hour, the students learned a lot about how the company operates, and learned about career opportunities with Ascent.
- We redesigned our website (work in progress) show casing new sub committees and new members in our section.
- The IEEE YP Section was involved in the STEM event organised by the IEEE Malta Section. In particular, our role was to think of an educational and fun activity for young students. The chosen activity was the construction of a small Ferris wheel using off-the-shelf and recycled materials such as toilet paper rolls and pasta. We are pleased to say that the students enjoyed this activity and they learned a lot about working in a team alongside other pupils.
- We are supporting digital literacy organised by the ministry of education. Our role will be as judges on a national competition and organise workshops as part of TISP week to teachers particularly focusing on how ICT and digital world can be taught in a more interesting and fun way. This will give exposure to a variety of schools and higher level educational institutes.

IEEE in Africa

We should reach out by extending our projects to respective sections in Africa. Each section will support a section in Africa by sharing resources and ideas and learn from one another.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

If possible they can support us by organizing a one to one or group sessions on Skype to learn more of how IEEE region works and the opportunities available for our region.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Keep up the good work. Looking forward to meeting you all in Australia.

Morocco Section

Nasser Assem

Getting Closer to Industry

During the organized study days (including training / contests), some of our IEEE students got internships in companies. Some enterprise professionals, members of our section are more involved in some of our activities (for example, industrial tracks in conferences co-organized by our section). Our goal remains to involve our industry partners in our conferences / workshops / contests, and encourage section membership for their staff. Again, our Industry Ambassador needs more tools to be able to measure progress in this area; IEEE can help with this. A project is under preparation with IBM to run in one hand a series of training in the domain of Big Data and on the other hand organize a Hackathon in Mobile Apps for Healthcare to foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Several active and motivated members have been appointed to new key positions to help the section in terms of activities that can attract / involve new members. A continuing program in the form of trainings / workshops continues to interest our members, keeping them satisfied. It is also instrumental in encouraging new members to join.

During our IEEE caravan, student branches in several universities were encouraged to organize events for outreach for new students. New student branches and a new affinity group were created, and more IEEE activities were organized, boosting the number of our section members.

More partnerships with IT companies are still needed in order to provide more training opportunities for our members and future members to become themselves trainers providing for more resources to meet the needs of the section and chapters. We continue to provide the necessary support for our students and young professionals in terms of networking and funding for the organization of their own events. A series of training will be organized in collaboration with the Morocco YP Chapter to help newly graduated students start their professional career.

Section Vitality

Again, some outstanding members have been appointed to positions that can be helpful to our section, notably for the Newsletter. Our continued support of motivated and active members remains key to foster section vitality. Several conferences have been sponsored and co-organized in Morocco, and several upcoming conferences are also sponsored. It is very important that our section continues to get involved and technically sponsor local conferences for more visibility and networking with researchers, professionals and students.

IEEE in Africa

Our section continues to be involved with the IEEE Africa network. However, more financial support is still desired for these activities.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Again, more support is needed to make our section activities more visible in the region and globally.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

We have made progress with respect to the organization of MELECON'18 in Marrakech, including tracks, cfp, ...

We are in the final stages to complete the legal framework for the IEEE Morocco Section based on the legal requirements of our country.

We continue to investigate more possibilities, adapted to the Moroccan environment, to encourage professionals, researchers and students to get involved in our section activities.

Nigeria Section

Raphael Onoshakpor

Getting Closer to Industry

IEEE Nigeria Section has conducted a number of events as well as collaborated with other technical organisations to foster industry relations. These include the TISP programs where we collaborated with some industry organisations (Phase 3 Telecom, Micro Scale etc) and a University (BASE University). The Nigerian Section has also conducted an industry excursion where interaction to create a direct forum for Industry interaction.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The Nigeria Section conducted a Students Robotics competition for students and has encouraged participation in Virtual Events like Big Data and Virtual lectures which have had high turnouts and proven very successful. Students and Young professional have constituted the majority of the attendance.

Section Vitality

The section has had numerous meetings both physical and virtual and made use of technology to promote interaction not only within the section but with other sections especially in Africa. Recently a Whatsapp group has been created for the Nigerian Section Exco and another group was created for Africa Section Volunteers where information and ideas are being shared on hosting events and pictures. The activity in the groups is very encouraging.

IEEE in Africa

Prof. Gloria Chukwudebe has been very effective. She is experienced and very willing to lead and guide affairs in the Africa area.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

It would be helpful if the IEEE office would be accessible and would have focal persons who can provide advisory services and support to individual IEEE Sections.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

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Norway Section

Runar Søråsen

Getting Closer to Industry

Focus for the last periods has been to establish internships in the industry for students. Potential companies and mentors has been identified. Next step is to advertise towards students.

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.

A lot of members in the industry are potential senior members. We plan to organize a small event for senior members to celebrate them and show our appreciation. Based on this we want to make a list of candidates for senior membership and help them elevate.

Per Kristian Lien from the Norway section has been appointed new Industry Ambassador for Europe North.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The section has one Young Professionals Group. This group has been quite active, but previous Chair had to step down due to other obligations. We have now succeeded in recruiting a new chair: Soudabeh Khodambashi. Successfully established collaboration with Junior Chamber International in Trondheim to co-organize events for young professionals.

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.

The section arranged a face-to-face ExCom meeting in March focusing on strategic vision work. In this workshop the activities of the section was framed in a Business Model Canvas, and the different value propositions was assessed regarding our divergent "customer" segments. Agreed actions from this workshop will be implemented.

Currently working on reactivating the Control Systems chapter.

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 IEEE Board of Directors has approved the IEEE History Committee's recommendation that an IEEE Milestone will be located at the University of Oslo. The milestone will honor the development of object-oriented programming done between 1961 and 1967 by Ole-Johan Dahl and Kristen Nygaard.

Thank you to the working group for making this happen: Jenny Olsson Picalausa (IEEE Norway section representative), Knut Hegna (UiO), Bjarte M. Stvold (Norsk Regnesenter) and Sverre Holm (UiO).

Oman Section

Amer Al-Hinai

Getting Closer to Industry

The section will continue to organize the industry-academia day under the umbrella of IEEE Oman Section. In addition, there is a plan to sign MoU between IEEE Oman Section and the Electricity Sector Companies in Oman.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

Part of the MoU between IEEE Oman Section and the Electricity Sector Companies in Oman is to ensure membership support to the engineers in those companies.

Section Vitality

Officer election is taking place now every 2 years in Oman Section.

IEEE in Africa

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Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We hope the office can help us to establish legal representation of IEEE in Oman.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The section won outstanding membership recruitment and retention awards for the past three years (2015-2016-2017). In addition the section received the Best Small Section Award in 2015. I hope R8 recognize IEEE Oman Section for such achievements in Sydney meeting.

Poland Section**Mariusz Malinowski****Getting Closer to Industry**

- 1) Cooperation with industry and local associations in many workshops
- 2) Best thesis contest organized by industry and Poland Section IEEE
- 3) Industry express interest to be sponsor of WiE Summit in Krakow (Poland) in September 2017

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) Co-sponsorship (technically and financially) of many conferences, where IEEE Poland Section give short presentation showing activity of IEEE
- 2) Co-operation with other polish technical associations (SEP and PTETiS)

Section Vitality

- 1) Co-sponsoring over 30 conferences during past year (financial and technical)
- 2) 19 Chapters, 3 Joint Chapters, 2 Affiliation groups (WiE, YP)
- 3) Reported meetings (L-31) in 2016 (305 more in comparison to 2015); 98 Technical (also with Distinguish Lectures); 8 Administrative; 4 Professional; 2 Nontechnical.
- 4) Co-organization of biggest power electronics conference in Europe in September 2017 (expected around 800 participants)
- 5) Organization of WiE Summit in Krakow (Poland) in September 2017

IEEE in Africa

Poland Section can exchange with African Sections experience related to past and current co-operation with neighbor sections.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Help to register IEEE Poland Section

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Preparation to common IEEE Milestones with IEEE Germany Section

Portugal Section

Ana Madureira

Getting Closer to Industry

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. 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 papers, participation in RFC working groups, etc.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We believe that national and 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 to 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. Young Professionals(YP) Intership Program is a program that is being developed by the YP AG with the support of PS. Although this program is still in an early stage,we believe that it will improve YP's membership retention and engagement. Changes to better support Students and YP:

- It should be possible to have YP Affinity Groups inside SB
- Increase STEP Program's funding: sections are limited to one STEP event per 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's 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

- 1) Activities/Programs/Initiative to Foster Industry Relations:
 - Attract more members from the Industry
- 2) Changes required by IEEE to Improve Industry Relations:
 - More IEEE funding to encourage meetings with Industry People at initial stages
- 3) Major Successes in terms of Industry Relations:
 - Assigning Industry Relation Officer for the region
- 4) 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

- 1) 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
- 2) 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
- 3) Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Students and Young professionals
 - Increase in the numbers of student members
 - Winner of the “Best Student Branch” in the GCC Student Congress
 - Tasks to support the Students and Young Professionals
 - Conducting regular meetings with them
 - Informing them regarding the technical seminars and Field Trips
 - Student Branches aiming for more awards in the region

Section Vitality

- 1) Activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section
 - International Conferences in the region
- 2) Changes required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability
 - Provide Support and opportunity for hosting international conferences
- 3) Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality
 - Student Branches are winners in various Student Congresses
 - Received Recognition Award from Membership Development office for meeting goals regarding retention
 - Formation of the IEEE Legal Entity in Qatar
 - Student Branches are involved in meetings
 - Initiatives to have more Affinity Groups
- 4) 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 Student Congress in Africa to share their experiences with them.

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

The situation is the same, 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 848 likes, meaning that the same number of colleagues are informed with every post about new Section activities.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

The Section actively supports promotion to Senior Member grade as a good practice to improve membership retention. Student membership recruitment and retention is given special attention. The Section helps student members in paying membership dues in local currency.

Section Vitality

The Section holds regular Executive Committee meetings where future activities are planned. Also, in the reporting period there were also regular meetings of the IEEE EUROCON 2017 organizing committee where a large number of Section volunteers participate. The IEEE EUROCON 2017 conference was used to celebrate the Section 20-years Anniversary where large number of our members was present, including all the Section Executive Committee members. President Karen Bartleson and IEEE R8 Director Margaretha Eriksson awarded the recipients of Section Contribution Certificates to 5 Past Section Chairs, as well as 3 distinguished volunteers. 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 organized the Region 8 flagship conference IEEE EUROCON 2017, 6-9 July 2017 in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. The conference was opened by the 2017 IEEE President Karen Bartleson and IEEE R8 Director Margaretha Eriksson. The conference received 233 research papers submissions and after the rigorous peer review, only 172 papers have been accepted for presentation at the conference sessions. The technical program included 48 technical sessions: plenary sessions with 7 invited keynote lectures, 15 regular technical track sessions, 4 special sessions (SS) on highly specialized topics reporting technical trends and breakthroughs within the scope of the conference, 7 special thematic areas (STA) with several special sessions, poster session, 4 panel discussions (PD), 2 workshops and a tutorial. The conference also included a student competition with the EUROCON 2017 Best Student Paper Award - a tablet computer. IEEE Young Professionals (YP) affinity group organized a presentation, YP informal meet up in Hemingway bar in Ohrid and IEEE YP Workshop: "Improvisational skills" by Jan Verveckken.

Romania Section

Mircea Eremia

Getting Closer to Industry

- Companies in Romania are more interested to get involved in organizing conferences.
- 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. The most active chapters are CS, EMB, PES, and MAG.

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 IEEEExplore 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.
- Representatives of the Section are invited within various conferences to present the benefits of being an IEEE member.
- The Section supports financially (awards) all IEEE student competitions organized by the Romanian chapters (SSC, ED, EMB, CS)

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 thus replacing the retired members.
- The IEEE Romania Section contains 23 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 Young Professional affinity group was created in 2017.
- The Section encourages members to apply for Senior Member and Fellow. Several members have applied in 2016 and 2017, while other are in preparation. This year 8 members have been elevated to Senior Member.
- Conferences and technical events are good practices to keep the members active within the IEEE. 7 conferences has been organized, and 10 are planned until the end of year 2017.
- The Section promotes IEEE and the Section's activities during the opening ceremonies organized in Romania.

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, computer science, engineering in medicine, etc. 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 deliveries from the USA.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- The Young Professional Affinity Group was created in 2017.

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: establishing of Russia IEEE Young professional section on the base of Southern Federal University in Rostov-on-Don city.
- 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, establishing of a system of regular webinars, conferences and online meetings together with national professional societies, student and young professionals 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

IEEE MGA noted success of Russia section in membership development during the last three years and awarded our section by a special image.

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 “2017 Siberian Symposium on Data Science and Engineering (SSDSE) (April 2017, Novosibirsk)” and are planned at forthcoming events, such as “International Conference on Information Science and Communications Technologies ICISCT 2017, November 2017, Tashkent Uzbekistan”. Companies working in IT technologies, wireless networking and biomedical engineering are involved in organization of our conferences and scientific schools through relationship with universities, the Russian Academy of Sciences and the Novosibirsk Technopark. Close cooperation with industry is characteristic for Tomsk and Krasnoyarsk Chapters.

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” and Golden banner for “2017 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment and Retention Performance”.

For better development and attraction of new members special programs are needed for supporting participation of young professionals and students in events organized by IEEE abroad: traveling expenses are too high for Siberians (about 500 EUR from Novosibirsk versus 80-100 from Paris for flight to Stockholm, for example)

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) 19-20 April, 2017 Tomsk.

Section Vitality

Organizing number of conferences, including:

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 29-30, 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.

Closer scientific and technological cooperation between Siberia section and Middle East (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan) scientific centers, in organizing joint Scientific conferences and schools in particular is one of our main goals.

IEEE in Africa

More conferences must be organized in Africa. On the other hand, our Section may support participation of some students from African countries in IEEE conferences in Siberia. Our students and YPs may participate in international projects aimed to development of African IT and industrial infrastructure.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

We hope for closer cooperation regarding involving our members in European projects carried by IEEE.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Our experience with invitation of distinguished IEEE lecture (A. Gurtov in April, 2016) shows usefulness of such tours for recruiting new IEEE members and advancing IEEE in the region.

Saudi Arabia (West) Section

Bander Allaf

Getting Closer to Industry

- Initiatives: Site Visits to Industrial Companies, Letter of Appreciation to high management of large electrical engineering companies.
- Changes: Translation of few technical documents to Arabic language.
- Major Successes: Better engagement and support from multiple local organizations , Joint activities with technology providers.
- Plans: Cooperation with R&D department at local utilities.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Initiatives: Invitations to student to attend the section activities at very reduced fee, attending conferences and student congress supported by the section.
- Major Successes: Commitment to deliver weekly webinars in technical topics by industry experts.
- Plans: Encourage Scholarship Program at selected universities.

Section Vitality

New officers who joined the sections recently, Student activities at many Saudi Universities, programming competitions , Women in Energy to attract female to the activities of the section.

IEEE in Africa

Best practices and lessons learned at many Middle East countries including Renewable Energy Initiatives.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Training and joint workshops.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

Thanks

Serbia & Montenegro Section

Vera Markovic

Getting Closer to Industry

The Section Executive Committee and Chapter Committees were actively trying to increase the role of industry in activities organized or supported by IEEE in Serbia and Montenegro. In our case, the best opportunity for that are the IEEE co-sponsored conferences and workshops, where engineers from industry, institutes and academia have possibility to meet and exchange their knowledge, experience and ideas. For instance, the IEEE PES Chapter organized a successful workshop “Public outreach to Power Engineering Community in Serbia and Western Balkan Region focusing on the female members and young professionals” in Belgrade, gathering people from local companies in addition to the university members. The conference ZINC 2017 held in Novi Sad, supported by S&M Section and particularly by CE Chapter, was strongly industry-oriented. There were also other events involving IEEE members both from academia and outside academia, with financial and/or operational support from national industry.

We hope, the industry relations will be further fostered after founding the IEEE Young Professionals Affinity Group in Serbia & Montenegro, which is in progress. Also, the re-establishing the agreement with the National Association of Electrical, Computing and Nuclear Engineers (ETRAN) will certainly have a positive impact on industry relations.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

As in previous period, the majority of new members in the student and young professionals category were attracted through the IEEE student events, competitions and conferences. Special events were organized for membership renewal and joining, which is a good opportunity to give information what the benefits of IEEE membership are and how new members can connect to local student branches and technical societies.

There are a lot of promotional activities. Desks with flyers, IEEE posters and other IEEE promotional material were set up at major conferences. In most cases, the participants of conferences and workshops (in areas covered by IEEE) have been welcomed by Section Chair or Vice-Chair at the Opening Ceremony. Having in mind that there is a significantly smaller number of IEEE members in Montenegro than in Serbia, special efforts have been done to better attract future IEEE members. For instance, the Section Chair was one of the keynote speakers at the MECO 2017 conference in Montenegro, with a talk about IEEE history and current state, its mission and vision, etc. We were discussed at the Section ExCom meeting how to attract new members, especially students. It was concluded that it is most important for future members to recognize clearly the membership benefits.

Section Vitality

- It is very important that all chapters, WIE affinity group and student branches had activities during the previous year. All chapters had technical meetings (although, by mistake, a few chapters didn't report their meetings as technical but as administrative). CIS chapter was reactivated in 2016 by the election of new chapter officers. There were also elections at the Section level as well as in the EMC chapter.
- The Section supported a significant number of conferences, workshops, seminars, invited lectures, etc. Concerning the invited lecturers, it seems that it is not easy to use IEEE Distinguished Lecturers Program from several reasons. First, because of lecturer's availability, and second, because of the strict financing rules (the requirement to combine several lectures within a region). Some changes in the DLP procedure could maybe have a positive impact on the use of the program.
- Section has performed some activities jointly with the National Society ETRAN, after signing a new MoU between two associations.
- The Section has made big efforts in order to promote IEEE, to retain members and to recruit new ones. It should be pointed out that our Section got a Certificate of Recognition for outstanding achievement in member retention for the previous membership year. Some proactive supporting measures will be applied over the next period focused on students as our target group.

IEEE in Africa

- Maybe a Region 8 meeting could be organized in Africa?
- Our Section could share a 46 years long IEEE experience with Africa sections

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

The European IEEE office could support researchers, IEEE members, to make closer connections and find project opportunities more easily.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Last year (2016), the IEEE Serbia & Montenegro Section celebrated the 45th anniversary, gathering the officers from the neighboring IEEE sections.
- S&M Section chair participated in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of Rep. of Macedonia Section in July 2017 during the EUROCON conference.
- Recently, a petition was submitted for establishing an IEEE Young Professionals Affinity Group in Serbia & Montenegro

Slovenia Section

Urban Burnik

Getting Closer to Industry

Slovenia Section is in permanent contact with members and professionals from companies, who recognise value of IEEE. 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 organised in Slovenia.

Our major companies are happy for participation with 2 student branches in terms of internships by IEEE student members. Some companies offer sponsorships for SB activities and excursions.

We will continue to promote IEEE activities among non-members in terms of organising local technical events in local language.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

We regularly organise public events to attract new members. We are successful in particular among future members who see them self as future active volunteers.

The technical benefits for the members are hard to explain and often vary among societies. The most important technical benefit, access to Xplore library, is subject to additional charge. It is hard to present it as a benefit to members, especially since most researchers have unlimited access via University libraries.

Section Vitality

We regularly organise promotional events in Section. Student members and young professionals are actively involved in organisation. The events demonstrate value of IEEE membership which reflects in a high retention rate among members.

We will continue to act in a positive and open way to our members who recognise 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 recognise 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

More fundings should be offered to Africa events to support physical meetings among Africa sections. IEEE members from other Sections should be offered funding to present plenary talks at events in Africa.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Vienna office should offer direct support to Sections regarding travel refunds and section activities financing in order to release IEEE volunteers from administrative tasks.

Administrative support in EU policy making activities would also be helpful.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

39 events have been recorded as organised by IEEE Slovenia Section and its chapters in 2016, the presence of IEEE is getting broader recognition in public. IEEE members are being present and actively participate in organisation of technical meetings, symposia and conferences in Slovenia.

We've been active in organisation of 1 large multi-day event (ERK conference) with more than 100 participants each.

Especially, I would like to emphasise on a successful row of student events. SB Maribor member Lucija Brezočnik has won recent student paper competition. A series of events has been organised by SB Ljubljana in partnership with local companies.

South Africa Section

Albert Lysko

Getting Closer to Industry

- 1) We ran events interesting to industry (e.g. IEEE 5G Summit in Pretoria). The events were very well attended by industry and government, besides academia.
- 2) We have strong relationships with South African local professional engineering association SAIEE with about 6,000 members in South Africa and other local technical societies. This pays off through co-hosted events, co-sponsorship etc.
- 3) We are planning getting industry leaders into Senior Membership positions.
- 4) We co-hosted a talk about Engineering Council of South Africa (which every professional engineer in South Africa is required to be registered with) and its relation with IEEE (mutual recognition, professional development points, membership discounts etc.)
- 5) We need IEEE to consider corporate IEEE membership as this could increase membership in industry bodies and significantly increase overall IEEE membership (by a factor of 2-3).
- 6) We learned of the successful approaches used by the leaders of IEEE R8 Industry team and intend to implement them locally

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) We are re-organizing the support for conferences held in locally to ensure higher visibility and attractiveness of IEEE for conference attendees.
- 2) We are working with universities to ensure inflow of student members.
- 3) We are promoting and supporting various programmes for communities.
- 4) We would like Region and Societies to inform the Section and local Chapters when hosting the conferences in the Section's domain, as to enable maximum support for membership development.
- 5) We plan to make IEEE services a part of the keynote talk and to host an IEEE session in the flagship African IEEE conference Africon 2017 and hope it will help
- 6) We are promoting and supporting the IEEE VCF applications for active members.
- 7) We are considering showing the benefits of IEEE including demonstrating examples of members who took advantages of funds for self-development, projects, for travel, participating in IEEE international competitions, networking, etc. and hope that "lead by example of a friend" will assist in getting more members in. We are also considering organizing local IEEE competitions and networking, including linking with other African countries. Another option in consideration is organizing training sessions for popular software such as Labview, Matlab, etc. There is also an excellent example from Tunisia section we would like to understand and replicate, where: a) IEEE Tunisia trying to add some local benefits in order to improve the retention rate and succeed recently to sign with the telecom operator to offer free call between IEEE members in Tunisia who will join the offer; b) focusing on students and trying to get IEEE members in each school studying IEEE related fields (especial motivation is in learning English, and to network, and improve their skills for possible international jobs).
- 8) Possibility of collaboration with some high-tech companies and research labs in SA that could either make their labs available for few students and early career researcher.
- 9) We are considering reviving the program linking IEEE South Africa with the Heads of Departments in Electrical and Electronic Engineering Schools.
- 10) An important consideration is how to maximize effectiveness of engagement with and assistance from IEEE to the previously disadvantaged universities. Addressing this requirement will also place a bridge to open up the market for assisting less developed African countries.

Section Vitality

- 1) Section promotes and supports various events highlighting the IEEE and Section, such as conferences, DL visits etc. For the conferences, we try to enforce sufficient discounts for IEEE members, visibility of "Join IEEE" and cost of membership (as compared to the conference fees).
- 2) We are sending 3 representatives to IEEE POCO 2017 and IEEE Sections Congress 2017 in order to maximize the skills and knowledge available in the Section.
- 3) We plan to host the IEEE President and Region8 President-Elect during African flagship IEEE conference Africon 2017 to be held in Cape Town in September 2017.
- 4) We have sent out MD officer Seyi Olojede to MD workshop in Slovakia and he is planning to run MD membership workshops in South Africa and neighbouring countries to promote the MD development
- 5) We are planning an IEEE session with various presentations about IEEE and its resources and activities, to be held in the flagship African IEEE conference IEEE Africon 2017 (to be held in Cape Town in 18-20 September 2017), as a way to upskill the local volunteers and attract new volunteers.
- 6) 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).
- 7) We would like to institute student awards for travel and registration at IEEE event.

IEEE in Africa

- 1) Promoting establishing of and supporting African conferences through providing various assistance (although quality control is a challenge).

- 2) Support for IEEE Africa region initiatives.
- 3) Section shall provide support to subsections and countries wanting to start subsections as is possible.
- 4) It would be great for Africa Area to increase the number of initiatives, linking IEEE units in African countries, setting up and coordinating events and programmes.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- 1) It would be great to establish a new programme where IEEE mentors are funded to come and provide training in African countries (e.g. a Professor would have week-long stay in an African university, and give classes in advanced subjects every day, and finish with an exam). This could also highlight the value and contribution of IEEE and attract more membership, or could be bluntly linked to a requirement of the university first raising a certain minimum number of IEEE members.
- 2) Would be good to have the templates for the Section reports provided together with the requests for reports.
- 3) We need a contact point for collaboratively accessing EU funding.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- 1) Need reduced IEEE Xplore fees as many African universities struggle to get subscription.
- 2) Need IEEE to consider corporate IEEE membership as this could increase membership in industry bodies.
- 3) May need fixing membership fees to the local currency.
- 4) Continuing developments in providing electronics kits and support to schools as part of our TISP pre-university programme.

Spain Section

Antonio Luque

Getting Closer to Industry

The main yearly event of the Section takes place in October for the IEEE Day. This year we are organizing a panel of industry executives, focused on semiconductor industry. We will invite CEOs of companies located in the three main electronics clusters in Spain and they will share with the audience their thoughts on the sector in the country and on innovation in general. We plan to devote a part of the session to specific interaction with students and YPs present.

We are organizing a centralized calendar to invite local industry members to IEEE talks and seminars organized by the chapters. We continue promoting internship positions through the R8 AFI program.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

In 2017 we have expanded our Student Branches Congress to Students, WIE and Young Professionals. The first Spain SWYP took place in Granada in February 2017. It was the best attended by students in record, which shows that we have the capacity to attract and engage students. As it was the first time that YP and WIE participated, the attendance from these groups was significant, but needs to be improved in the future. For the next year we plan to include even more activities specifically directed to them.

YP team in the Section has been completely renewed and we expect to see more activities in the near future. The Section YP Chair is attending SC in Sydney.

The Section supports the operation of Student Branches by allocating a significant budget. SBs can apply to organize specific activities from that budget.

Section Vitality

Retention in Spain Section is quite stable and reasonably high. Members are satisfied with the level of activities, particularly these organized by chapters. We try to support chapter activity by providing funds for seminars and talks.

IEEE in Africa

Spain has a close relationship with some African countries, especially those in Northern Africa, which are in close vicinity. We will be happy to organize joint activities.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Support in the managing of conferences would be very useful.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

The Section will celebrate its 50th anniversary in April 2018.

Sweden Section

Mats Edvinsson

Getting Closer to Industry

- Major event May 2017 with the power industry (Vattenfall, ABB etc) - Sweden first IEEE milestone, HVDC Gotland. A summary document distributed to R8 leadership for further sharing.
- Sweden Section drives & sponsors initiatives for approaching industry & business. E.g. Section driven or sponsored initiatives with Chapters, external parties etc, such as cross-chapter workshops with industry speakers, via WebEx - held 2016 and 2017 q1 & q2. 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
- Discussions with 1 industry on IEEE AFI (internship & mentorship)
- Cooperation across IEEE Sweden to address topics of interest to industry members: We try to push Industry dominant chapters cooperate with academia dominant chapters.
- WiE is relevant for female industry professionals, hence a growing affiliate. Cooperate with industry associations in seminars.
- However, tighter business environment is a challenge; Down-sizing, tighter budgets & less time for voluntary work such as IEEE. Accelerated even more 2017

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- Active inclusion of all into the total Sweden Section activities; Chapters, WiE, YP, SB + Section Board. This strategy appears fruitful. (presentation at Section Congress 2017 pending)
- Direct involvement of younger members 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
- The Sweden Section vitality has increased substantially in WiE, YP and SB. Successful restart and acceleration of SB Chalmers via relations with student unions, chapter involvement, (local) industry and Section Board. New efforts planned for boosting SB KTH & Stockholm
- 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 constant risk of individuals moving on, leaving empty spaces

Section Vitality

- Since 2014, bring business & industry experience & structure into Sweden Section operation: Combine strategic direction with reporting & financial infrastructure; looking for ways to extend process and improve, more active reporting & follow up (presentation at Section Congress 2017 pending)
- When hosting the R8 meeting in Stockholm; Put strong focus on relevant industry & science in key-note speeches, as inputs for IEEE global direction & implementation
- More direct communication with all Sweden Section members; Upgraded Newsletter (more professional, also mailed to R8 leadership), mails from Section Chair, 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)
- Wider communication channels & cooperation, e.g., with other industry organizations
- 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
- Sweden Section website further modernized, in operation; Each chapter has direct access, hence ability to always update own info
- Active process to elevate members, successful 2016, ambitions during 2017
- 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

- 1) Organization of different events with industrial partners.
- 2) Annual General Assembly of our Section has taken place in different companies. Here there is the possibility of interaction between IEEE members and industry. For example, GA 2017 has taken place in Biel/Bienne, Switzerland at OFCOM (the Federal Office for Communications).
- 3) The Section supports visits to different companies, especially of Young Professionals visiting major companies in Switzerland (e.g. Google, etc.).
- 4) The Section participates in international conferences, where industrials are also present. In this case, there is a clear networking of IEEE members with the industrials.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) Organization of different events and competitions where non-IEEE members are invited.
- 2) As Chair of IEEE Switzerland, when I attend different technical conferences or other events, I explain what the IEEE membership is.
- 3) To support the members, the Section organizes various technical events as well as competitions for Students and Young Professionals.

Section Vitality

- 1) The Section updates section website regularly with information (events description, etc.) and sends invitation through vTools to its members to invite them to different events.
- 2) The Section checks the meeting reporting on vTools for all local units, Chapters and Affinity Groups.
- 3) We organize frequent physical meetings in the ExCom and establish constant dialogue through e-mails.
- 4) We organize, at Section level, professional development events, such as workshops, seminars and technical events.
- 5) We report all Section Officers, Affinity Group, Chapter, and Student Branch Chairs.

IEEE in Africa

- 1) We offer our full support to IEEE Activities in Africa.
- 2) We can provide from Switzerland Section, all the necessary support for different activities and collaborations.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- 1) We would like to establish some dialogue about the program strategies and Europe-specific policies, procedures, opportunities, and challenges.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- 1) Our Section ExCom and Chapter Chairs have organized various events, such as various Distinguished Lecturers programs, supported international conferences, such as European Navigation Conference 2017.
- 2) There had been 6 new fellows in 2017.
- 3) The Adrien Palaz Auditorium at EPFL was launched in 2016 and it can also be used for the organization of several events of the Student Branch at EPFL with direct and full support from the IEEE Switzerland Section and its Chair, Dr. Maria-Alexandra Paun who works at EPFL.

Tunisia Section

Habib M. Kammoun

Getting Closer to Industry

- The following activities fostered our industry relations:
 - Co-founding the group “IoT Tunisia” in cooperation with well-known ICT companies in Tunisia
 - Organizing industry tours for students to the main companies and manufactures
 - Inviting industrial engineers to the IEEE conferences
 - Signing MOU with main companies
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations:
 - 2 recent MOU were signed on June 2017 with Primatec and Cynapsys companies
 - The number of members from industry increased
 - Sent the section’s newsletter to the local companies in order to present the IEEE activities
- 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 more 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 student branches, student chapters, and WIE student groups to organize their activities
- To better support our members, the section need more financial support
- Major successes since the last meeting: The section supported the following activities:
 - 5th ME Students and Young Professionals MESYP Congress
 - 3rd IEEE School on Computational Intelligence
 - 4th IEEE Tunisian SYP 2016
 - CyberSecurity days
 - Robotics challenge WRO Tunisian qualifications
 - 5 international conferences
 - Create 3 SB, 3 WIE student groups, 5 student chapters
- The section will continue to foster Students and Young Professionals activities by supporting:
 - Humanitarian SIGHT projects
 - Entrepreneurship and soft skills activities
 - Educational and Technical activities

Section Vitality

- The section is:
 - Ensuring prompt communications with our members by email, eNotice, IEEE Collabratec, and Facebook
 - Following the MGA recommendations: the vice-chair will become the section chair on 2019-2020
 - Nominating members with over 10 years of professional activities to apply for senior member grade
 - Helping dormant chapters to organize an election and to find new active volunteers
 - Attracting more members to become volunteers within IEEE
 - Continually updating the section’s website <http://www.ieee.tn>
- 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:
 - Reached the recruitment goal
 - Organized section’s awards gala dinner to recognize IEEE members and subunits who have given valuable achievements
 - Loyalty 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
 - Support the activities of the subunits
 - Encourage the initiatives of volunteers

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: inviting distinguished lecturers
- The Tunisia section is able to help organizing IEEE activities in other countries in Africa

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

- Help the sections to participate in European funded projects
- Help non-European IEEE members to receive visa in order to participate in IEEE activities in Europe
- Help the sections to contact European companies to find patrons to the IEEE activities

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Tunisia section received the 2017 IEEE MGA Outstanding large section award
- The 2017 IEEE president and the 2017-2018 IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect participated in the ME-SYP congress in Tunisia (organized by the INSAT SB) and met with our IEEE members
- The Tunisia section is now legally recognized in Tunisian government as local association
- Two cities (Ariana and Sfax) were selected as affiliate cities in the IEEE smart cities initiative <http://smartcities.ieee.tn>
- Plan to organize the 10th IEEE Tunisia section Anniversary on 2018
- IEEE R8 EnergyCon 2020 will be organized in Tunisia <http://www.ieee-energycon2020.org>

Turkey Section

Murat Uysal

Getting Closer to Industry

In the Turkey Section, the Industry Relations Coordinator acts as a liaison between industry and the Section. The main responsibilities of this Coordinator are a) to expand membership base from industry in collaboration with the Membership Development Coordinator, b) to identify potential industry sponsors for Section activities, and c) to support the Professional Development and Educational Activities Coordinator identify speakers/instructors from the industry. Such a coordinator position has been instrumental to foster industry relations in our Section. It has been particularly useful to secure some sponsorship from the industry for local IEEE activities.

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, and other related activities. We have recently launched an annual Senior Thesis Project Competition open to IEEE student members. In collaboration with some industrial sponsors, we have offered several prizes for the winners. Such activities aim to keep the student members engaged in our activities.

Our Section considers the Young Professionals Affinity Group as a key to continue the commitments of IEEE student volunteers after their graduation. In collaboration with the new elected Chair of this Affinity Group, we plan to re-energize this group and expand the Young Professionals membership base.

Section Vitality

During the last year, we held elections at most of our Technical Chapters. IEEE Turkey has provided administrative support to all chapters, particularly for the use of vtools for the election organization. We expect to have an increased level of activities in each Chapter under the newly elected Chairs. In parallel, we encourage the formation of new chapters. Most recently, in June 2017, the formation of Robotics and Automation and Industrial Electronics Joint Societies Chapter was approved.

IEEE in Africa

As 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

- 1) Cooperation with Industry Partners in organization of Conferences and Workshops;
- 2) Cooperation with National Industry Associations.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

- 1) In 2017, the flagship IEEE conference of Ukraine Section - IEEE UKRCON has been founded and held for the first time; UKRCON-2017 attracted about 400 applications from more than 20 countries. The next UKRCON conference is scheduled for the summer of 2019 in Lviv, Ukraine.
- 2) The first IEEE Ukraine Students, Young Professionals and Women in Engineering Congress was founded and will be organized in Kyiv, Ukraine in 2018.
- 3) IEEE Ukraine Microwave, Antennas and Radar Week was founded and will be organized in Kharkiv, Ukraine in 2020.
- 4) The Section continues to support students and establish new student branches and student branch chapters in Ukraine.

Section Vitality

- 1) More than 15 IEEE Conferences have been organized in Ukraine.
- 2) Support students to participate in IEEE CEUSYP 2017 (around 20 students).

IEEE in Africa

- 1) We can share with IEEE in Africa our experience related to past and current co-operation with neighbor Sections, IEEE Societies and Region.
- 2) We expect some recommendation from IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe about active IEEE volunteers and leaders from Africa. We would be pleased to invite these volunteers of the organizing committees of conferences and seminars.
- 3) We would be glad to participate in IEEE events in Africa, for example, with a keynote speech at a scientific conference in corresponding field.

Support from IEEE Office in Vienna, Austria

Assistance with communication between IEEE and Public Union "IEEE Ukraine Section".

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- 1) IEEE Ukraine Section founded IEEE flagship Conference in Ukraine - IEEE UKRCON.
- 2) During the IEEE UKRCON-2017 conference, the first IEEE Milestone Ceremony "Zenit Parabolic Reflector L-band Pulsed Radar, 1938" has been held.
- 3) As a part of the IEEE UKRCON-2017, the IEEE Ukraine Section 25th Anniversary Celebration was held.
- 4) IEEE Region 8 Central European Student and Young Professionals Congress - CEUSYP 2017 was held in Lviv, Ukraine.

United Arab Emirates Section

Mohammed Alzaabi

Getting Closer to Industry

The IEEE UAE Section is striving to enrich its relation with the industry. Here are some of the steps taken toward that:

- Engaging industry members to participate in the IEEE Student Day.
- Engaging industry members in the Section meetings and annual meeting.
- Increase our partnership with the industry through long term MoUs and partnership agreements.

For further improvements, we suggest:

- Initiating Company Bulk Membership within IEEE.
- Hosting IEEE seminars and competitions.

Attracting and Supporting Future Members

To attract future members, the IEEE UAE Section has been trying to:

- Organize seminars and inviting distinguished speakers to talk about hot topics
- Gather students for networking through the IEEE Student day and the annual meeting.
- Help new academic institutes to establish IEEE Student Branches.

In addition to that, we are currently trying to:

- Hold more regular meetings and networking events.
- Arrange more visits to different academic institutes and industry facilities.
- Happiness Meter to measure member satisfaction.

Section Vitality

To maintain section vitality, the following are considered:

- Arranging regular section meetings.
- Organizing the IEEE Student day and the annual meeting.
- Establish partnership with local and regional entities.

We recommend:

- 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.
- Conducting professional activities to attract more members from the industry.

IEEE in Africa

To enhance the role of IEEE in Africa, we recommend:

- Sign MoUs with other sister sections in other IEEE regions.
- Provide online courses, webinars, and to live stream other events from all around the world.
- Publishing best practices for managing IEEE activities.

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 Retail Discount Program: we, at the UAE Section, are establishing a retail discount program to attract more members.
- IEEE UAE Partnership Program: we are also maintaining a program to increase our partnership with the industrial and academic institutes.

United Kingdom and Ireland Section

Ali Hessami

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.

Motions

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Approval of the minutes of the 108th Region 8 Committee meeting

CONSENT

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee - August 2017
FROM: Jan Verveckken, Region 8 Secretary
SUBJECT: Approval of the minutes of the 108th Region 8 Committee meeting

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The minutes of the 108th Region 8 Committee meeting in Stockholm, 25-26 March 2017, are attached for approval.

PROPOSED ACTION

Resolved that the minutes of the 108th Region 8 Committee meeting shall be, and are hereby, approved.

ΤΕΛΟΣ