

Romania Section

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

- Invited presentations of distinguished lecturers are hosted by various companies. Also, companies are invited to attend such lectures hosted by universities.
- Companies are involved in organizing conferences together with universities.
- The IEEE PES Romania Chapter proposes, on yearly basis, engineers from industry to be awarded the Outstanding Engineer Award.
- 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. However, although the Section develops activities to attract industry, the large number of members are from universities.
- Extensive participation of IEEE members into IEEE Standards Association and other standardization bodies (IEC, CEN-CENELEC, ASRO), which is usually attained through a strong collaboration with industrial representatives in these bodies. Most active: IEEE-PES and IEEE IMS.
- Intensive courses for local national and international companies have started to be organized and are well attended.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and Young Professionals? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better Attract and Support Future Members? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Attracting and Supporting Future Members? How are you going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals?

- 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. Another incentive would be to have yearly awards sponsored by IEEE for the best student dissertation (in fields represented by chapters).
- 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)

What activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality? How are you going to continue to foster 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 22 Chapters and 2 Affinity Groups. Many of our chapters (CS, PES, IAS, ES, and MAGS) 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. Unfortunately, the number of WIE is very small, despite the high number of women in the IEEE Romania section. For this reason, a yearly workshop will be organized with IEEE and non-IEEE members focusing on leadership.
- 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. In 2017, 8 members have been elevated to Senior Member.
- Conferences and technical events are good practices to keep the members active within the IEEE. 24 conferences have been organized in 2017 The Section promotes IEEE and the Section's activities during the opening ceremonies organized in Romania. On the other hand, rules have been introduced to increase the quality of the conferences.
- An workshop will be organized by the Section focusing on attracting more members

What are your recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster IEEE in Africa? How does your Section support IEEE Activities in Africa?

- Probably IEEE should provide access to educational material
- We believe that informative campaigns through universities and foreign companies acting in Africa should be organized.

What services and which kind of support would you expect for Region 8 and/or your section out of the new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria? How has the existence of this office influenced your section since its inauguration last year?

- Still not very clear how this office can support our Section. However, we expect support in dealing with local rules when organizing conferences financially co-sponsored by IEEE Romania.
- It would be great to have free access to webinars/short courses/ on research ethics (IEEE code of ethics).

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

- Dr. Lucian Toma has graduated the VoLT (Volunteer Leadership Training Program) in 2017, as one of the 10 graduates from Region 8.
- Members of the Romania Sections are invited worldwide to provide lectures as IEEE Distinguished Lecturers.