

Sweden 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?

- 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.
- 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
- 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 in 2017

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?

- 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 chapters, (local) industry & Section Board. Revitalizing and boosting SB KTH & Stockholm. Started to exploring restarting SB Linkping
- 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.

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?

- 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 on Section management and finance
- 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, less during 2017, more ambitions 2018
- More active promotion of Sweden individuals to IEEE awards

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?

Where possible, apply a more "business type" & structured operation, rather than academic approach. I am not sure how individual sections like we in Sweden can support IEEE activities in Africa. Need some guidance.

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?

- 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

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

- The first IEEE Milestone in Sweden ever - the world's first commercial submarine HVDC cable to Gotland 1954
- A new web in place, more useful for practitioners and more informative to members.
- We hosted the IEEE Region 8 meeting in Stockholm in March, very much appreciated for the content and organization.
- The cooperation across the entire Section, academia and industry is developing well. Sweden is becoming a role model for transparency, planning, budget and operation - which led to a presentation at the global IEEE Section Congress in Sydney in Aug 2017
- Swedish VT/COM/IT chapter won the 2017 IEEE Information Theory Society Chapter of the Year Award.
- Arnold Pears was elected into the Board of Governors (2018-2020) of the Education Society

