

Germany 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?

Our Section has an Industry Relations Officer, but the contact between the IEEE Germany Section and the industry is mainly performed by the different IEEE Society Chapters. Furthermore, Germany's industrial landscape is so diverse and rich that many German IEEE members are employed in industry, so that we have already that close contact to industry. At the moment there is no need to develop further the industry relations.

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?

To attract new members our student branches and the society chapters are the most important and active part. They organize student branch and chapter meetings at industry and academia sites while inviting not only IEEE members. They regularly invite also some guests, who could participate in their activities. Especially the work of the student branches and WIE group is financially supported by the Section.

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 Section vitality is mostly driven by the activities of the different student branches and society chapters. On the Section level, we regularly organize twice a year Section meetings where all chapter chairs, student branch chairs and affinity group chairs are invited to report on their actual activities and to discuss their plans for future activities and the financing of that events. On the other hand, it is sometimes difficult to get in touch with some of the chapter chairs, because of the huge amount of their business activities, which prevents some of them from spending their leisure time as IEEE volunteers. Individual time is here a very crucial factor.

We started an initiative to clear up the legal status of the IEEE Germany Section according to German law. This initiative is really time consuming combined with much personal effort, because IEEE headquarters are not really of great help in solving the issue at hand. IEEE headquarters agreed since the last IEEE R8 meeting in Athens to finance the consultancy with a local lawyer in Germany. We are now in the decision process to found a separate association according to German law to facilitate our activities in the IEEE Germany Section.

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?

As it is reported last time, I can only recommend that the African Sections should try to get in touch with other Sections in IEEE Region 8, which could give them some hints on their best practices working in their countries. If those best practices from European or Middle East Sections would work successfully also in the African Sections is really hard to estimate. At the moment we have no direct project which supports IEEE activities in Africa, but since the end of 2017 we have an IEEE SIGHT group which could engage in such activities.

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?

We expected more direct engagement of the Vienna office for support and help with clearing up the legal status of the IEEE Germany Section according to German law, but the support consisted only in getting the right names at the headquarters. The work load has to be performed by the volunteers of the IEEE Germany Section and not by the IEEE Vienna office, which contradicts our expectations. The existence of that office hasn't influenced our section yet.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

IEEE Milestone for Jan Czochralski and its invention of the crystal growth method in collaboration with and based on the initiative of the IEEE Poland Section is approved by the IEEE History Center.

Other IEEE milestones, like the invention of the radar in 1904 by Christian Hülsmeyer, are in preparation.