

Malta Section

Conrad Attard

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

Organizing events with industry helps us get to know what they require. This requires time and volunteers. To achieve our goal we try to choose events where we know we can have most impact. Our goal, now, is to setup an industry committee that represents the main industries in Malta. This is a challenge but we will be working on this in the coming year. Having key influences involved in IEEE, we know we will be more relevant when planning our activities and sharing IEEE information with industry.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and YoungProfessionals? 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?

As a section, organising various events have helped retain members. Most members search for activities to network. We need more active volunteers to sustain and help organize various activities. Every year we dedicate time and resources to help students and young professionals improve the activities and manage better their initiatives. To do so we also organise sessions and discuss at the beginning of the year a calendar plan of initiatives and what resources maybe required. We use past experience to help us decide. Its also an opportunity to involve new members who have just started being activate in their respective committees.

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 interms of Section Vitality? How are you going to continue to foster Section Vitality?

During the year we reach out to various public events including both science communication and industry related. We have been invited to a number of events and participated in workshops, focus groups and various government initiatives including Malta eskills ICT Strategy 2019 2022 among others. As result we notice that more people are becoming aware of IEEE and becoming interest in becoming members or volunteering. Recently we decided to create a form to keep in touch with non IEEE members who have showed interest. We are conducting a study, which is being done of over a period of time. This study is allowing us to get to know more potential members while sharing with them IEEE resources.

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?

IEEE Malta does not have ties with IEEE Africa sections. Our suggestion is to get in touch with Africa Area Chair during R8 meeting to see how we can collaborate and work together on some initiatives.

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?

So far we did not have direct contact with this office. As a section we are continuing to address industry involvement in IEEE. Our first goal was to help industry know more about IEEE and what it can do for them. We now need support to help move to the next phase of the study that is helping us better understand industry and education needs by addressing a number of local challenges.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

This year we organised an awards night to award various members for different competitions. We also had the opportunity to give an appreciation gift to all those who contributed to IEEE Malta since the first days.