

Action For Industry (AfI)

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Goals

Leverage IEEE R8 meetings as an opportunity to get local sections involved in Industry engagement.

Secure internship positions from companies.

Increase the number of industry and entrepreneurship events organized in Region 8.

Mentoring to Young Professionals and entrepreneurs.

Status

During the Region 8 meeting in Athens an AfI workshop took place. In the AfI workshop Section Industry Ambassadors shared experiences and best practices and finalized the 2018 AfI Action plan for their respective Section.

R8 AfI committee and YP committee agreed during the R8 meeting in Athens to collaborate in promoting entrepreneurship and industry engagement activities as well as YPs to participate in Section Industry Ambassador Teams.

The highlight for 2018 was that students and young professionals were placed in summer internships secured in several sections in R8.

Industry speaker participated in Industry forum at ICPS 2018 organized by IEEE TEMS. AfI committee participated in the R8 SYP Congress with presentation, workshop and contributor in a panel discussion. Italy Section organized RTSI 2018 forum with four more Sections participating in the event. Meetings with industry and entrepreneurs took place during the event.

Outlook

Our next steps are:

- 1) Consolidate and continue the Internships.
- 2) Mentoring of members who work in industry, entrepreneurs and YPs.
- 3) Bring willing companies into R8 initiatives.
- 4) Expand AfI initiative in new countries through the appointment of new Section Industry Ambassadors and with the collaboration with YPs, Senior and Life members.
- 5) Collaborate with YPs, encourage and support Local IEEE Section in their efforts to organize Research to industry, entrepreneurship and industry events. IEEE Sections can sponsor these events or have their members participate as mentors and speakers.
- 6) Participate in Industry forums and workshops that will take place during IEEE conferences.

Points of Concern

Sections in R8 should set a priority to get closer with industry and organize events with industry. Section Chairs should appoint at least an Industry Ambassador and set a budget for events during which industry people and companies can discuss their plans and their thoughts for the future. A 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 2 people should be involved and contribute in small Sections and at least 3 people in big Sections.

IEEE should recognize members as well as Sections that are participating and contributing in the Action for Industry initiative.

Other Issues to report