

Austria Section Reinhard Pfliegel

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?

works well

- Contact with industry is handled in multiple ways. Invited speakers from industry share their insights in various events
  organized by the section itself and its student branches and chapters. Conferences and workshop for 2019, next to others,
  include
  - o RAS Summer School;
  - o Austrian Robotics Workshop (ARW);
  - International Conference on Connected Vehicles and Expo (ICCVE);
  - Workshop on Smart Antennas (WSA);
  - o Conference on Research and Education in Mechatronics (REM);
  - International Conference on Telecommunications (ConTel);
  - o International Conference on Industrial, Engineering & Other Applications of Applied Intelligent Systems (IEA/AIE).
- ExCom and officers represent a good mix of persons from academia and industry.

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?

- Two very active student branches make IEEE locally accessible for future members.
- Local events are open for non-IEEE members.
- Non-IEEE members are invited to the meetings and encouraged to actively participate in the various activities.
- Revitalized YP group is active aiming to offer workshops, events for graduates to stay active in IEEE.
- WIE hands out awards showing good presence at conferences and IEEE events also reaching out to non-IEEE members.
- The majority of the rebate is invested in the SBs, YP, WIE by sponsoring events and awards.

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?

Section vitality is managed by incentives such as awards to honor achievements of e.g. the SBs. For example, the TEMS chapter is handing out a distinguished award to honor achievements. Additionally, regular updates and meetings to present and honor activities and achievements of the various officers and chapters.

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

The best way to support IEEE activities in Africa for us is to know about the specific needs. Once needs/problems are identified, we can actively start to look for solutions to support the needs. Possible suggestions received from Gloria and other members of the Africa Council often focused on advertising events. However, advertising conferences or events in Austria taking place in Africa seldom attract people. Due to the large number of events in Austria and its neighboring sections, many members feel overwhelmed already.

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?

The section is in contact with the Vienna office. The office joins in section meetings on one hand, on the other they share events, which may be of interest to our members, so we can distribute them with IEEE.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

The section celebrates this year its 40th anniversary.