

Portugal Section

José Pedro Silva

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?

During 2018 we started an initiative to foster closer interactions with the Industry. With this in mind we signed the first PT Section Industry multi-year MoU with Bosch Portugal.

As a result Bosch participated in several IEEE activities such as Engineering Day and Leadership Camp. At the same time IEEE student members had the opportunity to do a visit do Bosch plant in Braga.

For 2019 we have already one MoU being finalized with Critical Manufacturing, a Software company in Porto area, following the model already tested with Bosch.

To help us reach more companies and with a more complete proposal, I believe IEEE is lacking an online training platform, covering all of our areas of expertise, in a easy and simplified access format.

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?

Depending on the membership grade we are targeting, different activities are giving different results.

For students, we find Student Branches to be the best way to communicate and promote new membership opportunities. Each University/Polytechnic has it's unique set of challenges and needs, making each Student Branch uniquely qualified to organized different activities that match their specific need. Examples are technical workshops, job fairs, Industry visits...

For YP we currently supporting the new Affinity Group leadership to develop an activity program to develop throughout the next two years. We expect to reboot their activities as soon as possible.

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?

Chapter's Summit - a full-day event were we provided training to all Chapter Chairs - was one of the major successes of 2018. This is impacting OU activities since their are now more informed and aware of new opportunities.

We also organized 2 face-to-face Executive Committee meetings (including Chapter and AG Chairs) per year, and the last one occurred this past January. In are now putting in place decisions take during the meeting.

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?

We continue to be available to support IEEE Activities in Africa, specially in the Portuguese speaking countries. Despite some communication during the last R8 Meeting we are yet to receive further information on how we can help these 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?

None so far.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

IEEE University of Porto Student Branch was selected to organize one Women's Leadership Summit this year. We are starting now the process of helping the Student Branch to organized this activity.