

Slovenia Section Andrej Trost

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?

The Section maintains industry relations by continuously inviting researchers from industry to present their work at conferences and local chapter events. We also encourage the IEEE members from the local industry to attend the IEEE technical events such as IEEE fellow invited talks. Our student branch was involved with organization of PLC+ student challenge with Siemens. A representative from Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia was invited to talk at IEEE open day event.

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?

We support the future members by providing opportunities to be connected with the best professionals in their field of interest and to educate them at every stage of ther career. There are many societies and organizations competing to attract our students with social and professional events sponsored with the state funds. We have a challenge to present the benefits of the IEEE membership, specifically to young students. The IEEE student members and young professionals involved in volunteering are eager to attend SYP congress or other international events motivating them to continue their engagement with the IEEE.

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 IEEE members in Slovenia section regularly renew their membership and we have outstanding retention rate. We will continue to support our local chapters to carry out several technical activities for the IEEE members. The YP affinity group was involved in many events and we revitalized WIE. We get a lot of advice regarding the Section operation from the life members who initiated the IEEE Slovenia section. Our plan is to open one or two new local chapters to foster the Section vitality. The results of continuous support and promotion are high retention numbers for our members.

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

We recommend the chapters to organize the IEEE conferences in Africa and support collaboration of the professionals, researchers and students. The IEEE should help to promote the engineering education in Africa and exchange of the students with the European universities.

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 Vienna office could gather specific needs and promote best practies to support the IEEE members in central European contries. So far, the office did not influence our section.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

We received in 2018 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment and Retention Performance award.