Life Member Coordinator  
Victor Fouad-Hanna

Goals
1) Helping section officers in the establishment of possible connections between their LMAGs and other IEEE Operation Units in their Sections (Student Branches, YP, WIE, conferences committee, Help with Senior Member elevation, Help in seeking Fellow nomination when applicable, Mentoring, Provide talks at workshops and conferences.
2) Raising awareness among Region operating units of the IEEE Foundation Grants Program and of the coordination of region operating units demands to participate in these programs.
3) Raising awareness among Region operating units of the Life Members Fund in support of activities that are of professional concern and interest to Life members in region sections, also encouraging LMs to submit more articles to R8News.

Points of Concern
Increased collaboration between LMAGs and other IEEE Operation Units in their Sections is very important as the Section can make use of the knowledge and experience of Life Members and also from the more time that they can devote for IEEE Section activities. More resources from MGA, Region 8, and Sections, would be needed if LMAGs wished to expand their activities.

Sponsorship from industry and Government organisations is available for certain types of projects.

New LM AGs established
Formation of the IEEE Egypt Section Life Member Affinity Group on April 11, 2019. The geo-code is LM80003.

LM AGs dissolved
No R8 LMAG is dissolved

Progress against goals since the last report
Efforts for increasing the number of LMAGs in R8 :
Letters are sent to chairs of the following sections asking them to create a LMAG in their sections giving them all necessary details (importance of having it in their sections, rules, petition procedure, etc):
- Austria Section, Number of active LMs: 32,
- Finland Section, Number of active LMs: 40,
- Denmark Section, Number of active LMs: 48
- Poland Section, Number of active LMs: 33,
- Portugal Section, Number of active LMs: 30
- Sweden Section, Number of active LMs: 110,

Reminder Letters are sent to All Chairs of Sections concerning the position of the LMAG in their sections:
- If there is a LM Coordinator in the Section, not necessarily a LM
- If this LM Coordinator is member of the Section ExCom, and
- If there is a LMAG web page inside the Section web-site, and we gave them a proposal for contents of this page that can be unified for all LMAGs in R8.

MAIN ACTIVITY / Meeting for LMAGs of Region 8 / Valencia, Spain, October 11 - 12, 2019
The 3rd Meeting for Life Members Affinity Groups (LMAGs) of Region 8 is held at Valencia, Spain, on October 11th 12th, 2019 in conjunction with the 113th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting to be held in Valencia on 12-13 of October. The title of our meeting is "Potentialities of Region 8 LMAGs activities in support of Sections’ Operating Units”.

The purpose of organizing the LMAGs meeting together with the R8 Committee meeting is to have interaction between the two groups in conjunction with the meeting principal topic given in the title.

The expenses of this meeting (estimated $14K for 13 participants), are covered by both of the Region 8 ($4K) and Life Member Fund in support of their own LMAGs to fund an approved event such as our proposed meeting ($10K).

Proposals for improvement
LM Coordinator Proposal of Elevation of the Ad-hoc Members to Life Members Affinity Group Sub Committee.
For achieving the above-mentioned ambitious goals, it is difficult to work in the frame of an Ad Hoc Subcommittee composed of the chair and three corresponding members. All administration of activities of LMAGs with both of R8 and MGA Life Members Committee are done completely by the R8 LM Coordinator.

Moreover, for convincing that my proposal represents an important investment for the region and not a new charge associated with additional required increase in the budget that the region attributes to our Ad-hoc Members, I draw your attention to the following important data:
Firstly:
- The Life Members Committee (LMC) can offer services to all operation units in our Region (Region Sub Committees and Section Chapters and their Affinity groups) as it is a partner with the IEEE Foundation to operate the IEEE Foundation Grants Program.

Secondly:
- The LMC is also a Partner with the IEEE Foundation to operate the following IEEE Foundation Grants Program. So the presence of a Life Members Affinity Group Sub Committee is vital for helping other Region operating units (Student Branches, YPs, Award Sub Committee, etc.) in their nominations for these programs, grants and awards Active Life Members could participate with these Operating Units in setting up these projects.

Other Issues to report