

Section Vitality

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Goals

The basic goal is to have vital Sections serving better their members. That means successful Section operation, timely reporting (ofcers, meetings, nancials) to receive the rebate, retaining and recruiting members, training new volunteers and holding elections on time by taking care about the period of service following the rules in the MGA Operations Manual.

Regarding nancial reporting, the goal is to maintain 100% submission rate before the reporting deadline and to encourage GEO units to qualify for the 10% rebate bonus by early reporting (third Friday in February).

An important goal is to increase membership, the activity and reporting of Subsections having Region 8 as their parent to receive the rebate and after some years of successful operation become Sections.. Only Mauritius Subsection reported for 2018 and qualified for the rebate. In June 2019 Mauritius has been upgraded to Section.

Progress against goals since the last report

Since 2015 the section vitality has been improved. Especially the situation with elections and reporting has been much better from year to year. The Sections ofcers' sense of duty has been increased. Great progress has been made in Sections nancial reporting . It was achieved by systematic collaborative work with section treasurers and the IEEE Finance team. The number of sections qualifying for the 10% rebate bonus increased as well. Region 8 is now amongst top performing regions in IEEE in that respect. Adam Jastrzebski has done a great job by helping many Sections in finance reporting. He is now the Region 8 Treasurer and his successor in the Region 8 Vitality Subcommittee is Andreas Koltes continuing the excellent job.

Points of Concern

All Sections, Chapters, Afinity Groups and Student Branches should take care about doing their basic job following the rules in the MGA Operations Manual. Ofcers should train themselves. The election process should start on time. Voting should be at the end of November. Use vTools for voting so that all Section members qualified for voting can vote easily.

Latest Region Vitality figures

Since last meeting the number of Sections increased by one (Mauritius).

Trends

Trends are positive, but there is still a lot to do to improve vitality.

Proposals for improvements

What should be done to improve vitality?

- Section self assessment ? Use the Section Vitality Checklist. Complete the MGA Geographic Units Organization Support Committee Section Vitality Self-Assessment Report
- Be familiar with the use of the IEEE OU Analytics and v-Tools
- Be familiar with the MGA Operations Manual (Section 9), the Geographic Unit Rebate Schedule, Requirements and Procedures (MGA Operations Manual - Section 9.0.E)
- Organize elections on time, well before the serving end date of current ofcers. When doing so you will ensure an adequate transition period. Ofcers start date should be 1 January.
- A Section may dene in its local operating procedures document if the Vice Chair shall automatically become the Chair at the conclusion of their term (Operations Manual, 9.4.F). Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be lled by a majority vote of the Section ExCom.
- Be informed and efcient. Section ofcers should do their jobs on time.
- Increase membership and member engagement. Recruit and train volunteers and look for successors. Contact members and obtain member feedback. Fulll membership needs
- Prepare a Program of activities for the calendar year. Start new initiatives.
- Organize meetings (professional, technical, nontechnical, administrative, social) by section, chapters, afinity groups, student branches.
- Have a chapter and afinity group coordinator in your Section and keep a vigilant eye on the activity of chapters and afinity groups during the year. Guide and help chapters and afinity groups and organize a yearly meeting/workshop with chapter and afinity group ofcers.
- Form new chapters, afinity groups and student branches.
- Encourage cooperation and joint events of section units (chapters, afinity groups, student branches). Conduct events with students.
- Get closer to industry (involve practicing engineers). Involve Young Professionals.
- Organize Educational (preuniversity, lifelong) and Professional (leadership, management)

Activities

- Have an active Student Activities Ofcer and a Student Representative in your Section. During the year they should keep a vigilant eye on the activity of student branches together with their chancellors and take care about activity/vitality of all SBs in the Section, involve students into section and chapter activities, help students.
- Have a Section Life Member Coordinator taking care about activity of Life Members and elder members. Encourage cooperation of young and older members.
- Awards (member/volunteer recognition, member grade elevation, Section yearly awards).
- Organize a Section annual social event.

- Maintain Section website including all organizational units (chapters, affinity groups, student branches) always up to date
- Take care about, encourage and increase activity/vitality of Subsections having R8 as their parent to achieve conditions for upgrading them to Sections.
- We have managed to change the culture and the attitudes of Sections regarding reporting and we hope that these will be passed on to new officers. We therefore believe that our very good results can be improved or at least maintained.
- The financial software initiative will depend on finding volunteers with right competences to develop and adapt the software to section requirements.

All our Regional Coordinators/Subcommittees should continue to help and encourage activities in Sections, Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches. Additional efforts should be taken to increase activity of organizational units outside Sections in accordance with the MGA Operations Manual (9.0.E.8). Region 8, as their parent, should take more care about progress in activities in these units. We have huge diversity and a lot of dynamics in our Region. Therefore, you cannot guarantee that there will be no problems in the future in some sections. Organizing Section Operation/Vitality workshops (possibly together with MD workshops) on the Regional level should be taken into consideration.

Other Issues to report